

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
January 5, 2011

Members Present (x):	Chuck Pell, Chairman	x	Others:
	James Donelan, Vice-Chairman	x	
	Jerry Jacobson	x	
	Anthony Mares	x	
	Brian Reardon	x	
	Randy Schick	x	
	Robert Sherman		
	Norm Sims	x	
	Abby Bybee, SSCRPC staff	x	

Chairman Chuck Pell called the January meeting to order.

Pell entertained a motion for approval of the December meeting minutes. Jerry Jacobson noted a change under “New Business”. The last sentence in this paragraph should read “Jerry Jacobson noted that IHPA has a helpful fact sheet about financial incentives and he would be willing to get some to hand out at the January meeting”. Jacobson notes that “financial incentives” replaced “landmarking”. A motion was made to approve the December minutes, with changes from Jacobson, by Jim Donelan and was seconded by Brian Reardon. The vote to approve was unanimous.

New Business: Jacobson distributed three helpful fact sheets from IHPA. Reardon said that he spoke to Mike Ward at IHPA regarding information about property tax incentives and he will be receiving it electronically. He plans to follow-up with Ward.

Chairman’s Report/Comments: Pell noted that everyone should have received the letter he wrote regarding the house in Buffalo. As it stands now, the letter was intended to leave the house up for further discussion. Pell said that IHPA has denied the burn, which makes this group’s findings moot. The letter Pell drafted ties all of the information together with pictures and correspondence throughout this process. Pell noted that the house will be entered into the survey and we will enter into discussion if it becomes an issue. Norm Sims wanted the group to keep in mind that this house has become an environmental issue; a public body has requested the burn, not a private body.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Pell displayed a survey of a house on State Route 124. It is what is known as an “I-house” and is owned by the Thomas Barber Trust. Pell noted to the new Commission members what information is needed for a survey and how simple it can be. The short term action is to contact the owner to find out more information about the house.

Jacobson has spoken to Tim Zahn, the County Engineer, regarding the Bolivia Bridge. Zahn noted that since the County is still applying for Transportation Enhancement funds, it might help to fill out the application for the ten most endangered sites in Illinois (a program sponsored by Landmarks Illinois). Jacobson noted he should have the application complete in the next few days and if any Commission members had objections to let him know. There were no objections.

Reardon talked to the Buffalo Mayor regarding twelve mile houses and the general history of Buffalo. His wife is a (sort of amateur) historian and Reardon hopes to schedule something with her for further discussion. Pell noted that there is an interesting train station in Buffalo that might be worth looking at.

Sims announced that it is very likely that there will be cuts in Transportation Enhancement funds and possibly even zeroed out. A letter from this body in support could help this critical situation. Also, Sangamon County is updating the website. Sims encouraged members to look at it and note any additions or updates. Sims announced that he has been asked to co-chair the Illinois Housing Development Association with regards to sustainable communities. This includes historic preservation in order to protect older areas and not sprawl. The outlook is good and they are asking to empower a sub-cabinet to make these things work. Sims is not sure of the Governor's reaction.

Donelan met with the Mayor of Pleasant Plains and Dan Underwood regarding Clayville. They had a great discussion and toured the site, which has undergone an amazing transfer since 2005/2006. Donelan encouraged this group to have a meeting out there, which has been tentatively schedule for the April 6th meeting, and tour the site. Donelan will inquire about that meeting date.

Randy Schick went to the planning meeting for the Lincoln heritage area, which was coordinated by Looking for Lincoln. Schick is not sure how much new money this will bring in, but it is intended for everyone to work together. Signage is needed. Also, Schick noted that he went to the David Davis mansion in Bloomington and highly recommends it. He mentioned that the Coldwell Mansion on Route 4 seems to be deteriorating.

Anthony Mares noted that the website needs to showcase the sites that have already been landmarked. He also suggested that the landmarking application be compressed as it is very long and might turn people away.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Schick made a motion to adjourn the January meeting. Reardon seconded this motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
February 9, 2011

Members Present (x):	Chuck Pell, Chairman	x	Others:
	James Donelan, Vice-Chairman	x	
	Jerry Jacobson	x	
	Anthony Mares	x	
	Brian Reardon		
	Randy Schick	x	
	Robert Sherman		
	Norm Sims		
	Abby Bybee, SSCRPC staff	x	

Chairman Chuck Pell called the February meeting to order.

