

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
January 7, 2015

Members Present: Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Darryl Jones
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro, Chuck Pell, Norm Sims, Jerry Jacobson

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Vice Chairman Sherman called the meeting to order at 4:20 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Vice Chairman Sherman entertained a motion to approve the December minutes. A motion to approve the December minutes was made by Commissioner Williams and was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Vice Chairman Sherman said an historic preservation conference on barn restoration would be held at the Garfield Farm site near St. Charles, Illinois on February 14. He said Trillium Dell would provide a lunch.

Vice Chairman Sherman asked if there was correspondence from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency this month. Staff said an email was forwarded to the Commissioners regarding Preservation 50, the fiftieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Staff mentioned that Commissioner Jack Davis resigned due to accepting an appointment to become a judge. Vice Chairman Sherman asked about the process to find a replacement. Staff said the County Board will appoint a replacement.

Old Business: Commissioner Williams briefly reported on the participation sub-committee's meeting in December. He said the sub-committee met to discuss some standards and guidelines for completing surveys and landmarking properties. Commissioner Williams discussed a standard of three surveys a year and possibly developing one landmark per year for each Commissioner. Staff said the matter would be discussed at the February meeting.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Lathan reported on a trip she made to Woodwreath Cemetery in Island Grove Township. She said she misspoke at the last meeting, and that she saw a gravestone dating from 1839 at the cemetery. Commissioner Lathan said the church on the cemetery site was organized in 1822-1823. She said the sanctuary was built in 1862. Vice Chairman Sherman said the area where the church and cemetery are located is interesting. He said the whole Island Grove community should be on an historic register. Commissioner Lathan said she would do two surveys. She discussed historyillinois.com. Commissioner Lathan said the site shows every historic marker in Illinois. General discussion ensued about markers located in Sangamon County.

Commissioner Williams said he met with the State of Illinois and the Illinois State Historical Society. He said there is an agreement for the Donner Party origination site. Commissioner Williams said that next month he would landmark the area. He said half is privately owned and the owners are more than happy to allow the County to landmark the site. Commissioner Williams said the State is still worried about the insurance liabilities. He said we think we have this worked out. Commissioner Williams said he will have answers at the next meeting. He said a book would be coming out on the July 1, 2015, a prequel to the Donner Party. Commissioner Williams said the book may draw a number of tourists to the site.

Vice Chairman Sherman reported on discussions about Sulphur Springs cemetery. He said the site would be landmarked after the owner feels better. Vice Chairman Sherman said there is another cemetery down the road with some interesting stones in it. He said there are some early Springfield families in the cemetery, e.g. the Halls. Vice Chairman Sherman said it makes sense to landmark both cemeteries. He said the caretaker said it is okay to landmark the cemetery.

Staff Reports: Staff reiterated that Commissioner Davis resigned.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: None.

Adjourn: Vice Chairman Sherman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Sherman made a motion to adjourn the January meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
February 4, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro, Darryl Jones

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the January minutes. A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell thanked Vice Chairman Sherman for chairing the January meeting. He highlighted the January Downtown Springfield Inc [DSI] Annual Awards Dinner. He said that Commissioner Jacobson received an Advocate of the Year award from DSI for his work with Save Old Springfield. Commissioner Jacobson said the award was a complete surprise. He said almost 500 people attended the dinner. General discussion ensued of DSI's recent history and its three major fundraising events: the Taste of the Downtown, the Blues and BBQ event, and the Annual Dinner; the first two are slated to be revised.

Chairman Pell remarked that it was the beginning of a new calendar year. He said that Commissioners can support the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [SCHPC] by attending meetings and completing activities such as working on historic preservation projects that interest you, handing in historic structure/site surveys, and/or working on alternate assignments, if surveys are not one's particular strength. Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Jacobson to present the report of the Participation Sub-committee of its December, 2014 meeting.

Old Business: Commissioner Jacobson presented the report of the December meeting of the Participation Sub-committee and a subsequent email message he sent to the SCHPC. Staff handed out a spreadsheet of participation statistics. Commissioner Jacobson said the Commission's purpose is to preserve historic resources and the SCHPC does not completely know what is out in the County to preserve. Staff said the statistics provided only cover the years 2010 through 2014 added to inputs provided by Commissioner Jacobson. He said the total number of surveys is approximately 36 from 2003/2004-2014. Commissioner Jacobson said this amounts to approximately one survey per Commissioner annually. He described this as a pitiful number. Commissioner Jacobson said the Springfield Historic Sites Commission has sixty landmarks. He said the numbers are disappointing. Commissioner Jacobson said the carrots, i.e. the stipends and satisfaction from serving on the SCHPC, are not working. He said approximately seven Commissioners of twenty-nine who served contributed surveys and/or landmarks. Staff cautioned that this could include a higher number if there were more Commissioners who presented surveys prior to 2010. Chairman Pell asked for clarification on

creation of the spreadsheet. Staff said the statistics on the left side were from Commissioner Jacobson and the statistics on the right came from what was readily available. Commissioner Jacobson said to be fair he requested the statistics from staff the afternoon of the meeting.

Commissioner Jacobson said to improve participation the Chairman appointed a sub-committee consisting of Jack Davis, Dean Williams, and himself to meet and discuss some options. He said the sub-committee believes there should be a minimal number of appearances at SCHPC meetings. Commissioner Jacobson said those not in attendance do not collect a stipend. He said he suggested if a member misses more than four meetings in a year then a letter goes in the Commissioner's file to the County Board pertaining to re-appointment. It could state the Commission does not support re-appointment of a particular member. He said this would give the SCHPC some input in the appointment of its membership.

Chairman Pell asked if any other appointed bodies of the County Board have attendance requirements. Commissioner Sims said not to his knowledge. He said the most similar instance to what Chairman Pell asked is the Sangamon County Zoning Board of Appeals [ZBA]. Commissioner Sims said this group has paid attendance. He said the ZBA has two alternate members to ensure a quorum at each meeting. Commissioner Sims said the ZBA has more time sensitive matters covered by other parts of law than what this body has. He said the Regional Planning Commission [RPC] has no attendance standards because its members are appointed by virtue of office. Chairman Pell said the SCHPC has an ordinance rather than bylaws. Commissioner Sims said the SCHPC could have bylaws. Chairman Pell asked if the SCHPC could create its own bylaws, to which Commissioner Sims said sure. Chairman Pell said the SCHPC could have bylaws that speak to these issues. Chairman Pell said bylaws would only be within the SCHPC. He said the County Board ultimately acts upon appointments. Commissioner Sims said it is difficult to get members to serve on boards and commissions, even with a per diem. He said the Certified Local Government [CLG] program and the ordinance additionally require certain specialists for the SCHPC. Chairman Pell said the SCHPC just lost its attorney member and the ordinance speaks to having professionals with an historic preservation background among others on the Commission. He said that at some point there would be a process to choose a replacement. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson if there was an action item for the Commission to consider. Commissioner Jacobson said it was just for discussion. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Williams if he had any comments.

Commissioner Williams proposed for discussion that Commissioners should do three surveys per year. He said we are not asking for landmarking, although it would be nice if they could. Commissioner Williams said that next month he would have a landmark for the Donner Party origination site. He said if Commissioners have any questions, other Commissioners are available to provide help with filling out the forms. Commissioner Jacobson said Commissioner Williams is very committed to creating landmarks.

Commissioner Jacobson reiterated that the sub-committee wants to see each Commissioner complete three surveys and attend at least eight of twelve meetings per year. He said one could meet the survey requirement through alternate activities. Commissioner Jacobson gave some examples: committee work, setting up a preservation week ceremony, developing a school program promoting historic preservation, setting up exhibits during preservation week, attending a state/national conference, and other alternatives people can determine. He said determining if an activity is adequate could be handled by the Chair or through a SCHPC vote. Commissioner Jacobson said the purpose of the discussion is to have members act beyond attending meetings and collecting a paycheck. Commissioner Jacobson asked what happens next. Chairman Pell said it is an ongoing discussion. He said he thinks it is good the sub-committee is hashing out these issues. Chairman Pell said it is somewhat of a catch-22. He said he believes Commissioners

serve on the SCHPC because they have some interest in historic preservation. Chairman Pell said everyone has a different level of understanding about historic preservation activities. He said this is a volunteer organization. Chairman Pell said it might be useful to inform the County Administrator about some of this information in a spreadsheet format to say illustrate what Commissioners did during any given year. He said if there are more people interested in being on the SCHPC, it may be easier to establish standards. However, if there is zero interest, it makes it a little more difficult.

Commissioner Sims said on the administrative side it is important to know what is going on for the CLG program report to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA]. He also said it is important not to use performance measures for punitive reasons. Commissioner Sims said the ultimate purpose should be why are/are not we meeting the standard; what stands in the way? He said alternative activities could advance the mission of the Commission in important ways. Commissioner Sims discussed some attendance issues with Springfield Historic Sites Commission related to employment, e.g. working for the General Assembly. He said the tasks members undertake are not defined. Commissioner Sims said if the rules are established by resolution/bylaws, then the next group could change them.

