

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**January 6, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** Jerry Jacobson

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan

**Call to Order:** A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

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

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell informed the group that Commissioner Brooks spoke on the radio about the farmhouse search. He expressed hope that another story could be arranged with Channel 20. Chairman Pell reminded everyone to get out and do surveys.

Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Brooks to summarize his radio interview. Commissioner Brooks said he was interviewed by WSMI in Litchfield. He told the interviewer it is important to find old farmhouses because no one really knows how many exist. Chairman Pell said the Farmhouse Committee [FC] discussed a house on Buckhart Road that likely did not meet the search requirements. He said if someone sees an old farmhouse to inform its owners of the search. Chairman Pell said it is possible owners still do not know about the search. Chairman Pell and staff discussed the number of entries received.

Vice Chairman Sherman said the Committee discussed two other farmhouses. He said both are old but do not sit on forty acres. Commissioner Sims said broadening the search might make sense. He said after the banking crisis, there were several homeowners who had to separate the farmhouse from the farmland for lending purposes. Commissioner Brooks summarized the discussion of a residence on Old Route 36 that might qualify for the search, if entered. He said if the search works, there could be another search for structures from different periods. Commissioner Sims suggested a search for Route 66 structures. Commissioner Brooks said barns would be cool. Vice Chairman Sherman said the National Trust cutoff is fifty years, so why restrict ourselves to 1900. Chairman Pell said pre-Civil War made sense with this search because of the Lincoln-era connection. Commissioner Sims said it started out as what is the oldest. Commissioner Brooks said he emphasized Lincoln in the rationale for the cut-off date. Vice Chairman Sherman said there is a Greek Revival style house on Route 125 that would meet the criteria for the period as well. Chairman Pell said we each might know or see a house that could

meet the search criteria; he mentioned a house near Clayville that had its second floor removed that has a relationship to the Broadwell Family associated with Clayville. Commissioner Brooks said it might be better to error on the side of more entries, even if a bunch later need to be ruled out. He emphasized that houses ruled out with this search might be good material for another search.

Chairman Pell said he wanted to thank Commissioner Schackmann for getting the Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] Facebook page online. A more detailed discussion followed under New Business.

**Old Business:** Chairman Pell turned the floor over to Commissioner Brooks for the Farmhouse Committee report. Commissioner Brooks said the Committee brainstormed ways to get out the farmhouse search message. He said Vice Chairman Sherman would try to find a way to contact some rural churches. Commissioner Brooks would contact some local FFA chapters and might speak to some Ag classes. Chairman Pell asked about WSMI's reach. Commissioner Brooks said it reaches the southern part of Sangamon County. He said there is a similar radio station in Taylorville that reaches eastern Sangamon County. Commissioner Brooks said someone would reach out to the REA [Rural Electrification Association]. He said he thought Channel 20 could do a story on the search this weekend. Commissioner Brooks said the Committee mentioned reaching out to the *Illinois Times*. Vice Chairman Sherman said a follow up article could encourage more entries. Chairman Pell suggested mentioning entries will be taken until the end of March and where the application is available. He said January or February would be perfect for follow-ups. Vice Chairman Sherman and Commissioner Brooks discussed some Brandt ground. Commissioner Brooks said he was asked how can you date a particular house. He said he mentioned there are ways to date the craftsmanship in the building and construction of the house. Staff mentioned there is a tree ring expert who would like to help with the search.

**New Business:** Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Schackmann to brief the HPC on the status of its Facebook page. After the page was brought up, Chairman Pell said there is no logo. Commissioner Schackmann said there is not a banner yet. He said he wanted to use the letterhead logo, but the image pixilated. Commissioner Sims suggested having some houses with people in them. Commissioner Brooks asked if it could be a picture with people from a long time ago, to which Commissioner Sims said that would be okay too. Commissioner Schackmann said rotating the content is key. Several Commissioners discussed advertising on Facebook. Chairman Pell advised sending posts to Commissioner Schackmann for now. Commissioner Schackmann said he set some limits on what can be posted. He said Facebook sends a notification to the administrators first before someone can post to the site. Commissioner Schackmann said the Farm Bureau could post something after the HPC reviewed it. Chairman Pell asked if there is a designated marketing person at the Farm Bureau. Commissioner Brooks mentioned the person who forwarded the search entries. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Brooks to inform the Farm Bureau the HPC now has a Facebook page.

Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Goza to highlight the new graphics she created for the HPC. Commissioner Goza said there are four separate designs from which to choose. Several Commissioners discussed several designs, and the Chair made a selection to be forwarded to Commissioner Schackmann for the Facebook page.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None.

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Lathan said she is still looking for photos of the church that was converted into a farmhouse.

Commissioner Brooks said he is working on a survey.

Vice Chairman Sherman asked Commissioner Lathan for the pastor's name at Island Grove Methodist Church.