Pell entertained a motion for approval of the January meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the January minutes by Randy Schick and was seconded by Anthony Mares. The vote to approve was unanimous.

New Business: No new business.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Pell indicated that in years past he cannot remember a time when a regularly schedule meeting was canceled due to weather. If this would happen again in the future, and staff and meeting room are available, please assume the meeting will be held the following week.

Pell encouraged Commission members to continue their survey work as the weather will be improving. Now that this Commission is considered a CLG the work of the commission has more "cache" including participation on National Register nominations. He indicated that while our monthly stipends are appropriate for the time spent, we have an obligation to the County to continue to show serious progress in our efforts; he noted the County has expended approximately \$40-50K on our commission since its inception. Pell indicated that if anyone feels their township has limited landmarking sites they should consider surveying the municipalities in those townships as an intergovernmental agreement is always an option.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Jacobson indicated that the Bolivia Bridge nomination application to Landmarks Illinois for the Ten Most Endangered Sites in Illinois has been submitted. A press release has been drafted and Jacobson will keep everyone updated.

Mares has looked through the old landmarking application and believes it can be condensed from the eleven pages it is now on the County website to make it more user friendly. Also, Mares asked staff if the contact information on the bottom of the application has been changed. Staff said it has been changed since the January meeting. Also, staff indication that Norm Sims has drafted a new version of the landmarking application that is four pages and will see that everyone get a copy for review.

Jim Donelan intends to set up the March meeting at Clayville. He will keep everyone up to date on the status.

Schick is going to another Lincoln Heritage District meeting sometime this spring-summer. He is anxious to see the preliminary plan that will be presented.

Staff Reports: Staff will be out of the office on maternity leave for the March, April and possibly May meetings. Sims will be taking minutes and Jane Lewis of the Regional Planning Commission will be communicating with everyone regarding meeting minutes, agendas and other items as necessary.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Donelan made a motion to adjourn the February meeting. Mares seconded this motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
March 2, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
James Donelan, Vice-Chair
Jerry Jacobson
Anthony Mares
Brian Reardon
Randy Schick
Robert Sherman
Norm Sims

Members Absent: None

Others Attending: None

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the March meeting to order at 4:05PM. The Chairman noted that Ms. Abby Bybee of the Planning Commission staff was not in attendance due to the birth of her child. He expressed his congratulations for that exciting event. He additionally reminded the members that the next meeting of the Commission was scheduled for Clayville.

Approval of Minutes: Pell entertained a motion for approval of the February meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the February minutes by Commissioner Schick and was seconded by Commissioner Donelan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

New Business: There was no new business.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Pell encouraged Commission members to continue their survey work and build inventory. He noted that Ms. Bybee had sent the members a list of surveys to date, but that it was small primarily because she has not been given all of the survey forms. Pell indicated he had some forms from previous members to transmit, but it is important to do the work necessary to add to it. Surveys should be sent to Ms. Bybee's attention.

He noted that everyone on the commission should be on the mailing list for the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC). There is a conference coming up that he is planning to attend if possible (June 2-4 in Godfrey, Illinois). He also reported additional information on a property on the old Peoria Road (State Route 124) in Fancy Creek Township. The additional information was that the owner of the property is not interested in subdividing a historic 'I' house, and this information was obtained through a relative of Ms. Bybee; Pell will follow up with owner directly.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson on behalf of the Commission completed the nomination of the Bolivia Bridge to Landmarks Illinois' Ten Most Endangered Historic Places. He is also looking for a place to put the bridge if it is relocated. IDOT and DNR have both been contacted because they both have jurisdiction and administration of bike trails. He has had some leads but nothing yet. He is still looking.

Commissioner Reardon presented information and photographs concerning sites in Mechanicsburg and Buffalo for which he will complete surveys. These included an interurban train station, a home across from the train station, and a gas station in Buffalo. It was indicated that this house is not far from the house that they want to burn just outside Buffalo. Structures in Mechanicsburg included a post office, the Booker Furniture Building, and Abe's tavern.

Commissioner Donelan reported that the April 6th meeting will be held at Clayville at 4:00 PM. Clayville is on Route 125 just East of Pleasant Plains.