Commissioner Jacobson said for the next meeting it would be nice to ask each Commissioner if one agrees to submit three surveys annually or to suggest an alternate project. He said each member should read the ordinance to see exactly what Commissioners should be doing. Commissioner Jacobson discussed next steps going forward. Chairman Pell said he has no problems reaching out to the County Administrator. He encouraged everyone to discuss the matter while everyone is at the table. Chairman Pell said if there is another sub-committee meeting, please inform the larger group of the results.

Commissioner Raut asked for clarification about the CLG report. Commissioner Sims said that each year each CLG must submit a report to the IHPA about its activities.

Chairman Pell asked for clarification on the report. Commissioner Sims said the more information collected on the activities of members makes it easier to write the report. He discussed the points system used by a local organization. Chairman Pell asked if a proposal with a performance standard tied to stipend pay were taken to the County Board, would this be too complicated. Commissioner Sims replied it is too complicated. Commissioner Sims said a performance system tying per diem pay to points is a nightmare administratively. He said if the SCHPC could come up with a system that tells the County Board these Commissioners are effective that would be a positive thing. Commissioner Sims said the RPC minutes reflect attendance. Chairman Pell thanked everyone for the good discussion.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Lathan reported on two surveys she turned in for Woodwreath Cemetery and Island Grove Methodist Church.

Commissioner Sherman said the Island Grove area is a Yankee community in the middle of the prairie. He expressed his belief that the whole area should be on some historical register. Commissioner Sherman said Commissioner Lathan would find out more while doing some research on the area. Chairman Pell suggested looking at the IHPA and the National Register websites to determine if there are any sites on the National Register. Chairman Pell said there

should be an investigation if any areas are worthy of being a historic district. He said there was something similar proposed for Illiopolis, but it required an intergovernmental agreement.

Commissioner Sherman said there would be a barn preservation conference on February 14 in Kane County. He said he was also invited to a national barns conference in Pennsylvania at the end of February.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Sherman made a motion to adjourn the January meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:59 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
March 4, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro, Darryl Jones, Robert Sherman

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the February minutes. A motion to approve the February minutes was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Williams. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell said on April 22, 2015 there will be a press conference at the Capitol regarding Landmarks Illinois' Ten Most Endangered list of which the Condell House in Springfield is in the running. Chairman Pell discussed the Landmarks Illinois celebration in Chicago. It was for the 10th Anniversary of their Legendary Landmarks Celebration - which is in its 10th year within an organization started over 30 years ago. He discussed a brief meeting with a lobbyist/consultant, Milton Sees. Chairman Pell said the water tower in Illiopolis was an important issue to Mr. Sees because his mother worked at the site during World War II. He said grant-funding opportunities would be nice to refurbish the water tower.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Williams reported on a film he is shooting about the Donner Party, and asked to show part (8-10 minutes) of it at the next meeting. He said it would be in a conjunction with a book to be released this summer; there is to be a book signing at the ALPLM on July 1. Commissioner Williams said it looks probable the film will be on the History Channel or a similar network. He said the State finally relented on consenting for the Donner Party origination site to apply to become a landmark.

General discussion ensued about the Lincoln Funeral Procession, specifically the hearse. The Commission discussed that the size of one of the hearse wheels was extrapolated from a photograph taken at the time to form the basis for constructing a replica. A discussion of the procession route, activities, and issues in downtown Springfield at the beginning of May also occurred.

Commissioner Lathan highlighted two surveys she turned in at the February meeting of the Island Grove Methodist Church. She showed pictures of the brick church with masonry dentils

along the top of the structure. Commissioner Lathan said the original chapel was a block chapel, with a major remodeling from approximately 1955-1965. She said she could not get inside the church, but that services were still held. Commissioner Lathan highlighted some difficulties making contact with the church's owners. Chairman Pell discussed some strategies to help convince the owners about landmarking as well as how to locate someone responsible for the church. He also talked about architectural details regarding window coverings in the lower part of the church, and the arched window in the church's pediment. Commissioner Jacobson suggested brushing up on the benefits of landmarking prior to talking to the owners. Chairman Pell said there may be some potential grant opportunities of which the church's non-profit owner could take advantage of if the site is landmarked or listed on the National Register. Potential contacts through the local Methodist conference office were mentioned. Commissioner Jacobson asked about the building on the back of the church. Commissioner Lathan said they are connected. Chairman Pell said the building could be an addition. He said it could also be classroom space or additional meeting space for the church.

Commissioner Lathan also talked about Woodwreath Cemetery that surrounds the church. She said a James Brown, who is interred in the cemetery, donated the ground. Commissioner Jacobson asked the age of the oldest marker. Commissioner Lathan said it was incorporated in 1872. She said Colonel Brown was born in 1779 and died in 1833. General discussion ensued among Chairman Pell and Commissioner Lathan regarding the rear of the church and whether the window at the top was attic space or vaulted. Commissioner Raut gave the name of an officer of the Woodwreath Cemetery Association. Commissioner Sims gave the name of the minister of the church listed on the web.

Commissioner Raut asked the title of Commissioner Williams' film, to which Commissioner Williams replied "Trials of the Trail."

Commissioner Jacobson reported on ten streets in his assigned townships that he did web searches on to determine if historical structures exist. He said national real estate websites show good street-level views of houses. Google sites (e.g. Google Earth) were suggested as good tools for street level views of a particular piece of property. Chairman Pell said you do not necessarily have to get in your car and drive around to find historical structures in assigned townships. General discussion followed showing Google street view features. The tax parcel viewer on the County's website (<http://gismaps.co.sangamon.il.us/tpv/default.htm>) was discussed. Various capabilities of the tax parcel viewer were demonstrated, including the ability to find some historical photos of property in Capital Township, and aerial photography from 1938-1940 and 1969.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: Commissioner Jacobson asked about Commissioner participation. Chairman Pell said he would rely on the sub-committee to bring something forward for a vote. He said ideas were discussed and there was some feedback. Commissioner Sims said the action item would be a resolution because the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [SCHPC] does not have bylaws. Chairman Pell asked if the SCHPC could act on the resolution. Commissioner Sims said sure; the SCHPC is not changing law. He said as long as we are not notifying someone that something needs to change, a resolution might not even be required. Commissioner Sims said the Chair could act. Chairman Pell asked if would be like an executive order, to which Commissioner Sims replied an executive order has legal authority. Commissioner Jacobson said it would be nice to have something on paper. Commissioner Sims

suggested a resolution if there is a process to be followed. He said a future Commission could change the resolution. Commissioner Sims said the only individual who can send correspondence to the County Board in the name of the SCHPC would be the Chair. He said if the SCHPC wants to do something else this would be in a resolution. Commissioner Sims said this would have the same effect as changing bylaws, if the SCHPC had bylaws. Commissioner Jacobson said there was discussion about contacting the County Administrator regarding participation and attendance to see if the County Board would go along with the policy. Commissioner Sims said it may be worthwhile to get the County Administrator's opinion but he would not be the final decision maker. Chairman Pell said if the directive was to contact the County Administrator and he did not do that he apologizes. He said he would make a point to contact the County Administrator to get some feedback. Chairman Pell said if the sub-committee wants to meet and discuss the issue resolution-wise, please do so. Commissioner Williams asked if the sub-committee should meet prior to the next meeting. Commissioner Jacobson said we should see what we can do by phone and email; it was noted they could not meet in this fashion. Commissioner Sims asked if this would go to the Commission at the next meeting. He said if it will, then the agenda item needs to be in forty-eight hours prior to the meeting. Commissioner Sims asked if Commissioner Jacobson and Commissioner Williams are the [sub]-committee, to which the Commissioners said yes. Commissioner Sims said you cannot discuss the issue by phone because it triggers the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Jacobson asked about emails, to which the reply was it is the same. Commissioner Sims said the sub-committee meeting must be open and posted. The consensus was to meet prior to the next meeting [on Wednesday April 1]. Chairman Pell said the meeting is open and that any member of the SCHPC can attend or anyone else. He asked what time the meeting would occur. Commissioner Williams asked whether Commissioner Jacobson wanted to meet at 2:30 PM or 3:00 PM, to which Commissioner Jacobson said 3:00 PM. Chairman Pell said if the participation sub-committee meets, then the SCHPC might not be able to act on the item at its April meeting. Commissioner Sims said if there is a resolution in hand 48 hours prior to the meeting and it is added to the agenda, then it could be acted upon by the SCHPC. Chairman Pell said if the sub-committee meets at least 48 hours prior to the SCHPC meeting and it is placed on the SCHPC agenda, then it can be acted upon at the April meeting. Commissioner Jacobson said I think it can wait a month and asked Commissioner Williams for his opinion, to which Commissioner Williams said I agree.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn the March meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:11 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
April 1, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro, Darryl Jones

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the March, 2015 minutes, as amended. A motion to approve the March minutes, as amended, was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Vice Chairman Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell said he put in a call regarding the Participation Sub-committee's discussions to the County Administrator, but had not received a reply prior to the meeting. He urged the Commissioners to go out and explore historic sites while the weather is good.

