

**TOWN OF WESTPORT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Kennedy Administration Building
Community Meeting Room
5387 Mary Lake Road
Town of Westport, Wisconsin

Minutes – April 7, 2022

Members Present: Joe Pichette, Janette Hermanson, Michelle Wing, Tracy Will. Absent: Chris Moore. Public Present: Jim Bolitho 3711 Sequoia Tr. Verona, WI 53593

Meeting called to order by Pichette at 6:03 PM

Public matters not on the agenda: Jim Bolitho representing himself was present to make a brief presentation on the research he has been working on for many years regarding the “Ancient Trail” near his home in the Town of Middleton. A discussion regarding his belief that the Westport application for the State of Wisconsin historical marker was not his interpretation of the correct history. His concern was our use of Military Road which his opinion and research indicate the “Military Road” did not pass thru Westport rather the “Ancient or Indian Trail” would be preferred. After discussion with HPC members and information provided during the research of the trail, it is the opinion of the Westport HPC that the narrative we provided for the marker is correct and accurate. Pichette indicated we would not be revising our marker application but encouraged Mr. Bolitho to contact the State of Wisconsin Historical Society for comments regarding his objection to the use of Military Trail on the marker should it get approved. Jim also provided work he has completed for The Friends of Ice Age Trail regarding the: Ancient Trail” and would like to get signage for the trail in that area. It was noted by Pichette that something like his article would be perfect for the trail that passed thru Jackson Landing and its newsletter. Copies of his work were received by Wing and should be added to the HPC record.

Approval of March minutes motion by Wing second by Hermanson. All members present voted for approval.

Update from Pichette on the EWW site. Pichette explained Town staff would be placing signs and asked Tom Wilson to have the last sign that was on hold at Speed Pro completed. Shelter or additional work should be postponed until 2024, review with staff later this year.

Don Sanford was not present for the presentation on Camp Indianola. Wing asked for clarification from staff on the news article published in the Waunakee Tribune regarding this project. The article indicated the Westport HPC contributed funding for part of his research/surveys of the area. Wing’s concern was a random person requested funds that were attributed to the Westport HPC without the knowledge or involvement of the HPC. If these funds are to be attributed to the HPC the HPC should be involved in the process for approval. Pichette indicated he would ask how this was determined and if a budget is in place for the HPC.

Pichette did not have an update yet regarding the Trail marker status.

The HPC decided to postpone the discussion of ways to share Town history for the May meeting.

Review of upcoming items from the Town Plan Commission, Pichette did not have anything to share as this month's PC meeting was canceled. A brief discussion of the old house off Mill Road and west of Bethel circle, what might become of it if it is not attached to the new home being built. HPC would like to be kept informed as to its future status.

Misc. – Hermanson discussed Schumacher Farm's need for a tool shed and a brief discussion.

Meeting Adjourn at 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted by Joe Pichette