Commissioner Schick reported that he will be attending more Lincoln Heritage District meetings. He indicated that there are new websites for the sesquicentennial of the Civil War and also for Lincoln's Circuit Ride. Chairman Pell asked for an update on the DAR-related markers that had been discussed at a previous meeting. Schick said that he had not talked with DAR, and that while a number of the markers were in good condition, others would need to be replaced. Pell asked if they could be landmarked as a package, and Schick said that he would talk with DAR concerning that. Pell and Schick will attempt to set up a luncheon meeting with the Looking for Lincoln director.

Commissioner Sherman reported that he has one township left to survey. A round barn near Panther Creek was discussed. Sherman encouraged members to take pictures of barns and farmsteads while out surveying their townships.

Commissioner Sims reported on the draft of a new application form for landmarking that reduced the current application package from 11 pages to 4. He noted several changes that were recommended for the application package, and asked Commission members to review that draft so that it might be amended and approved at the next meeting of the Commission.

Commissioner Reardon requested a business card or brochure to pass out to people who inquire about pictures being taken of their property while members are surveying their townships. Pell noted that there is a tri-fold brochure that members can have. Sims said that there were limitations and legal concerns about the development of some sort of identification for Commission members, but he would try to develop some kind of visor card that members could put in their vehicles to identify them as they were conducting surveys.

Public Comment: None.

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

Respectively submitted,
Norm Sims

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
April 6, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
Gabe Chairo
Anthony Mares
Brian Reardon
Robert Sherman
Norm Sims

Members Absent: James Donelan, Vice Chair
Jerry Jacobson
Randy Schick

Others Attending: Jerry Smith, Clayville Historical Site

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the April meeting to order at 4:11 PM at the Clayville Historical Site.

Approval of Minutes: Pell entertained a motion for approval of the March meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the March minutes by Commissioner Reardon and was seconded by Commissioner Mares. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

New Business: Commissioner Sims reported on the draft of a new application form for landmarking that reduced the current application package from 11 pages to 4. He noted several changes that were recommended for the application package. The Committee discussed the comments that Commissioner Jacobson had previously emailed to Commissioner Sims on the new version of the Sangamon County Landmarking Application Form. There was some discussion on getting owners signature of approval of an application. Chairman Pell requested that State's Attorney Jim Grohne attend the next meeting to clear up some issues on this matter. Chairman Pell will contact Mr. Grohne about attending the May meeting. Chairman Pell had a few design issues with the application that he presented to the committee. Commissioner Sims asked the Chairman to provide him with the changes and they would be made. It was the consensus of the committee to not take action on the new form at this meeting but to postpone further consideration until the May meeting so that Mr. Grohne could respond to legal questions and Commissioner Jacobson could take part.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Pell reported that Bolivia Bridge is on Landmarks Illinois' Ten Most Endangered Historic Places for 2011. It was announced today at a press conference at the Capitol and will be in the newspaper tomorrow. Pell distributed the list of township assignments primarily for the benefit of new Commissioner Gabe Chiaro. It was noted that there is still one vacant position on the commission. Pell also had some previous surveys of Springfield's First Airport, Clayville, a cabin in Talkington Township and Caldwell Mansion. He will be giving the surveys to Ms. Bybee so the survey list can be updated.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Mares has some surveys to report at the May meeting.

Commissioner Sherman noted two surveys on cemeteries. One with an interesting Civil War headstone. He also noted that he has one township left to survey.

Commissioner Sims noted that the Commission as of March 4, 2011 is a Certified Local Government. He also distributed car “visor cards” for commissioners to have in their cars when surveying to provide a form of identification. He noted that the cards are simply for identification purposes during “windshield” surveys and do not provide authorization to go on to a property. If a commissioner needs to go on to a property, he or she should contact Regional Planning Commission staff as they have authority by ordinance to go on to a property.

Commissioner Chiaro reported on a farmhouse in Buffalo Hart Township this may be located on the highest point in Sangamon County.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Sims made a motion to adjourn the April meeting, with Commissioner Sherman seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM. Commissioners were then offered a tour of the Clayville site by Mr. Smith.