Chairman Pell then turned the floor over to Commissioner Williams, who showed a segment of a film he made of the Donner Party's trek to California in 1846-47, entitled "Trials of the Trail." After the film was shown, there was a brief discussion. Commissioner Williams highlighted the 40% survival rate and a list of items on the trail he obtained. Chairman Pell asked about the book signing in July. Commissioner Williams said a book is coming out detailing what the Donners did in the 25 years prior to the trek. Commissioner Jacobson asked about two interpretations he heard of why the Donner Party left, namely they: (1) sought better economic conditions, or (2) were in financial trouble. Commissioner Williams said he thought it was that they were wanderers. Chairman Pell asked what types of trading occurred on the trail. Commissioner Williams highlighted some Donner family history. Vice Chairman Sherman asked about Utah settlements. Commissioner Williams said they bypassed the Utah settlements. Chairman Pell thanked Commissioner Williams for showing the film.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Chairman Pell turned over the floor to Commissioner Jacobson for a report of the Participation Sub-committee. Commissioner Jacobson highlighted the resolution distributed at the meeting that the Participation Sub-committee considered. Chairman Pell suggested voting on the resolution at the next meeting, saying it would allow more time for discussion. He said an additional month was indicated as acceptable by Commissioner Jacobson at the last meeting. Chairman Pell asked if the resolution is just amongst the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [SCHPC], to which Commissioner Sims said yes. Commissioner Sims said the resolution allows other measures to be included by the Chair, as well as a report to be provided to the County Board Chair identifying members of the Commission in good standing as defined

in the resolution. He said these new measures are a logical extension to the annual report of the SCHPC to the Sangamon County Board. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Williams if he had comments. Commissioner Williams said the resolution requires three surveys per year or a landmark. He said the Commissioners should be eager to help do the Commission's work. Commissioner Williams said he received some help doing a historical survey. Commissioner Sims said the Commissioners should understand this is work the Commissioners do. It is not work they turn over for someone else to do. Commissioner Williams said the staff is an asset. Commissioner Sims said the resolution does not just mention surveys and landmark applications. He said alternate work assignments are available under the resolution. Chairman Pell asked if anyone else's authority was required. Commissioner Sims said the duties assigned in the resolution would normally be included in bylaws under member and Chairman responsibilities. He said in the absence of bylaws, a resolution will work until it is amended or repealed. Chairman Pell suggested submitting comments over the next few weeks in order to vote at the next meeting. Staff urged the Commissioners to not start outside conversations with the whole group via email, as this would violate the Open Meetings Act.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member/Staff Reports: Commissioner Sims said staff received some correspondence regarding a new communications tower the BNSF railroad will construct in railroad right of way in Talkington Township. He said the third sentence of the letter received says that while the railroads are not required to obtain local comments, they are asking whether the new tower will have an effect on any historic resources. Chairman Pell asked if staff looked to see if there are any structures within a specific distance. Staff highlighted the County tax parcel viewer latitude/longitude capabilities. Vice Chairman Sherman asked the location of the site. He said the only structures in the township besides those in Lowder are agricultural. The general consensus was there were no structures within an approximately half-mile radius of the site. Commissioner Jacobson suggested a letter stating the SCHPC is not aware of any historic resources. Chairman Pell asked if a memo was also sent to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA]. Commissioner Jacobson asked if a motion were required, to which Chairman Pell said he did not think it requires any motion. Vice Chairman Sherman said there are a small number of historic structures in Talkington Township.

Vice Chairman Sherman reported on meeting the caretaker of the Sulphur Springs and Campbell Cemeteries. He said she signed two forms, but wanted to bounce it off her township board prior to giving a final okay. Vice Chairman Sherman said in the Campbell Cemetery there are names like Hall, Campbell, Workman, and Carroll that are common Springfield names. He said the Campbell Cemetery is approximately an acre. Commissioner Sims asked about ownership. Vice Chairman Sherman said the cemeteries are held by a trust. Commissioner Sims said the owner must sign off to submit an application. Vice Chairman Sherman also reported he had a good time at the barn conference in Pennsylvania.

Chairman Pell informed the Commission that the CLG grant application was not successful. He said the lesson to be learned is to think of new project ideas. Chairman Pell said buy-in from outside entities is important in submitting the grant application. Commissioner Sims said there could be some changes in what IHPA is looking for with the CLG grant applications, i.e. tourism related items given the fact that IHPA may be dissolved and its personnel fit into the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Chairman Pell said no matter what happens with IHPA, someone will probably overlook the state's historic resources. Chairman Pell asked if the SCHPC should have Catherine O'Connor come to a meeting to discuss ways to improve our future GLG grant applications. Commissioner Sims suggested waiting to see what happens at IHPA.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Sherman made a motion to adjourn the April meeting with Commissioner Raut seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
May 6, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Mike Brooks, Gabe Chiaro, Darryl Jones, Bob Sherman

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the April 2015 minutes. A motion to approve the April 2015 minutes was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell informed the Commission of some personnel updates. He said there is a new Commissioner, Michael Brooks, from near Mechanicsburg. Chairman Pell said he spoke briefly with Commissioner Brooks, who was unable to attend the meeting. Chairman Pell indicated he received an email from Commissioner Darryl Jones, who is stepping down from the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [SCHPC]. Chairman Pell said he sent an email to the County Administrator requesting if possible that an attorney be considered as a replacement. He said he talked to the County Administrator in general about coming to him to discuss the status of Commissioners during periods of reappointment. Chairman Pell said the County Administrator was receptive.

Chairman Pell shared a photo of a barn on Wesley Chapel Road in Curran Township. He asked how to determine if a parcel is incorporated or unincorporated. Staff demonstrated how to determine incorporated/unincorporated via the tax bill on the parcel viewer. Chairman Pell will provide the information he has for the barn to Commissioner Lathan to complete as well as to Commissioner Sherman to determine type of barn.

Old Business: Chairman Pell turned over the floor to Commissioner Jacobson. Commissioner Raut asked if the previous vote was on the April minutes, to which the reply was yes. Commissioner Jacobson outlined the work of the subcommittee and described the action to be taken. He said it was whether the Commission wants to approve or disapprove the resolution. Chairman Pell asked if there were any changes. Staff said the only change submitted was a typographical error in the fourth whereas, third line, to change from it to its, which was done. Commissioner Jacobson summarized the resolution recitals: helping the SCHPC achieve its goals; doing the activities mentioned in the ordinance; and, how the duties of the Commission are dependent on Commissioner actions. He said the outcome is that a Commissioner receives a letter of recommendation to the County Board or receives nothing at the end of one's term. Commissioner Jacobson reiterated that it is ultimately the County Board's decision whether someone is to be appointed or re-appointed.

Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to approve resolution HPC-1, seconded by Commissioner Williams. Chairman Pell asked for discussion, to which there was no reply. The voice vote to approve the resolution was unanimous.

New Business: Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson to discuss the oldest farmhouse contest which he would like to create. He asked if Commissioner Jacobson received an email reply from the Chair, to which Commissioner Jacobson said yes. Commissioner Sims said if the intent of the discussion is to set up a committee; the Chair can establish it. Commissioner Sims said once the committee begins its work; the Open Meetings Act applies.

Commissioner Jacobson said that the contest would be a fun way to find potential landmarks, and generate positive publicity for the SCHPC. Chairman Pell read a reply he sent to Commissioner Jacobson that asked him to clarify some particular issues and think about the scope of the contest. Commissioner Lathan asked the timeframe of the contest, to which Chairman Pell replied a committee could determine the timeframe. She asked about having a committee of the whole instead of a contest committee. Chairman Pell replied some members might want to dive into the issue in more detail than the whole SCHPC. He said the issues surrounding establishment of the contest committee were similar to those discussed prior to formation of the participation sub-committee.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Chairman Pell asked staff about an email sent by Vice Chairman Sherman. Staff said Vice Chairman Sherman sent an email stating he received an owner's consent to landmark two cemeteries.

Commissioner Lathan said she is working with the church and the cemetery to see if she can get them landmarked. Chairman Pell asked if she had found a contact yet, to which Commissioner Lathan said yes. Commissioner Lathan volunteered to write the survey for the barn Chairman Pell showed along Wesley Chapel Road.

Commissioner Williams discussed some work he completed for the Lincoln funeral re-enactment during the weekend of May 1-3, 2015. He discussed work to repair the hearse, the funeral vault, and the train car. Commissioner Williams estimated 12,000 people attended part of the re-enactment.

Staff Reports: Staff highlighted updated information provided to the Commissioners.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: Commissioner Lathan asked about the range of terms on the Commissioners list. Chairman Pell said lengths of terms were randomly assigned when the SCHPC was established. He said he thought the term length was up to three years. Chairman Pell said he did not have an answer because he did not think anyone's appointment was five years. He asked staff to research why the terms appear staggered. Staff read from the ordinance that the terms of successors to initial members of the SCHPC are to be five years.

