Mill Pond Restoration Meeting
January 5, 2011

Attendance: Will Wawrzyn WDNR Fish Biologist, Paul Seymour Campbellsport Building Supply, Don Stoffel Village Resident, Dean Uelmen Village Resident, Kirk Kramp CHS Ag Instructor, Dan Stukenberg Daniel's Landscaping, Nick & Janet Schneider FFA Alumni, Deb Senn FFA Alumni, Chris Schanen Campbellsport Lions, Jim Freiberg CAA, Rick Heisler CAA, Kevin Ebert Boy Scouts, Don Miller Village Resident, Bob Guenther Village Board, Ron Reese Village Resident, Mike Knueppel CAA, Pat Twohig Village Board.

Pat Twohig gave a brief history of the dam removal project, with a listing of the moneys that have been spent, outstanding issues that need to be completed, and potential items that could be completed with available funds. We need to erect some type of sign showing that NOAA and the WI DNR funded this project and give a history of the dam. We could use the available funds to erect some type of structure at the former dam site. We also should develop a master plan for the former Mill Pond area in order to qualify for future grants to create recreational improvements in this area.

Will Wawrzyn using his experience with other dam removal projects, explained what we could expect as the river established its new channel and vegetation is established in the former Mill Pond. He suggested we try to control certain specifies of vegetation by not allowing them to go to seed. He also enforced the idea of a master plan to obtain grant moneys, but this plan should be flexible and could be developed in sections over a period of years.

Dan Stukenberg suggested we consider adding trees to this area in the fall of 2012, based on trees he has added to his property along the river. He also had a suggestion for the design of the structure and felt we should add fencing along Highway 67 between the dam berm area and the bridge.

Rick Heisler felt some trail should be added to the former Mill Pond area, and a loping trail would be ideal. The concern is that Highway 67 may be to close to the river to allow this trail and with this road to be reconstructed in 2016 the shoulder on this road may change. We need to work with the DOT to see what their plans for this area may be.

Janet Schneider felt we should make it possible for access, from any structure we construct, to the water edge near the former dam.

Dean Uelmen suggested we construct a hexagon shaped structure and try to match the appearance of the Welcome Sign in the area. He suggested field stone walls with a concrete cap at seating height, the structure would be open above these seats for the best view of the area. The roof for this structure and its supports should be constructed with low maintenance materials.

Kirk Kramp suggested that the interior of the structure be left as open as possible and any necessary signage be placed on free standing signs along a path between the parking area and this structure.

Chris Schanen felt we should try to develop both sides of the former dam and possibly have matching structures on either side of the river or a miniature structure on the west side.

We still have a good supply of rocks available from the dam face and a few timbers that were used to create a crib for the construction of the dam. These could be used to enhance the former dam area.

Other suggestions were made and the meeting ended with the need to get answers from the DOT on their future plans for Highway 67, and from our engineering firm on what input they may have on this project. Dean Uelmen will work with Paul Seymour to develop a design plan and possible cost of the structure he proposed. We need additional overhead maps of this area so sketches can be made of suggestions for improvements to the area and we can work as a group to establish a master plan. It is also necessary for us to know exactly what property is available for development. When these issues can be resolved we will try to establish a date for a second meeting and anyone who wishes to continue to be involved is welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,   Pat Twohig