Respectively submitted,
Norm Sims

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
May 4, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
Gabe Chairo
Jerry Jacogson
Anthony Mares
Brian Reardon
Robert Sherman
Norm Sims

Members Absent: James Donelan, Vice Chair
Randy Schick

Others Attending:

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the May meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Pell entertained a motion for approval of the April meeting minutes with they only change being to add Randy Schick to the list of members absent. A motion was made to approve the April minutes by Commissioner Donelan and was seconded by Commissioner Mares. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Pell reported that the tour of Clayville was very nice after last month's meeting that was held at Clayville. He thanked Commissioner Donelan for arranging the meeting. The Chairman reported that he was still waiting for State's Attorney Jim Ghrono to respond to his request for clarification on the need for owner's signature of approval on the county application for landmarking. Chairman Pell also informed the members of a state-wide preservation conference June 2-4, 2011 at Godfrey, IL. He said that since Sangamon County is now a CLG, IHPA will reimburse the commission up to \$400 to attend the conference. Anyone wanting to attend the conference is to let him know. He will email members not in attendance at today's meeting.

Old Business: There was continued discussion as to the need for owner consent when submitting an application for landmarking in Sangamon County. It was requested of Norm Sims to provide an electronic copy of the application to all members. He will provide a PDF of the draft application. It was the consensus of the committee to not take action on the new form at this meeting.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Chairman Pell submitted a survey of the Flagg Homestead at 500 Old Tipton School Road in Sherman. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was built in 1871 and is currently a Bed & Breakfast. Its website claims to be the oldest brick barn in Sangamon County. However the barn is on a separate parcel from the home and owned by someone else.

Commissioner Jacobson reported that there are 4 potential customers for Boliva Bridge. Three are counties and one is a private property owner. Jacobson is working on coordinating of moving to bridge with the construction of the replacement bridge. Commissioner Jacobson has also drafted a response to an article in the *Illinois Times* regarding Bolivia Bridge.

Commissioner Sims noted there is new money from Federal Highways for covered bridges. He also suggested that the committee consider requesting a line item in the county budget for attending conferences and reimbursement for expenses such as travel. It could be taken to the County Administrator on behalf of the committee.

Commissioner Sherman mentioned a Greek Revival House on the way to Clayville that Commissioner Donelan should take a look at.

Commissioner Mares suggested talking to County Board Members representing the townships to get their input for places to survey.

Commissioner Sherman is almost done surveying his townships.

Public Comment:

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mares made a motion to adjourn the May meeting, with Commissioner Sherman seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Norm Sims

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
June 1, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
Gabe Chairo
Anthony Mares
Brian Reardon
Norm Sims

Members Absent: James Donelan, Vice Chair
Randy Schick
Robert Sherman
Jerry Jacobson

Others Attending:

There was no action due to lack of quorum.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
July 6, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
James Donelan, Vice Chair
Jerry Jacobson
Anthony Mares
Brian Reardon
Robert Sherman
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chairro
Randy Schick

Others Attending: Catherine O'Connor
Alex Myers

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the July meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell noted that due to a lack of quorum at the June meeting there are no June minutes to review. Chairman Pell then entertained a motion for approval of the May meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the May minutes by Commissioner Donelan and was seconded by Commissioner Reardon. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell noted that Catherine O'Connor from IHPA has joined the group today to give an orientation on what it is to be a Certified Local Government (CLG).

Catherine O'Connor presented an orientation to the Commission on the details of what it means to be a Certified Local Government. During the presentation Ms. O'Connor offered several examples of noteworthy sites in the County; Chairman Pell noted that most were a part of our survey. She then thanked everyone for their time.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson reported that the Bolivia Bridge is still standing with two possible recipients. At the moment, the most likely recipient is a private party that was previously mentioned in Forsyth. The recipient would like to use the bridge to cross Stephens Creek and also use the bridge as a platform to view the woods and wetlands on the new property in question. This recipient has now written to the Sangamon County Engineer, Tim Zahn, who is in charge of the disposition of the bridge, indicating that he has serious interest and plans to use the bridge if it can be made available. The recipient has also requested an environmental impact assessment related to installation of the bridge at Stephens Creek. IDOT is ready and willing to conduct this assessment free of charge to all parties concerned, as it is seen as a mitigation of construction of the bridge to be moved. The letter from the noted private party was sent yesterday to Zahn, who would need to coordinate with IDOT to see if it is possible to close

the bridge without replacing it. Commissioner Jacobson noted that the daily travel across the bridge is very light and the detour is approximately six miles, all issues that need to be considered by IDOT if the bridge can be removed with nothing replacing it. Commissioner Sherman asked if this means that Bolivia Bridge comes off any potential register of this Commission. Commissioner Jacobson said yes the bridge would move to a different county, and Chairman Pell noted that the bridge is already on the National Register, so any further evaluations would be through them.