Commissioner Jacobson asked about pay. Chairman Pell said members are paid if there is a meeting and they come. Staff concurred.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lathan made a motion to adjourn the May meeting with Commissioner Williams seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
June 3, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Mike Brooks
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell discussed some typographical changes to the minutes proposed by Commissioner Jacobson. He entertained a motion to approve the amended May 2015 minutes. A motion to approve the amended May 2015 minutes was made by Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell introduced Commissioner Mike Brooks. Commissioner Brooks said he works for the Illinois Senate Republicans and previously worked for Channel 20. He said he lives in an old (1940s) family farmhouse and has an interest in old buildings and cars. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Brooks discussed the Bolivia Bridge. Commissioner Brooks said it is more of a local destination than a heavily traveled bridge. Chairman Pell highlighted the participation resolution passed in May.

Commissioner Brooks asked about surveys. Chairman Pell said one of the tasks Commissioners have is to survey historic sites. He said traditionally this means sites older than fifty years; however, younger sites depending on their significance should be surveyed. Chairman Pell noted that significance at a local level for a county commission may not necessarily be as strict as on a national level. He said some newer structures could be significant because a particular architect or engineer designed them, etc. Chairman Pell said a survey could be a building, a site, a cemetery or a road, etc. He said it could have a particular historical style. Chairman Pell said surveys contain information like the address, the property owner, and a description of the historical significance of a site. He said the next level after a survey may be to landmark a site. Chairman Pell said the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission's [SCHPC] particular focus is in unincorporated Sangamon County. He said if a site is in an incorporated municipality other than Springfield, the SCHPC would have to have an intergovernmental agreement [IGA] with the municipality because the SCHPC has no jurisdiction inside corporate limits. Commissioner Sims said if an IGA occurred, then County Board would enter into the agreement not the commission; he said the SCHPC could work out the details of the arrangement. Commissioner Sims said another option under the ordinance is for the corporate authorities to have the SCHPC act as its historic preservation body. Chairman Pell said only Springfield and Sangamon County have historic preservation commissions in Sangamon County. He said Mechanicsburg and Illiopolis have historic buildings that could be surveyed, but would require an IGA to landmarking. Chairman Pell reiterated the Commissioners have assigned the

townships. He said the assignments help focus this body's surveying efforts. Chairman Pell was careful to emphasize this does not mean you cannot tell the group about something interesting you see in another member's township.

Chairman Pell next outlined some personnel discussions regarding Commissioners Jones and Chiaro. Both Commissioners should inform the County Board office directly of any change in status. Chairman Pell said he would follow up on this issue.

Chairman Pell said on the first Wednesday of each of the months May-October the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA] (Anthony Rubano) leads an architectural tour that generally starts by the Lincoln-Herndon law offices at Sixth and Adams downtown. He said the July walk would start by the Lincoln statue in front of the current state capitol (2nd and Capitol).

Chairman Pell asked about emails distributed to the group. There was some discussion about the 2015 Illinois Main Street and Historic Preservation Conference in Carbondale at the end of June. Chairman Pell said IHPA offers a reimbursement to help offset costs.

Old Business: Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Jacobson to discuss the farmhouse contest. Commissioner Jacobson said he hoped a committee would be formed. Chairman Pell said he would be more than happy to appoint specific members if no one volunteers. Commissioner Jacobson said the purpose of the contest is partly public relations and partly to stimulate interest in the historic resources of Sangamon County. Commissioner Jacobson said the next step is to investigate the awarding of prizes, to contact stores/organizations/institutions and ask for support, to investigate incentives to nominate houses as the oldest farmhouse in Sangamon County, and to resolve parameters of the contest in general. He asked for volunteers from the SCHPC to participate in this work. Commissioner Jacobson said this is a good alternative to survey work. Chairman Pell said if a sub-set of the SCHPC meets, it would fall under the Open Meetings Act. He said before or after the SCHPC meeting could be a good time. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if the incentive was Commissioner Jacobson's or if it was part of a larger organization like IHPA. Commissioner Jacobson said the idea was his. Chairman Pell asked Vice Chairman Sherman to define an incentive. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if there was a larger umbrella organization like IHPA working on this program. Commissioner Jacobson mentioned the Department of Agriculture's Centennial Farm program as a starting point. Commissioner Sims said Commissioner Jacobson is offering a concept and a group could gather and discuss these issues. Chairman Pell indicated the concept needs to be vetted such as how to handle a former farmhouse like the Leland house (in Leland Grove) that is incorporated into another municipality (and a neighborhood), etc. Commissioner Sims said the contest could be an attractive way for the SCHPC to build a constituency. He said the committee could discuss contest literature for potential business partners. Chairman Pell suggested contacting local media (WICS, SJ-R, AM radio stations, etc.) at the appropriate time. Vice Chairman Sherman said something could be a Centennial farm and still have a new house on it. Commissioner Sims suggested the committee discuss how to verify the information submitted on entry forms. Chairman Pell said the notion of constituency building is important because the public gets to know about the SCHPC only periodically through landmarks. He asked Commissioner Jacobson if he wanted to be part of a group. Chairman Pell asked members of the SCHPC to email him by the Wednesday after the meeting to volunteer for the group or he would contact a few SCHPC members. Commissioner Sims asked if Commissioner Jacobson was interim chair of the group that will meet, to which Chairman Pell said yes. Commissioner Sims said some thought should be given to bringing the Sangamon County Farm Bureau on as a potential sponsor. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Sims also suggested reaching out to grain elevator operators and/or County Board members who farm or have an interest in farming for partnerships.

Next was a short discussion of IHPA potentially becoming a part of the Illinois Department of Economic Opportunity [DCEO]. Discussion ensued about passage of the bill regarding IHPA and DCEO privatization, state agencies, and potential cuts/consolidations needed due to state budget changes.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: Chairman Pell asked about two applications submitted for cemeteries. Vice Chairman Sherman said he needed to submit photographs for the landmark applications. Staff said the applications could be considered at the next meeting.

Member Reports: Vice Chairman Sherman said he submitted two landmark applications. One is for the Sulphur Springs cemetery and the other is for the Campbell cemetery, both in Loami Township. He said a number of stones are old, including some rangers from the War of 1812 and veterans from the Mexican War and World War I. Vice Chairman Sherman highlighted a five-foot diameter millstone grave in the Sulphur Springs cemetery. He said there were several famous names in the cemeteries. Chairman Pell asked if there was a sulfur smelling spring in the area. Vice Chairman Sherman said there is a spring there that flows into one of the other streams in the area.

Commissioner Williams reported he was working on films from the Lincoln funeral re-enactment. He said he would have landmarking applications for the George Power mansion soon. Vice Chairman Sherman said this was one of the oldest farmhouses in the County. Commissioner Williams said the mansion was built in the 1850s. He said the courthouse was built in the 1820s.

Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Brooks about his farmhouse. Commissioner Brooks gave a summary of the farm where he lived. He said the house was a bungalow style structure. Commissioner Brooks said it has a cupola in the front. Chairman Pell asked if it was part of a farm. Commissioner Brooks said we still have a farm at the site. He said there was a barn on the site that was probably older than the 1940s but that it may be gone in a few years. Commissioner Brooks said it had hand-hewn beams, square nails, and other older construction evidence. The cattle barn apparently has mortise and tenon joints and rough hand-hewn timber framing. After some discussion, Vice Chairman Sherman thought it was at least 100 years old, maybe constructed in the 1850s or 1860s. He said it is possible to track the progression of technology from the East Coast to the Midwest through barns like with houses. Commissioner Brooks said he did not think it would be around too much longer because he did not think it could be saved. Chairman Pell suggested a survey to document its appearance.

He said the old Bell Fountain schoolhouse was across the street from him. He asked how to tell if someone has already made a survey of a particular property. Chairman Pell said you could email staff to check if a survey has been done for a particular building.

Vice Chairman Sherman said he would be going to a barn conference in Indiana in July. He said he was also bringing a model Dutch barn owned by the National Barn Alliance back to the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Sims said there was an article sent out for historic preservation. He said it is important because it discusses strategic partnerships, i.e. the Farm Bureau for the oldest farmhouses contest. He also reminded the SCHPC that the County would start budgeting in mid-August. Commissioner Sims suggested talking to the County's Finance Chairman, now the

Auditor, soon. He suggested setting aside an account for funds not expended because of missed meetings or because of vacancies. Commissioner Sims said this in itself is not a loss to the County since it is a planned expenditure anyway. He said it is a small amount in the County budget and if it carries over from one year to the next it could be a small pot of funds to get landmark plaques made for instance. Commissioner Sims suggested having a conversation. He said the SCHPC could ask would the County Board be agreeable to being able to carry over the funds from year to year.

Commissioner Lathan said she is trying to meet with the church and cemetery owners for the properties she highlighted at the March meeting. She wants to see the inside of the church and wants to get some more information on tombstones at the cemetery. Commissioner Lathan said the church and the cemetery owners do not talk to each other much. Chairman Pell said he passed the photo he showed the SCHPC at the May meeting to Commissioner Lathan regarding a barn in Curran Township. Vice Chairman Sherman said that photo was a good example of a grain barn. He said because of the head house there was likely an old elevator that carried grain. Vice Chairman Sherman said he was sure the barn was older than fifty years. Commissioner Jacobson asked if it had a type. Vice Chairman Sherman said it probably had a catalog number. Chairman Pell said the owners might have more information regarding the barn. Commissioner Lathan said she started a survey for the barn. She said it looks like it was passed down within the family. Commissioner Lathan said she pulled the dead/tax/job card and that it was from 1952. Staff said most tax cards seem to date from the early 1950s and that it was important to look at the recorded documents referenced to understand when the property was described.

