

Citizens Meeting  
September 4, 2018



**Present:** Paula Klevene, Doreen Hartje, Johan Huilman, Bill Parker, Skip Johnson, Mike Hittner, Jim Nickel, Larry Knutson, Don Matthews, Rhonnie Saling, Dawn Baker.

**Minutes of 8/7/2018:** Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with the changes of Glacier Trail changed to Ice Age Trail and Paula received a bill from the accountant and not the lawyer. Motion made by Don Matthews and seconded by Paula Klevene.

**Harvest Fair:** Doreen has her people lined up for the school house. Jim gave a report for the house needs and that Becky will be making soap again and will need a fly, table, stove and wood and in the same place as Pioneer Fest. Ron Harris will be taking pictures. Lori Tempas may be out to throw some bowls. Larry will be in the bunk house. Don and Jim will be in the three bay shed. There will be a coleslaw making demonstration. Roger from Jeremiah's Crossing will be at Harvest Fair with some horses. Broom making will not be demonstrated but will be talked about and postponed until next year. Homemakers Club 51 will be selling hot dogs, chips and soda.

**Cooking Class:** Tom has approved the idea of making the 15 hours as an option but not mandatory. So far, two people have showed an interest in the class.

**Forestry Group:** The Forestry Group will be doing a talk about the fur trade to the forestry period. It was hoped to tape the talk but it was decided to try to get the talk. Don made a motion to purchase it if possible and seconded by Paula. They will be at the site from 2 to 5. Mike suggested that we try to get the speaker to give the talk at the annual meeting.

**Park Place:** Park Place residents will be at the site on October 10, 2018 from 10:00am to 12:00pm for a tour of the site.

**School Groups:** There are school groups signed up for October 12, 16 and 17. The October 12 group will be a full day. They will be making candles. There will be no games in the afternoon because they will be with Joe's group for the afternoon. The groups on the 16th and 17th are second graders.

**Spirit Walk:** Bill Parker would like to do a skit about Major Charles White Whittlesey who was a United States Army officer and an American Medal of Honor recipient who led the "Lost Battalion" in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in October 1918 during the final stages of World War I. He would like to do skit that deals when he was aboard a cruise ship after the war and took his life by jumping overboard. He would set up at one end of the bridge and would need a person to portray Major Whittlesey (non-speaking part) and Bill would portray the captain of the cruise ship. He would use a rope tied to a board that would be thrown into the water to make the sound of the jump. Mike was concerned that if it was done by the bridge overlook that it may be too close to the road. The west side would be better. That needs to be determined yet.

Don and Bev Ross will be in the house and doing a skit based on the Robert Wakely letter. Don will be reading and Bev making comments.

Rhonda Whetstone has a script and needs to get it to Mike and Don for approval.

Larry also has a skit prepared.

Don has talked with Steve and Mike and they will be doing a skit about two gentleman that died and only one had money for a coffin and they fight over the coffin. Don would make a coffin but it seems Tracy may have a coffin that had been used in previous years. Someone will check on that.

The witches will be back again this year.

Doreen, Paula and Ryan will be in the school house.

Ken Hartje will be in the blacksmith shop.

Jim will be doing a skit about a Christmas dinner and will be by the fire pit by the cabin.  
Bonnie and Annie will be taking tickets.  
Janet, Kathy and Rose will be handing out apple cider.  
Joni Wolf will be the story teller.

**Water Pump:** Johan donated a refurbished self priming water pump for the site.

**Gong:** Ken Hartje made a gong to be used to denote five minutes before school groups need to move and a separate series of gongs to denote an alarm. It will hang on the post by the maple syrup making area and will be out only during events.

**Trail Work:** Don and Mike did a walk through on the trail today. They put some stakes where they thought some posts should be. They need to get with Ron to get more GPS co-ordinates for the posts. They found posts 8 and 9. They said that 8, 9 and 10 follow the lot line. They also found post number 7 in the pole shed. Clearing the trail will probably take place after Spirit Walk when the weather is a little cooler. The trees and brush will be cut and dispersed alongside the trail. They are thinking about an eight foot wide trail. Don will be cutting the posts on Thursday. Skip will do a trial run on making the numbers on the posts to determine how long it will take per post. The numbers should be on all four sides of the post. Ted estimates it could take about six hours per post. Mike thought that was too much time and Don volunteered to carve the numbers into the posts. Don will drop off the test post at TED. Don will be cutting some oak for posts for the bird signs and may be placed in-between the other posts and have a triangle cut into them to show the direction. The triangle will be painted. All the posts will be painted a different color than the color that they currently are. Don was thinking of making a bench for the overlook at post 18. Paula said that there is already a bench on the south side of post 18. Don and Mike agree that moving that bench would be a good idea because it is currently hard to get to. Larry mentioned that Ron may put in for another grant from the Audubon Society next year for benches. He also suggested scout troops to make benches. Benches could then be placed in several places along the trail.

**Inventory:** Mike mentioned that Jim will be having surgery later this month and that he could enter inventory data during his recovery time. Mike will also bring the school inventory book out to the school next week.

**Basement:** Mike will be looking into purchasing a de-humidifier for under \$400. It does not have to be industrial grade but at least a name brand quality de-humidifier. It should cover about 1200 square feet. Larry suggested that the basement create some piles of keep, throw, sell or donate to another site. The Historical Committee would then go through and determine which items should go where and take there suggestion to the board for final approval.

**Corporate Sponsorship:** Larry suggested Fleet Farm, Menards and Kwik Trip as potential sponsors with Kwik Trip the best possibility. Sentry Insurance was also brought up because they are a non-profit organization. Don suggested Steve Martin for help in looking for sponsors. It was mentioned that the Neighborhood Table may have a trust.

**Information Center:** Don thought a building 30' x 40' would be a good size. It could be partitioned off into different areas. Mike thought that it might be cost prohibitive to install a bathroom facility and that it would duplicate what is already at the school house. It could be located between the parking lots. The ticket booth would be in it and would avoid selling tickets from the road. It needs to be approved by the board. Kathy Miles may be able to write a grant for bathrooms from the Wisconsin Tourism group for us for the west side of the creek. Mike suggested having a questionnaire form at an event concerning modern bathrooms.

**Woody:** Mike mentioned that Woody will be having his leg amputated just above the knee on September 17, 2018.

**Emily Dickinson:** Bev Ross would like to do a one person show about Emily Dickinson at the site. The public would be invited.

**Volunteer Hours:** Larry's granddaughter is making a flyer to be posted on the Nekoosa High School bulletin board for students interested in getting their volunteer hours in for graduation at Historic Point Basse events. She has all of the events listed and her name as a contact point. It was suggested that the guidance counselors at Port Edwards and Lincoln be contacted and have the same thing done there.

**Thank You Notes:** Paula sent around some thank you notes form school groups.

**Board Meeting:** Don would like a Board of Directors meeting on September 13, 2018 at 6:00pm in the Columbia School.

**Register Book:** Rhonnie will be making a register book for guests and would like to know what it should look like.

**Candle Box:** Don wanted to know what the candle box should look like. Johan said that it was not necessary. The kids should be responsible for their own candles and Dawn agreed. Johan said they could put them in the lunch bag.

**Gong Test:** Mike went to where the gong would be hung and did a test while the rest of the citizens stayed in the school house. Nobody heard the gong. It will be tried again at the board meeting when the gong is hanging and a proper hammer used to strike the gong.

Acting Citizens Meeting Secretary - Jim Nickel