Chairman Pell encouraged the Commission to continue their survey work.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Sherman made a motion to adjourn the July meeting, with Commissioner Mares seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
August 3, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
James Donelan, Vice Chair
Jerry Jacobson
Anthony Mares
Randy Schick
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chairio
Brian Reardon
Robert Sherman

Others Attending:

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the August meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the July minutes by Commissioner Donelan and was seconded by Commissioner Mares. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell urged Commissioner's to continue their survey work. If survey work is difficult for someone, then some other duties could be assigned (e.g. annual report, compiling surveys, etc).

Now that this Commission is a CLG, there is potential to apply for grant dollars. The downside to the grant dollars is that most of them are matching and it will probably be difficult for Sangamon County to pay the other half. Commissioner Jacobson announced that there was a typo in the format application that Catherine O'Connor shared when she was here, so Jacobson pointed this out to her. O'Connor did indicate to Jacobson that the grant applications will be mailed out to all CLG's in the State of Illinois sometime this month. Jacobson noted that the grant application deadline is November 28, 2011. When Pell or staff receives the list it will be given to all Commissioners to start thinking about opportunities that are out there. Norm Sims urged the Commission not to get hung up on the matching dollars from the County because typically these grants are not large, so the match would be minimal and sweat equity could potentially count as match, rather than actual dollars. This would not include regular Commission meeting, rather, hours worked against the particular project. Pell noted this is a point well taken and thanked Sims for the clarification.

Chairman Pell announced that the Pied Piper Architectural walking tour is being held today at 5:30pm.

Chairman Pell shared a survey of a barn on Taintor Road, just north of the fairgrounds.

Action Item: New Landmarking Application: Sims handed out copies of the landmarking application with the requested changes by Commissioners. He also handed out copies of what the ordinance calls for in terms of landmarking applications and the last page is Jacobson's recommendation. Pell noted that this is an action item and this is something that has been discussed the past several months. The previous application had been over eleven pages and the proposed application is a great second place to start. It is a dynamic document that should continue to evolve over time. Pell is hoping that Commissioners can agree and approve the new

landmarking application. Randy Schick made a motion to approve the landmarking application. Donelan seconded the motion. The Chair asked for discussion. Anthony Mares asked Sims if this has been reviewed by County legal counsel. Sims noted that the only question for legal counsel was the removal of the signature of the property owner; this has yet to be resolved. Mares asked beyond that, does the new application refer back to the ordinance section number. Sims noted that the original application included whole sections of the ordinance; however, it was suggested they be removed. Pell instructed that a motion has been made and seconded so an amendment to add the ordinance number back to the landmarking application is necessary. Jacobson voiced some concerns regarding required versus optional attachments. Pell noted that virtually all of the recommendations made by Jacobson are currently in the revised landmark application and went through them one by one; Jacobson removed his concern. Pell called the question. The motion as presented by Schick and seconded by Donelan to approve the landmark application with an amendment (motioned by Mares and seconded by Donelan and approved unanimously) that indicates there will be in parentheses after the word ordinance on the first page the ordinance number. The motion for approval was unanimous.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Donelan asked what happens if we landmark a property and that property becomes a part of a municipality. Sims noted that the site would still be a County landmark, but it would not be subject to any limitations based upon the ordinance.

Jacobson announced that the party interested in the Bolivia bridge, Mr. Steinman, has written to Tim Zahn, County Engineer, who has contacted IDOT to get input on whether it is advisable to remove the bridge even though there is no replacement for it. Jacobson also asked about the coordination between the County Building Department that reviews demolition permits and this Commission. Pell noted that they have a list and asked if Jacobson would be in contact with Mike Ashenfelter with the County Building Department to determine how they use the list; he agreed.