Commissioner Jacobson said he is looking into landmarking another property.

Staff Reports: Staff said the Planning Commission office received a call from WICS regarding the Sangamon Ordnance Plant Water Tower that the Village of Illiopolis owns. The reporter was directed to call Village Hall in Illiopolis. Chairman Pell said Channel 20 wanted to do a story but the angle was unknown.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: Commissioner Williams asked the Commissioners to visit <http://www.centralillinoisfilmcommission.com>. He said there is a short highlight video there on the Lincoln funeral re-enactment. Commissioner Williams said he might bring some photos of the re-enactment to the next meeting.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to adjourn the June meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:01 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
July 1, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro, Mike Brooks

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the June minutes. A motion to approve the June minutes was made by Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell said on the first Wednesday of each of the months May-October the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA] (Anthony Rubano) leads an architectural Pied Piper walking tour that generally starts by the Lincoln-Herndon law offices at Sixth and Adams downtown about 5:30 PM.

Chairman Pell said he is looking forward to the farmhouse committee discussion. He reminded the Commissioners that Commissioner Sims sent out an email saying keep the concepts simple. Chairman Pell said the contest is mainly for promotional and publicity purposes of the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [SCHPC].

Chairman Pell said an old school or an old church is across the street from the barn he shared at the May meeting. He asked if Commissioner Lathan would see if it looks like a historical site and that he would send her some information with the address.

Old Business: Chairman Pell gave Commissioner Jacobson the floor to discuss the oldest farmhouse contest committee report. Commissioner Jacobson said a meeting of the committee was held prior to the SCHPC meeting and there was a quorum of Commissioner Raut, Vice Chairman Sherman, and Commissioner Jacobson. He said Commissioner Brooks was absent due to work commitments. Commissioner Jacobson said the committee discussed several items, summarized below:

- Farmhouses versus farmsteads – The committee consensus was to focus on the farmhouse, but not to exclude the farmstead from inclusion, publicity, and materials.
- Unincorporated versus all Sangamon County – The committee consensus was to include both incorporated and unincorporated areas.
- Active versus non-active farmhouses – The committee consensus was if it once was a farmhouse no matter whether it is used as one now, abandoned or unoccupied or moved to a subsequent location, then it should be included in the contest.
- Number and distribution of winners – The committee consensus was one winner per township and the oldest in the County would come out through the process. Commissioner Jacobson said if we build this from the townships, it could help with SCHPC participation as Commissioners have township assignments.

After the meeting, Commissioner Jacobson said he read an email about how to handle a farmhouse that was moved. He said this might be a discussion topic at the next meeting. Chairman Pell said it sounds like the committee set many of the contest parameters. He said having one winner per township and then establishing an overall winner is good. Chairman Pell said there might be property owners who are reluctant to come forward. He said the information received and reviewed by the committee would be important. Commissioner Sims said it is important at a future meeting to discuss the process of the contest.

Vice Chairman Sherman said the committee also discussed prizes. He said plaques that are 200 feet from a road do not make sense, suggesting a parchment in the living room instead. He said the contest brings other non-survey items to the SCHPC's attention of importance. Chairman Pell said some good collateral things could happen. Commissioner Jacobson said a plaque might be about \$200. Chairman Pell said the bottom of the prize, whether a plaque or a parchment, could indicate sponsored by and the names. Commissioner Jacobson said the committee might discuss how and to which sponsors to approach at the next meeting. Chairman Pell said before approaching sponsors it is important to outline what the contest is and what it will do for the sponsor. He said then the sponsor could approve or deny the request. Commissioner Sims said he thought a certificate on a nice plaque might cost about \$50. He suggested talking or partnering with the Farm Bureau. Commissioner Sims said the Farm Bureau is going to be much more interested in houses on active farms. Chairman Pell said after the committee gets the contest in order a press release could be distributed. He said it might not rise to the occasion of a press conference. Chairman Pell said committee members could go to the Farm Bureau and say here is what we are doing. Commissioner Sims said who is going to do what, to whom, by when, and with what effect is important to do prior to creating the contest publicity. He said the committee should list all the steps to be carried out with the contest to help prioritize items. Chairman Pell said there is no requirement to meet the same day as the SCHPC, so long as staff is informed to put together an agenda and to distribute it in accordance with state statute.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: Chairman Pell asked about the landmark applications for Campbell Cemetery and Sulphur Springs Cemetery. Staff said there were deficiencies with the applications pertaining to owner consent for adjacent private property with gravestones. Staff said the recommendation is to discuss the applications, but to not make the initial report. Chairman Pell asked if photos were submitted, to which staff said yes. Vice Chairman Sherman said owner consent for areas of cemeteries with important gravestones were not included. Chairman Pell asked if both cemeteries have multiple owners. Commissioner Jacobson asked if he could bring up new business that does not require action, to which Chairman Pell said hold off on the point and the Commission can return to it. Chairman Pell asked how many owners needed to be contacted. Staff said one had three and the other had two. Vice Chairman Sherman said staff would provide the taxpayer of record information. He said he would reach out to the owners with the township supervisor [Linda]. Commissioner Sims said the properties in question are not all owned by the township. He asked whether multiple legals are required, to which staff said multiple legals are possible with both cemeteries. Chairman Pell said he thought it should be easy to get the consent; the cemetery has been in existence for many years.

Vice Chairman Sherman showed some photos of the Sulphur Springs and Campbell cemeteries. The Commission discussed a Workman mausoleum in the Campbell cemetery and the cemetery sign. In Sulphur Springs cemetery, Vice Chairman Sherman said it is easy to find the veterans' graves because there are pipes where flags are placed in the ground. Vice Chairman Sherman highlighted a grain mill base stone (Jonas Smith) used as a grave marker. Commissioner Sims said adding information about unique or significant gravestones is important for the application to help explain to the County Board why to landmark a particular site. Vice Chairman Sherman said there were veterans from several wars at the cemetery. He said the Sulphur Springs cemetery has a ranger from the War of 1812. The Commission discussed the stone of a soldier from the Mexican American War who died in 1846. Chairman Pell and Vice Chairman Sherman highlighted problems with

gravestones not weathering well. Chairman Pell asked Vice Chairman Sherman to keep the Commission updated on the status of the landmark applications.

Member Reports: Commissioner Williams said he wants to landmark the 1850 George Powers farmhouse. He said the owner invited the SCHPC to tour the farmhouse, the barns, and the cemetery as time is available. Commissioner Williams said the group could get together and take a tour. He said the cemetery on the site dates from 1746, with the farmhouse dating from 1850. Chairman Pell reminded that an agenda for the tour will need to occur. He said to contact the Regional Planning Commission office once a date is set. Commissioner Raut asked if the site was landmarked, to which the reply was the farmstead is on the National Register and courthouse is a County landmark. Commissioner Jacobson asked about steps. Commissioner Williams said there is one step to the kitchen and the first floor is available.

Vice Chairman Sherman said if anyone is interested in helping put together a ¼ scale Dutch barn at the Illinois State Fairgrounds during the State Fair to contact him. Suggested work partners included the Boy Scouts, FFA, the Farm Bureau, the U of I Extension, and/or the Illinois Corn Growers Association.

Staff Reports: Staff reminded the Commissioners of emails regarding a tour in Elmhurst and of the retirement of IHPA local government manager Catherine O'Connor, which sparked some discussion.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: Commissioner Williams asked if the group wants to meet on a weeknight or weekend for the Powers farmhouse tour. Chairman Pell expressed a preference for a weeknight, the earlier the better. Commissioner Williams said weeknight, maybe 5:00 PM. Vice Chairman Sherman said not a Friday either. Commissioner Williams said this is helpful.

New Business: Commissioner Jacobson said the City of Springfield Historic Sites Commission is looking into recording landmark information so owners will know what they are buying. Chairman Pell asked for some clarification. Commissioner Sims said the City is looking into having City landmarks recorded in the County records so that they will appear in title searches. He said the City is recording its landmarks to ensure it will appear in a title search. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson if Commissioner Jacobson wanted a similar system for the County. Commissioner Jacobson said he thought it would be worthwhile. Chairman Pell then asked him if he would get documentation from the City as a possible model for the County, and Commissioner Jacobson agreed. Commissioner Sims said the City system was not by resolution, but that it appears in the minutes of the Historic Sites Commission.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to adjourn the July meeting with Vice Chairman Sherman seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
August 5, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Mike Brooks
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro, Jerry Jacobson

Staff Present: Peter Jordet

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the July minutes. Chairman Pell discussed changes to the minutes sent via email by Commissioner Jacobson. A motion to approve the amended July minutes was made by Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell introduced staff member Peter Jordet.