Commissioner Williams asked if the Commissioners want to attend the VIP showing of the 2015 Lincoln Funeral Re-enactment film at the Lincoln Home Visitors Center. The date is not determined yet. Chairman Pell suggested inviting all Commissioners. Commissioner Williams said he would shoot photographs of the Commissioners for Facebook if there is interest.

**Staff Reports:** Staff highlighted a new positive train control railroad tower that the Union Pacific Railroad proposes to construct in railroad right of way near Thayer. He said he created a buffer and found no local landmarks within a short distance [1/2 mile] of the site. Staff said previous requests were handled via letter. Commissioner Sims suggested the letter contain language that part of the property is within the jurisdiction of the Village of Thayer and advising the railroad to check with them as well. Chairman Pell asked staff to please send the letter to him.

Staff also summarized the status of the HPC website. Staff indicated some graphics may change. Chairman Pell said the draft front page showed the Lamplighter pool on South Sixth Street, a County landmark. Some discussion occurred between Commissioner Brooks and Chairman Pell concerning the Lamplighter. Chairman Pell said the HPC recommended a landmark for the pool only. Staff discussed the agendas page, the farmhouse page, and some images. Several Commissioners commented on the website's design.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additional Comments:** Commissioner Brooks asked about the pros and cons of landmarking. Chairman Pell said if a property is landmarked and the owner wants to make exterior changes, some actions are reviewed by the HPC. Commissioner Brooks asked if the owner would need permission, to which Commissioner Sims said a Certificate of Appropriateness is required. Commissioner Brooks asked if someone wanted to knock off the front porch on a landmark if that would require permission. Several Commissioners said if it is a landmark, then yes. Commissioner Brooks asked what makes something worthy of a landmark. Chairman Pell said it is subjective whether something is worthy of landmark status because of its significance. He said examples could include the last house or only house of a particular style or period. Chairman Pell also said landmarks could be significant if someone famous did something there, e.g. Vachel Lindsay writing a work at a particular location. Commissioner Sims said the legal answer is there are criteria in the ordinance; the useful answer is if [the HPC] believes something meets any of those criteria, it can be landmarked. Chairman Pell said a few landmarks are on the National Register. He said the Brunk Farmstead was made into a landmark because of its role in the early history of Sangamon County. Chairman Pell said many houses are acceptable to be on a survey. Commissioner Schackmann asked if the HPC ever said a house is worthy of being landmarked and the property owner says no it is not. Chairman Pell said the Power farm is on the National Register. However, it has suffered some theft and some tornado damage. He said the farmstead and the farmhouse are not landmarked, but the courthouse, where Lincoln tried a case is. Chairman Pell said in the not too distant future, the owner may consent to having the farmhouse

landmarked. Commissioner Brooks asked whether there is no landmarking unless people are interested. Commissioner Sims said unless there is owner consent there is no landmark. Chairman Pell said some historic preservation commissions can landmark without owner's consent. He said when the ordinance was passed the County Board would not back a landmark without owner's consent. Commissioner Sims said the City of Springfield requires owner's consent.

Several Commissioners discussed the Brunk farmstead and a fire that exposed the house's interior.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Goza made a motion to adjourn the January meeting and Commissioner Schackmann seconded the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:51 PM.

Respectively submitted,  
Steve Keenan

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**February 3, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** None

**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 Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Schackmann. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell suggested looking at HARGIS to determine whether any National Register entries in the townships are not surveyed. He encouraged the Commissioners to make similar investigations. Chairman Pell said he is certain not all National Register structures are on surveys.

**Old Business:** Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Brooks for the Farmhouse Committee report. Commissioner Brooks said the Committee decided to issue a clarification. He said there still needs to be (a connection to a functioning farm of) forty (or more) acres and a demonstrable connection to farming for entries. Chairman Pell asked if there should be another press release. Commissioner Brooks said the changes are a good reason for a press release. Chairman Pell asked if the Committee tracked more leads on houses for the search. Commissioner Brooks said there are three potential leads.

Some discussion ensued about the entries received. Commissioner Jacobson discussed an entry on Wake Road with a limestone foundation and some hand-hewn beams. He said it is on a seven acre tract; but that would not be an entry barrier per the earlier Committee discussion. The consensus of the discussion among Chairman Pell, Vice Chairman Sherman, and Commissioner Jacobson was it is probably an I-house, likely built prior to 1860 with a porch added later.

The Commission secondly discussed an entry on Yankee Town Road. Vice Chairman Sherman said he thinks the house might have an addition and there might even be logs underneath. Commissioner Jacobson said the estimated date of construction was 1857. The entrant sent along a diary entry but it is somewhat illegible. Commissioner Jacobson said he has a call in to receive a better copy (or for a "typed" translation).