Mares proposed that Catherine O'Connor with IHPA provide this Commission with a list of CLG's that have been successful. He also requested a map indicating which County Board members fall in each township. Sims and staff will provide that map.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Schick made a motion to adjourn the August meeting, with Mares seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
September 7, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
James Donelan, Vice Chair
Jerry Jacobson
Anthony Mares
Randy Schick
Robert Sherman
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chairo
Staff Present: Abby Bybee

Others Attending: none

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the September meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the August minutes with two pending changes from Commissioner Jerry Jacobson. A motion was made by Commissioner Robert Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell noted the departure of Commissioner Brian Reardon who due to increased work commitments in a new position would no longer be able to fulfill his duties with the commission; therefore there are two open positions. Pell also noted that he does not have much to report except he did receive a few emails from Commissioner Jacobson regarding surveying and would be more than happy to discuss this as part of the Chairman's report. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson if he had contacted Mike Ashenfelter with the Sangamon County Building Department. Commissioner Jacobson noted that he had not, and will do so before the next meeting. Commissioner Jacobson noted that he had sent two emails to the Commission, the first one being a general concern of the setup up the survey form and the second one more specific to Clearlake Township. He told the Commission that he has a concern with the surveys as "windshield surveys" (i.e. drive by, take pictures, make notes accordingly and move on) as the form requests more detail and could lead to a much longer process not included in a typical windshield survey. Commissioner Donelan commented that these are all very good points, however, when this Commission was first established these issues were discussed on what would be included in the survey and it was important to the group at that time to not just be a "windshield survey", but a little more specific. Ultimately the goal was to identify potential structures and sites with historical significance. Chairman Pell noted that the survey is a dynamic document and perhaps could be updated and also pointed out that he has been using the term "windshield survey" loosely and simply intended to encourage Commissioner's to get out and look at properties as well as do post survey research. The notion is that everyone gets out to discover places in their township or anywhere else in the County. Commissioner Donelan encouraged everyone to do a survey in the next month and indicated there are a lot of good things out there to discover. Commissioner Jacobson agreed and noted that the ordinance calls for Commission members to conduct surveys as a responsibility to the group.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson gave a recap of his survey work in Clearlake Township. He began with contacting the township assessor through the township office which was a terrific initial source for what Jacobson referred to as “old houses.” Jacobson noted that he found four of the six locations he was given and had a particularly hard time with directions and hopes to meet in person next time to go over the map together. Jacobson said the aerial map was most helpful with every road clearly marked, but was a bit large to handle in the car. He noted that he did not ring doorbells but did stop and speak with two individuals about a house, owners and possible age. Jacobson showed the group photo’s of a barn and two houses he found by way of the township assessor, also noting that it might be best to wait until the leaves fall for better pictures.

Commissioner Schick announced he is working on the survey for Irwin’s Park, which is just north of Auburn. There is an old stone house on the property and the site was recently tied up in a lawsuit. Commissioner Jacobson asked what the potential for landmarking is for this site. Commissioner Schick said there hasn’t been progress made at this time because of high speed rail issues. There is a grant to move the house to the west side of the tracks.

Commissioner Sherman gave Chairman Pell a picture of a Chautauqua in Adams County, Nebraska.

Staff Reports: Staff distributed copies of the newly adopted landmarking application. Also, each Commission member will be emailed maps illustrating County Board districts within townships. Commissioner Jacobson noted that the informational brochure is out of date and suggested that Commissioner’s names be updated. Chairman Pell suggested that the Commissioner’s names be added to the website rather than the brochure for ease of printing costs as this is something that is constantly changing.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to adjourn the September meeting, with Commissioner Sherman seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
October 5, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
James Donelan, Vice Chair
Gabe Chiaro
Jerry Jacobson
Anthony Mares
Randy Schick
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Robert Sherman
Staff Present: Jane Lewis

Others Attending: none

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the October meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the September minutes with changes from Jerry Jacobson. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Commissioner Randy Schick and was seconded by Commissioner Mares. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell presented a survey of the Route 66 Motel on Peoria Road, which is currently on the National Register of Historic Places. It was originally built as the Lazy-A-Motel and was constructed before the rise of Route 66. It is interesting to point out that each room in this structure included a small garage designed for smaller vehicles. The building is now being used as apartments and is now called Prairie Village Apartments. Pell noted that the National Register nomination form for this site could not be accessed online because the form had not yet been digitized.

Pell announced that today is the last Pied Piper Architectural Walking Tour. It begins at 5:30pm and there are refreshments afterwards.