Old Business: Chairman Pell recognized Vice Chairman Sherman to discuss the Farmhouse Committee meeting. Vice Chairman Sherman said the Farmhouse Committee consensus was contest entries must be farmhouses on operating/active farms and dated pre-1850 from all over Sangamon County. He said the Committee discussed getting a couple of sponsors, e.g. the Farm Bureau and a group like Brandt. Vice Chairman Sherman said the Committee also thought it would be good to present the winners at the 2016 Sangamon County Fair. Chairman Pell summarized the main points of the Committee meeting. Vice Chairman Sherman said the active farm criteria could lead to some houses being excluded that are very old like the Leland house and/or the Brunk house. Chairman Pell said the Committee might need to do some due diligence to ensure the accuracy of the applications submitted for the contest. Commissioner Sims added the Committee would consider houses solicited Countywide regardless of municipal jurisdiction. Commissioner Brooks said everyone that the Committee certifies has a house prior to 1850 would get a simple certificate. He said the larger prize would have to be determined depending on the amount of money available. Chairman Pell asked when the fair is. Commissioner Brooks said early June, usually around Father's Day. Chairman Pell said the Committee would determine task assignments and connections with the potential sponsors. Commissioner Sims said if the Farm Bureau will collaborate with the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [SCHPC] it will help because they know everyone in farming in the County.

Discussion ensued about potential points of contact with the Farm Bureau. Chairman Pell suggested putting together a proposal to help clarify the message to potential sponsors. Commissioner Brooks said he could draft a proposal. Chairman Pell said if the Committee gets the Farm Bureau on board, it could be something to mention in a press release. Commissioner Brooks said it could be a news conference with press release on a slow news day. Commissioner Sims suggested that maybe a group like Brandt would want to offer up its marketing and press people. Chairman Pell asked if there was any further discussion. Commissioner Sims and Commissioner Brooks discussed potential media coverage. Chairman Pell said the entrants

would likely have some knowledge of the home's age. Vice Chairman Sherman emphasized that the Committee would select from the entries received. Commissioner Sims summarized some purposes of the contest. Chairman Pell suggested contacting the sponsors and putting something together. Commissioner Brooks, Vice Chairman Sherman, and Commissioner Sims discussed timing of a potential press release.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: Chairman Pell asked Vice Chairman Sherman about the two cemeteries Vice Chairman Sherman would like to submit. He said the issues are still being worked out.

Member Reports: Commissioner Williams said the SCHPC members and associated guests are invited to tour the George Powers Farmstead on Tuesday August 11, 2015, at 6:00 PM. He said the farm has 1,500 acres and dates from 1845. Commissioner Sims asked if the meeting is open because it will need to be posted. He asked Commissioner Williams to coordinate details with staff to ensure the meeting is posted. Vice Chairman Sherman asked about the replacement metal roof and indicated preserving the structure sometimes is more important than replacing a roof that is historically significant. Commissioner Williams said the owners of the George Powers farm would like to enter the oldest farmhouse contest. He said the owner has landmarked the courthouse site, and the farmstead is on the National Register, but he would like to enter into the contest.

Commissioner Lathan asked about the Strawbridge-Shepherd house at UIS. Several clarified that it is in the City of Springfield. Chairman Pell said it should be on the City's landmarks list and on the National Register. Vice Chairman Sherman said it is being proposed for the National Register. He said it was almost demolished and then the Iles Foundation restored it. Vice Chairman Sherman said the Sangamon County Historical Society and the African-American Historical Museum are located at the site.

Vice Chairman Sherman discussed a model barn that he will exhibit with a group at the State Fair. Chairman Pell and Vice Chairman Sherman discussed the location of the barn.

Chairman Pell said he would send information about a potential survey site to Commissioner Lathan. He described its location on Wesley Chapel Road.

Commissioner Sims said there is an old structure by Sherman that he wants to pass along to a Commissioner. He said it is on the south side. Commissioner Sims said going back to the minutes from July that it might be worthwhile for the County to record landmarks as the City does, and that he recommended the City adopt the County's language when the Springfield Historic Sites Commission was considering the amended ordinance. Commissioner Sims said the key question is whether the landmarks are recorded. He said the ordinance directs the County Board Chair to direct the Recorder to record the landmarks. Commissioner Sims said Commissioner Jacobson would check with the Recorder to see if things are being recorded. Chairman Pell said if the County records things internally are the fees waived. Commissioner Sims said he did not know. Chairman Pell asked if the Regional Planning Commission records anything, to which Commissioner Sims said we do not. Commissioner Sims said this body is not a body of the [Regional] Planning Commission, which is why we would not. He said the County Board does it. Commissioner Sims said Commissioner Jacobson could check if the landmarks have been recorded. Chairman Pell asked about talking to the County Administrator if they are not being recorded. Commissioner Sims said he might talk to the County Administrator and say this is in the County's ordinance and it should be done. Commissioner Sims suggested a

workshop with staff from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA] and the Springfield Historic Sites Commission to determine what IHPA plans to do in the future. Commissioner Sims and Commissioner Brooks discussed the status of the IHPA bill. Discussion ensued about retirements, points of contact, and preservation services at IHPA between Chairman Pell and Commissioner Sims. Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Sims, Vice Chairman Sherman, and Chairman Pell discussed various reorganization plans that had been proposed among IHPA and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity [DCEO] and the Department of Natural Resources [DNR].

Staff Reports: Chairman Pell asked staff to summarize the email request for the SCHPC to consider four communications towers in the Norfolk Southern [NS] railroad right of way [RR ROW] in eastern Sangamon County. Staff said there is one tower that is within a ½-mile radius [of an historical landmark]. He said it is near the landmarked ordnance plant water tower in Illiopolis. Staff explained the options of putting together a letter with comments, or assigning a Commissioner to investigate and report to the group. Chairman Pell asked if there is a statutory timeframe. Commissioner Sims said there is nothing referenced in the letter sent. He said the applicant is only required to ask the SCHPC for its opinion. Chairman Pell asked why it cannot be stopped, to which Commissioner Sims said because it is the railroad. Commissioner Brooks asked what would be the problem since the towers in question are on the RR ROW. Commissioner Sims suggested it could be related to the view. He said it might be more of a problem if a railroad wanted to put one on Third Street adjacent to the Dana Thomas House. Vice Chairman Sherman asked about a previous discussion about towers on the BNSF RR ROW in southwest Sangamon County. He asked about the location of the tower. Staff highlighted the proposed location and its proximity to the landmark. Chairman Pell asked about responding and highlighted the letter sent with the last tower request. He suggested telling the applicant that it is within approximately ½ mile of a landmark. Commissioner Sims suggested language saying the further the tower can be moved away from the local landmark, the better. Chairman Pell asked how tall the tower would be. Staff said if the group wants to make a motion, a letter can be drafted. Chairman Pell suggested for future reference that the item might not be an action item unless there is an objection by the SCHPC.

Chairman Pell made a motion, seconded by Vice Chairman Sherman, that the SCHPC sends a letter to the NS contractor. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: Commissioner Brooks asked if any of the bunkers in the Illiopolis area are landmarked. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Sims discussed the fact that the water tower was landmarked to highlight all of the plant including the bunkers as most of the bunkers are in private hands and the water tower is owned by Illiopolis.

Commissioner Williams discussed the tour on Tuesday 8/11 of the George Powers site with several Commissioners.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn the August meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
September 2, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Mike Brooks
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Dean Williams

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro, Aakash Raut, Norm Sims

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the August minutes. A motion to approve the August minutes was made by Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell discussed some vacancies on the Commission. He said there are officially seven members until the County Board makes appointments. Chairman Pell reminded the Commission that five members are required for a quorum. He said he would like to send a letter to the County Board Finance Committee Chair that budgeted dollars not spent on member stipends be retained for special projects. Chairman Pell suggested bringing someone from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA] in for a meeting as a guest speaker. He said the downtown Springfield architectural walking tour is occurring through October.

Old Business: Chairman Pell asked for an update on the farmhouse contest. Commissioner Brooks said he spoke to the Sangamon County Farm Bureau [SCFB]. He said the SCFB would like a formal proposal to present to its members. Commissioner Brooks outlined his draft proposal to the SCFB based on the Committee's motion at its August meeting. Several members thanked Commissioner Brooks for writing the draft proposal. Commissioner Brooks said he thought the earliest the contest might be in the SCFB newsletter is November. He said he wanted to ensure the SCFB is fully on-board before approaching other potential sponsors. Chairman Pell asked if anyone else saw the proposal yet, to which Commissioner Brooks said no, it is a draft. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Brooks would like the Commission to make suggestions. Commissioner Brooks said yes and then he could submit it to the SCFB for distribution to its members. Chairman Pell asked staff to distribute the draft proposal to the group. Staff reminded the Commissioners to send comments to Commissioner Brooks. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Brooks about a timeframe. Commissioner Brooks suggested a week for comments. Chairman Pell suggested the Committee meet and discuss the proposal and what the next steps are. Staff summarized Commissioner Sims' discussion with SCFB staff. Vice Chairman Sherman suggested a short rules summary in the proposal. Commissioner Brooks said an entry form for the newsletter makes sense and may increase participation. He discussed some opportunities for news coverage using an old house as a backdrop. Chairman Pell asked if only farmers are members of the SCFB. Commissioner Brooks said no, many associate members join to take advantage of discounts. He suggested developing a list of the potential documents the Committee wants to document the age of farmsteads. Vice Chairman Sherman said architectural

styles can clue the Committee in on the age of a particular structure as well as its documentation. Commissioner Williams asked how to handle a house that might be built in 1840 but finished in 1851. Commissioner Jacobson said it might come down to how an active farmhouse is defined or whether someone lives in it.

Commissioner Jacobson said he thought 1850 was too early. He said he believes the standard might ensure a low number of entries. Commissioner Jacobson suggested a later cut-off point like 1860 or 1865. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Jacobson attended the meeting, to which Commissioner Jacobson said no it was the second (August) meeting that he missed. Vice Chairman Sherman suggested 1865. Commissioner Jacobson said there was much construction in the area during the 1850s. Commissioner Brooks said the number was chosen to ensure some entries, but he could understand maybe moving it to a later date.

Chairman Pell asked if the Committee would meet again. Commissioner Brooks suggested meeting after comments are submitted on the proposal to discuss changes.

On a separate topic, Commissioner Jacobson said he determined the County's landmarks have not been recorded. Chairman Pell asked if there is a process to record landmarks. Commissioner Jacobson said there is a process from the Springfield Historic Sites Commission. Chairman Pell said there is a process in the County's ordinance, to which Commissioner Jacobson said it is automatic. Chairman Pell asked who needs to have the County Recorder record the landmarks and asked whether a recording fee applies. Commissioner Jacobson asked if Chairman Pell wanted him to find out, to which Chairman Pell said it would be helpful. Vice Chairman Sherman asked how (being a landmark) would show up on a deed. Chairman Pell said if the landmarks are recorded the public would see that a particular parcel with a tax ID is a County landmark. Chairman Pell said he would check if there is a recording cost and if there is language that should be given for a document to be recorded. Commissioner Jacobson said the Recorder needs about a half dozen pieces of information to record a document. He said this is the only information the Recorder wants. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson to email this information to him.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: Chairman Pell asked Vice Chairman Sherman if there was any news on the two landmark applications (Sulphur Springs and Campbell Cemetery). Vice Chairman Sherman said there are some owner consent issues. He said he was meeting with the interested parties in the near future. Chairman Pell asked to remove the items from future agendas until such time as the owners are all willing to consent.

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson said he is working on a landmark application for the Churchill Cemetery in Clear Lake Township. Chairman Pell asked about a timeline, to which Commissioner Jacobson said maybe next month.

Commissioner Lathan shared some information on the Pensacola house that the *State Journal-Register* reported last month. The house would be underwater in its current location if Hunter Lake were constructed. Chairman Pell said it is a 12-mile house from the Lincoln era. Staff asked where the house was located. Vice Chairman Sherman said the house is behind the Brunk property. Chairman Pell said if Commissioner Lathan would like to survey the property that would be very appropriate. Commissioner Lathan said the house is quite deteriorated and that it most likely would prevent it from being placed on the National Register. Vice Chairman Sherman said the house sits on bedrock and has been vandalized. Chairman Pell and Vice Chairman Sherman advocated not going near the house on one's own. Chairman Pell said a

speaker visited a Commission meeting once and wanted the structure preserved. He said this caused some controversy, as some Commissioners did not like the speaker's stance that Hunter Lake should not be built. Chairman Pell said there are some archaeological resources in the vicinity and that it is part of the debate about whether or not to build the lake. He said the Commission has not taken a stand and there is no reason to do so. Vice Chairman Sherman said if there was a water source there are likely Native American artifacts along the creek. Commissioner Jacobson said Floyd [Mansberger of Fever River Research] mapped the whole area. Chairman Pell said he did not know if any reports done by CWLP were online. He said it would be nice if they were so the public could read them. Vice Chairman Sherman asked what date the article ran, to which Commissioner Lathan said she thought August 27.

Vice Chairman Sherman reported on the scaled barn he displayed at the Illinois State Fair.

On behalf of Commissioner Sims, staff discussed a proposed change of the farmhouse contest to something like the Heritage Farmstead Award Program. This could help refocus the program from just determining winners and losers. Commissioner Jacobson suggested a search, as initially proposed.

Staff Reports: Staff highlighted the letter regarding the railroad communications towers sent out and some mail concerning archaeological digs for the high-speed rail project in Springfield.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: Commissioner Lathan said she enjoyed the tour and thanked Commissioner Williams for putting it together. Chairman Pell thanked Commissioner Williams as well.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to adjourn the August meeting with Commissioner Brooks seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
October 7, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Mike Brooks
Jeanette Goza
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
James Schackmann
Dean Williams

Members Absent: Robert Sherman, Norm Sims

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

Introduction of New Commissioners: Chairman Pell welcomed two new Commissioners: Jeanette Goza and James Schackmann. Commissioner Goza said she works for the State and is on the Convention Center Board. Commissioner Schackmann said he works for the Park District. Chairman Pell briefly described the purpose and the duties of the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [SCHPC] describing in brief detail the survey process.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the September minutes. A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Commissioner Brooks and was seconded by Commissioner Williams. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell said there is language in the County's [Historic Preservation] Ordinance requiring recordation of landmarks through the County Recorder's Office. He has asked the County Board office whether recording landmarks would have a cost to the commission, but has not received a reply. Chairman Pell said Commissioner Jacobson spoke with the Recorder's Office and has the information required for recorded documents. Chairman Pell indicated he would send a letter to the Chair of the Sangamon County Board Finance Committee asking if there are un-expended stipend funds whether they may be used for other purposes, e.g. prizes for the farmhouse search or landmark plaques. Chairman Pell next highlighted the township assignment sheet. He said the Commission's focus is unincorporated Sangamon County. Chairman Pell said historic sites can be structures (houses, barns, bridges) or non-structures (cemeteries, roads, archaeological sites). He recommended the new Commissioners familiarize themselves with the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance [Section 15.06 on www.municode.com]. Commissioner Jacobson highlighted the participation resolution passed in May that requires three surveys, one landmark, or alternate service each year. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Williams to investigate the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church for a survey. Commissioner Schackmann asked whether Commissioners need to contact people in particular townships and about surveying. Chairman Pell highlighted survey methods and resources such as HARGIS, maintained by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA]. Commissioner Brooks asked if it is possible to change township assignments. Chairman Pell said part of the purpose for assigning townships is to get Commissioners into unfamiliar areas of the County and make contacts. He suggested if Commissioners see a historic structure that looks like it is worth a survey in another township, to contact the appropriate Commissioner or simply survey it themselves.

Old Business: Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson to address the Farmhouse Committee meeting. Commissioner Jacobson reported that the Committee:

- Recommended a proposal to the Farm Bureau regarding the search.
- Confirmed November will be the search start date, perhaps in the Farm Bureau newsletter.
- Assigned roles regarding the search (develop form, press release, contact sponsors, letter to elected officials).

Chairman Pell asked if the Committee wanted a motion from the Commission. Commissioner Jacobson asked for a motion on the proposed plan to move forward regarding the Farm Bureau proposal and other necessary search actions. Commissioner Brooks made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lathan, to move forward with the *Pre-Civil War Farmhouse Search Program* document to the Farm Bureau and other necessary actions the Committee needs to begin the search by its November date. The voice vote to approve was unanimous. Chairman Pell asked that any correspondence to come out use the Historic Preservation Commission's letterhead. Commissioner Jacobson asked if anyone must approve correspondence from the Historic Preservation Commission. Chairman Pell said this has not been past practice, beyond occasional staff feedback.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Lathan said she is working on a survey for the Wesley Chapel Road home. She said it may have been a church at one point and a garage was added. Chairman Pell said the chapel might be the road's namesake and suggested the Sangamon Valley Collection for more historic information.

Commissioner Jacobson said he is working on a landmark application for the Churchill Cemetery in Clear Lake Township.

Staff Reports: Staff asked if there were any comments on the fillable PDF landmarks application that was emailed to the Commissioners on 9/8/2015.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: Commissioner Schackmann asked if there is a list of completed surveys. Staff said there would be an email list of the readily available surveys forwarded to the Commissioners.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lathan made a motion to adjourn the October meeting with Commissioner Williams seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:48 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
November 4, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Mike Brooks
Jeanette Goza
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
James Schackmann
Dean Williams
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Robert Sherman

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the October minutes. A motion to approve the October minutes was made by Commissioner Schackmann and was seconded by Commissioner Brooks. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell congratulated Abby Bybee on the birth of her child. He mentioned the Sangamon County Farm Bureau included the oldest farmhouse search in its newsletter. Chairman Pell said the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions [IAHPC] is looking for officers. He said he would inquire and ask the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA] to visit a future Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] meeting, especially in light of new members who may not have background regarding IHPA.

Old Business: Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Brooks for the Farmhouse Committee report. Commissioner Brooks said the Committee reviewed and acted upon an entry form, a letter to local elected officials, and a press release. The HPC discussed the entry form with the consensus that Commissioner Brooks would make minor changes to the entry form and amend some quotes in the press release. Commissioner Brooks said the Committee might move on the press release prior to the holidays. Commissioners Sims and Jacobson stressed a single point of contact in the press release; the contact will be the Chair. Chairman Pell and Commissioners Sims, Jacobson, and Brooks discussed other potential press events. Commissioner Brooks reported on sponsors and said some lawmakers might help the program. Chairman Pell thanked the Committee for its report and work.