Old Business: Jacobson announced that he has spoken to Mike Ashenfelter with the Sangamon County Building Department. Ashenfelter is aware of the current landmarked sites and the surveyed sites, but will check with staff for any updates to the survey list. He also indicated that he would alert those that are involved with the permit application of these particular sites and would notify this Commission should anything come up.

New Business: Commissioner Schick mentioned that he and his wife are guides in the Rails and Trails program, which involves riding Amtrak between Springfield and Chicago and discussing for passengers historical sites along the way. The train arrives in Chicago around noon and departs back to Springfield in the afternoon. This type of program is done all over the Country.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: There are none at this time; however, Norm Sims noted that County Board member, Greg Stumpf, has been in contact with a property owner regarding landmarking a site. There will hopefully be more information at the next meeting. Jacobson also noted that he and staff have been in contact with David Brady about landmarking Edwards Trace in the unincorporated area of the County.

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson presented photographs of potential landmarking sites in Clearlake Township, thanks to the help from the township Assessor David Carver. Jacobson presented pictures of gravestones from the 19th Century in Oak Hill Cemetery, which he is not including in the survey. He did include pictures from Churchill Cemetery in Clearlake Township, an especially old cemetery with 44 graves. Inscriptions on gravestones are very hard to read with the earliest apparently from the 1830s. Jacobson also showed a photo of a very old house as part of a huge farmstead called Point Pleasant. He has not entered this information into a survey form, but it has been fun to get out into the country to spot some of these places that may have historic significance. Commissioner Schick asked if the Adams House has been annexed to the City of Springfield and Commissioner Jacobson indicated that it has.

Commission Sims announced that next Monday, October 10th beginning at 5pm is the Mayor's Preservation Awards at Edwards Place. The cost is \$15 at the door.

Chairman Pell announced that on October 13th the Community Foundation of the Land of Lincoln will have a fundraiser for its Preservation Fund at the Inn at 835 and the cost is \$25.

Commissioner Jacobson asked if it would make sense for this Commission to approach the Springfield Historic Sites Commission to suggest a cooperative awards night for County and City. Chairman Pell said it is a great thought that would have to be looked into. Chairman Sims stressed that the Mayor's Awards is an event that is not funded by the City and it takes a lot of work.

Commissioner Donelan pointed out that there is a barn located east of Bradfordton Road on the north side of the road that has been on his radar for quite some time. Although he is able to obtain the owner's name, it is unclear what the architectural make up of the structure is. Commissioner Donelan hopes to meet with Commissioner Sherman in the near future to discuss this particular barn as well as another one in the vicinity.

Commissioner Mares announced that he is working on a couple of surveys to be presented at the November meeting. He also noted that he would like to meet with Chairman Pell sometime next week to discuss Will County's Historic Preservation website, which could be a model in many ways for our commission. Commissioner Sims noted that the Regional Planning Commission is a user on the County system, which means that everything goes through the County IT Department. Commissioner Sims said it would be helpful to know specifically what this Commission would like to see on the website, and a meeting could be set up with the County IT Department.

Commissioner Jacobson announced that the deadline for applying for the CLG Federal funds through IHPA is November 28th. Commissioner Jacobson noted that it may benefit this Commission to apply for funds to hire a professional to augment the slim efforts of this group as it concerns surveys. Chairman Pell said it was a good idea, but the only roadblock there might be is that if matching dollars are required the County might be reluctant. Chairman Pell said there is no problem in asking. Chairman Pell also announced that there is a CLG Workshop put on by IHPA in Galesburg, IL at the end of October (27-28) that he plans to attend. Chairman Pell asked if there was any interest by other commissioners in attending and if there was to contact him; IHPA provides each CLG up to \$500.00 in reimbursement for registration fee, travel, and lodging.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Donelan made a motion to adjourn the October meeting, with Commissioner Chiaro seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
November 2, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
James Donelan, Vice Chair
Anthony Mares
Randy Schick
Robert Sherman
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro
Jerry Jacobson

Staff Present: Abby Bybee

Others Attending: none

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the November meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the November minutes with changes from Jerry Jacobson. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Commissioner Randy Schick and was seconded by Commissioner Anthony Mares. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell thought that the CLG application was November 28th; however it was actually October 28th. Think about some opportunities in the future. Catherine O'Connor has indicated that there will be times when the grants will not be eligible for survey work, so we will have to think about another way to use professionals in the future if when we apply survey work is not acceptable for receipt of a grant. She also indicated that their grants are 70/30, which is good and, as Norm Sims has pointed out, we can include in-kind time from our commission. Chairman Pell believes these grants are offered annually and he will be in touch with O'Connor regarding grant applications.