New Business: Chairman Pell highlighted the 2016 calendar. He emphasized the HPC meets on the first Wednesday of each month, except holidays. Chairman Pell asked if a motion was needed. Commissioner Sims advised a motion was necessary to comply with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. A motion to accept the 2016 calendar as provided via email and distributed at the meeting for those who wanted a hard copy was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Schackmann. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Schackmann said thanks for the surveys list. Chairman Pell said please inform staff of old surveys not on the list.

Commissioner Lathan highlighted a potential survey of a house on Wesley Chapel Road. She said it was a former church (in service from 1866-1968) remodeled into a residence in the 1970s. Chairman Pell asked if the church sanctuary was still intact. Commissioner Lathan said she found an article from 1977 indicating the interior remodeling into a four-bedroom home. Commissioner Sims said it is a good adaptive reuse of property. Chairman Pell and Commissioners Jacobson, Sims, and Brooks discussed preserving old schools and churches. The consensus was while adaptive re-use is good; surveying is important to ensure a record exists. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Jacobson discussed the historical integrity of the Wesley Chapel Road property. Both agreed surveying it is important.

Commissioner Brooks asked if there is an interest in a Facebook page. He thought a page could host visuals. Chairman Pell asked if there are any County social media restrictions. Commissioner Sims said if there are guidelines nothing was said when Regional Planning began its Facebook page. The HPC discussed potential design and administrative rights with the page. Commissioner Sims suggested limits on commenting. Commissioner Lathan asked about legal issues in posting pictures of private residences. Commissioner Sims said he thought a bigger problem would be posting addresses. He suggested generic language and that the HPC is interested in pictures of particular house types. Chairman Pell asked about users. The HPC discussed tracking viewers. The consensus was likes and pokes give you some information, but specific information has costs. There was some discussion of static and dynamic content. Commissioner Schackmann suggested dynamic content and flow to attract users. Commissioners Brooks, Schackmann, and Raut along with the Chair “volunteered” to varying degrees to help create a Facebook site.

Commissioner Jacobson asked if there was literature distributed about architectural types. Chairman Pell said some literature might be available from IHPA and he would look into it.

Commissioner Jacobson asked if Chairman Pell had any new information on recording landmarks. Chairman Pell said he received an email from the County Administrator stating he was checking with the County Recorder on fees. Commissioner Sims said he thinks the ordinance is fairly clear that the County Recorder is to record the document when it is handed over by the County Board Chairman. Chairman Pell said he would discuss the landmarks being recorded with the County Administrator.

During discussion of the Facebook page, it was mentioned that there is no HPC logo, only a simple letterhead with the County logo. Commissioner Goza said she might work on a logo.

Commissioner Jacobson shared a map of cemetery locations in Sangamon County. He focused on Churchill Cemetery and did a survey, submitted it, and thought he could landmark the property. Commissioner Jacobson said he originally thought the cemetery was in unincorporated Sangamon County, but came to learn it is in the City of Springfield. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Jacobson checked the tax bill to verify the parcel’s location.

Staff Reports: Staff highlighted the landmarks [app](#) and the fields in the database. Commissioner Sims added it will help staff refer users for specific information. Staff highlighted the text that might appear on a future HPC website.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Brooks made a motion to adjourn the November meeting with Commissioner Goza seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:56 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
December 2, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chairman
Robert Sherman, Vice Chairman
Mike Brooks
Jeanette Goza
Jerry Jacobson
Tina Lathan
Aakash Raut
James Schackmann
Dean Williams

Members Absent: Norm Sims

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the November minutes, as amended. A motion to approve the November minutes as amended was made by Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell summarized the press coverage of the oldest farmhouse search. He said there was an article in the *SJ-R*, several radio interviews at least two of which were made into podcasts, social media mentions, and regional news media coverage. He said the most asked question was how many pre-1860 farmhouses exist. Chairman Pell asked staff if there was any response from elected officials from the introductory email. Staff said there were potential entries in Williams and Clear Lake Townships.

Chairman Pell mentioned the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions [IAHPC] election. He said in past years the group used staff from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency [IHPA]. Chairman Pell said there might be education opportunities if events come to Springfield.

Chairman Pell said there might be CDs in the RPC library from IHPA about architectural styles and other information important to members of a historic preservation commission. Vice Chairman Sherman passed out several books on historic house styles. Chairman Pell said he would make handouts available at a future meeting.

Chairman Pell said all Commissioners must complete their Open Meetings Act trainings on the Illinois Attorney General's webpage. Staff said the Commissioners must complete the training within the first 90 days of appointment.

Old Business: Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Jacobson for the Farmhouse Committee report. Commissioner Jacobson said the Committee is pleased with the media coverage. He said there would be a re-assessment of entries in January, and a potential second press release. Commissioner Jacobson said the press release might ask for further entries or perhaps extend the time-period of the search, e.g. 1865. He said it would be great to have at least one entry from the majority of townships. Commissioner Jacobson said Commissioner Brooks agreed to contact

FFA as a potential co-sponsor. Vice Chairman Sherman also suggested 4-H members as a potential co-sponsor. He said it is important to thank participants in the local media. Commissioner Raut said the entry form is a Word document on the Sangamon County Farm Bureau's [SCFB] website. Commissioner Brooks said the information has not been publicized long. He said he might wait a few weeks prior to sending out more information about the search.

Commissioner Williams said the George Power farmhouse owner wants to enter the contest, but was not sure of the cut-off year. There was some discussion if the owner would be willing to use the farmhouse for a story between Chairman Pell and Commissioner Williams. There was also some discussion of regional coverage of the farmhouse search between Chairman Pell and Commissioner Brooks.

Commissioner Jacobson asked about recording landmark documents. Chairman Pell indicated he confirmed with Brian McFadden the Recorder will record landmark information at no cost. Commissioner Jacobson asked how we could get the ball rolling. Chairman Pell indicated the manner established by the Springfield Historic Sites Commission was acceptable. Staff advised there would be some work to be done to provide PINs for the Lincoln-Van Buren Trail landmark.

Commissioner Lathan asked about the Facebook Page.

New Business: Commissioner Schackmann said he created a beta Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] Facebook page. He said he made Chairman Pell an administrator. Chairman Pell asked if the page is about the Commission. Commissioner Schackmann said yes, but the emblem was cropped irregularly. Chairman Pell said the Facebook page is underway. Commissioner Schackmann said there could be site reviewers who are not administrators. Chairman Pell said a Facebook page is a good way to disseminate information. Commissioner Goza reiterated her intent to help with a logo.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Schackmann asked if the HPC should approve the Facebook page prior to going live. Chairman Pell said a review would be nice. Commissioner Schackmann said the Facebook page is private. Staff cautioned the HPC not to have group discussions about Facebook content online because then the Open Meetings Act applies.

Commissioner Jacobson highlighted the Churchill Cemetery. He said the cemetery is in unincorporated Sangamon County. There was some discussion among Commissioner Jacobson, Chairman Pell, Vice Chairman Sherman, and staff about how to determine if something is in the unincorporated area versus a municipality. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Jacobson talked to the owners to determine if the cemetery is in Springfield, to which Commissioner Jacobson said no. Chairman Pell asked if the cemetery is maintained. Commissioner Jacobson said he would find out, but the cemetery appeared to be maintained.

Commissioner Raut said he contacted Country Companies as a potential sponsor for the farmhouse search, but received no reply.

Vice Chairman Sherman said he talked to some people who do plaques at a national meeting, but they are very expensive. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if the new Commissioners have plat books yet. Chairman Pell said at one point they were handed out. Staff said there is a charge for plat books in the Recorder's office.

Commissioner Lathan said she turned in a legible copy of her survey for the Wesley Chapel Road Methodist Church. She said she is looking for a picture of how the building appeared prior to its conversion. Chairman Pell asked if there were any new contacts, to which Commissioner Lathan said no.

Commissioner Goza said she would continue to work on an HPC logo. She said she works for the Illinois Comptroller's Office and she might be a resource for the Churchill (a/k/a Bissell) Cemetery.

Commissioner Williams said he is working on a survey for a church in Buffalo Hart Township. He also is finishing editing several hours of video for the Lincoln funeral re-enactment. Commissioner Williams said the funeral hearse will be on display at the Lincoln Museum. He said he would make some copies of the film available.

Vice Chairman Sherman asked about the Sulphur Springs and Campbell Cemeteries, which staff suggested discussing after the HPC meeting. He said he is working with someone from WILL on the barns of Illinois.

Staff Reports: Staff reported on some progress with the HPC website. Staff also asked if anyone would be willing to attend a township supervisors' meeting to discuss the farmhouse search. Chairman Pell volunteered to attend the meeting. Staff said the email information would be forwarded. Staff also said there is a person from the Illinois State Museum who might be interested in attending a future Committee or Commission meeting to discuss tree ring dating of structures.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Goza made a motion to adjourn the December meeting with Commissioner Williams seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:41 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Keenan