Chairman Pell attended a CLG workshop in Galesburg last Thursday and Friday, which was put on by IHPA and titled "One Step Further". It was a very successful workshop and was interesting and informative.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Sims announced that last session the General Assembly passed a new public act stating that all members of public bodies have to take part in electronic open meetings act training, which includes this Commission. It is effective January 1, 2012, however the website is not available at this time, but Sims will keep us informed regarding its status. A certificate will then be filed with the County upon each commissioners completion of the electronic training. Anthony Mares asked if the training is yearly and Sims stated that it was and the class must be completed within 90 days of appointment. Sims also noted that there is no fee associated with taking the electronic training class.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Mares presented five photographs of different properties west of Springfield that he thought looked unique and different. Mares noted that he has not put these into survey form but will do so.

Chairman Pell did a demonstration of the Historic Preservation website for Will County that had previously been mentioned by Commissioner Mares. He noted that they have a significant amount of information. The site is interactive and is in matrix form that is very organized.

Commissioner Donelan noted that he plans to go look at a barn with Commissioner Sherman and should have surveys to present next month. Also, Donelan noted that he plans to follow-up with Clayville on their interest in landmarking.

Commissioner Randy Schick presented a survey for Irwin's Park, which is located just north of Auburn on Route 4. Schick noted that the stone house on the property is still standing, but the swimming pool, lunch room, and dance hall have not existed since the 1940s. The park is divided by railroad tracks and the stone house is not in good condition, but is seen as historically significant.

Commissioner Sherman showed the group a picture of the entrance to a cemetery just south of Loami (Sulphur Springs) which has several interesting stones dating back to the 1840s and 1850s. The general appearance of the cemetery is unique with an odd chain link fence entry and sign. Sherman noted that he is working on getting this site into survey form for the next meeting.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Donelan made a motion to adjourn the November meeting, with Commissioner Sherman seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
December 7, 2011

Members Present: Chuck Pell, Chair
Anthony Mares
Randy Schick
Robert Sherman
Norm Sims

Members Absent: Gabe Chiaro
James Donelan

Staff Present: Abby Bybee

Others Attending: none

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the December meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the December minutes. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Commissioner Robert Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Anthony Mares. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell announced that the American Institute of Architects (AIA) has a program started about five years called SDAT (Sustainability Design Assessment Team) and follows somewhat on the successful heels of the Regional/Urban Design Assistance Team (R/UDAT) on which he served on the steering committee ten years ago. Chairman Pell will be co-chairing SDAT Springfield that will focus on the core of the community and sustainable living with rehabilitation of historical resources as a (possible) component. Be on the look out for a press release the first week and half of January. The SDAT team will hopefully be in Springfield in March, April or May of 2012.

The Holiday Walks put on by Downtown Springfield, Inc. will begin tonight. The tree lighting will be at 5:30 and from 4:30-7pm Illinois National Bank will be hosting Business After Hours put on by the Chamber of Commerce.

The CLG grant deadline has passed. Chairman Pell urged Commissioners to be pro-active with these grants offered in 2012. Chairman Pell also urged the Commission to continue survey work through the coming months as it is a great time to take pictures with the leaves gone this time of year.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Jerry Jacobson showed pictures of Churchill Cemetery off of Route 54 with 44 gravestones, with 1848 being the earliest. All locations presented are in Clearlake Township. He also presented surveys for a barn on Lindsay Road, a farmstead on Taft Road, and two single family residences on Oak Crest Road.

Commissioner Randy Schick presented a survey for Sugar Creek Bridge located in Chatham Township. This bridge has been restored and is currently open to pedestrians only. The bridge is also known as the “Glenarm Covered Bridge”.

Commissioner Sherman discussed a survey he had completed on Sulpher Springs Cemetery. He noted that he plans to meet with Commissioner Jim Donelan and Commissioner Schick about various barns within the County.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Schick made a motion to adjourn the December meeting with Commissioner Mares seconding this motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Abby Bybee