The Commission thirdly discussed an entry on Lincoln Trail. Commissioner Jacobson said the house was purportedly on the Underground Railroad, has the best photographs submitted, and the application has an 1835 construction date. However, there is no documentation. Several Commissioners suggested tracking down the

document that appears with the black and white photo. Commissioner Lathan asked if there are any photos of the house in the tax assessor's records. Commissioner Sims said if the house was used in the Underground Railroad, one might presume it was built prior to the Civil War. Commissioner Jacobson said the house sits on five acres but meets the spirit of the rules. Vice Chairman Sherman said the house is 1 ½ story.

The Commission finally discussed an entry on Galloway Road. Commissioner Jacobson said there is a long chain of title that refers to ownership of the house. Commissioner Jacobson and Vice Chairman Sherman suggested tax and recorder documents might reveal more about the house.

Chairman Pell asked the Committee members if any rules needed to change besides the 40 acres rule. Commissioner Jacobson said not at this moment. Chairman Pell asked if the Farm Bureau has any entries that were not passed along, to which Commissioner Brooks said no, but that he would check with the Farm Bureau staff. Some discussion ensued among several Commissioners on generating and following up on leads.

Chairman Pell asked if an old house might be available for a news spot. Commissioner Brooks suggested using one of the entries. Chairman Pell said if one of the entrants wants to do that it would be nice and he would be available to meet a news crew if an owner was willing.

Commissioner Brooks asked about the period of I-houses, Italianate houses, and foursquare houses. Vice Chairman Sherman said foursquare houses were much later [than 1860]. He said an Italianate style might be pre-1860. Vice Chairman Sherman said the I-house got its name from the Illinois, Indiana, Iowa area where it was commonly constructed. Chairman Pell said IHPA has some DVDs on architectural styles. He asked if any were in the RPC library, to which staff said not to his knowledge. Chairman Pell said the square and rectangular houses like Italianates ultimately morphed into the American foursquare house. He said the foursquare house is a late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century house. Chairman Pell said with foursquares the ornamentation was toned down and gave the owner four rooms upstairs and four rooms downstairs. He said the style is very common along streets like South Pasfield and Whittier in Springfield and many other areas. Commissioner Jacobson added sometimes foursquares were called cornbelt cubes. Chairman Pell said Vice Chairman Sherman mentioned one of the entries might have begun as a log house wrapped in a finish with an addition. He said in many cases the rural homeowners amassed a certain amount of wealth and could afford to build something similar to what one might see in the city but out on land in the country. Chairman Pell said it is less common to see great ornamentation on a typical rural farmhouse because of their utilitarian nature. He said the forms would relate to what was going on in a particular architectural period. Vice Chairman Sherman, Chairman Pell, and Commissioner Brooks discussed potential entries and the timing of a press release.

Chairman Pell asked about the Facebook and website agenda item. Commissioner Schackmann asked the Commissioners to share the Facebook site with people they know. He said the new logo is on the Facebook page. Commissioner Schackmann said the website would be shared when it is up and running. Concerning the website, staff asked if there was any objection to replacing the logo shown with the new logo. No objections were noted. Chairman Pell asked about workflow on the website. Staff said he worked on much of the webpage. Chairman Pell asked what software was being used. Commissioner Sims said Dot Net Nuke. Commissioner Jacobson asked about integrating the Historic Preservation Commission page on the County's page. Several Commissioners said it should be a part of the County's webpage. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Brooks, and Commissioner Sims discussed the possibility of integrating social media posts onto the webpage.

**New Business:** Vice Chairman Sherman mentioned a pamphlet put out by the National Parks Service entitled *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes* [NPS Bulletin 30]. He said he would try to get some copies for the Commissioners. Vice Chairman Sherman said it is a good document regarding the thought process as to what constitutes a good survey. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Sims recommended digital copies instead of hard copies. Chairman Pell indicated that it could be easily found on line.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None.

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Williams said there would be a premiere of the Lincoln funeral film at the Visitor Center at Lincoln's home on February 26 at 7:30 PM. He said if anyone is interested in VIP tickets for the showing to please coordinate with the RPC office. There were two other showings mentioned, 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM. 7:30 PM and 9:00 PM are open to the public. Commissioner Williams summarized the documentary.

Commissioner Lathan shared a newspaper photo of an old farmhouse on Old Jacksonville Road.

Commissioner Schackmann thanked Commissioner Goza for the new logo. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Schackmann, and Commissioner Brooks discussed putting podcasts on the Facebook site.

**Staff Reports:** Staff introduced a Section 106 [of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966] review for four monopole towers the Union Pacific railroad will construct near Chatham, Springfield, Sherman, and Williamsville. Commissioner Sims added the new poles help meet federal safety requirements. Staff said a cursory review revealed no landmarks but two National Register sites: one (Flagg Farmstead) in Sherman, and one (Caldwell Mansion) in unincorporated Sangamon County. The letter will also suggest consulting with some municipalities about this project. Commissioner Sims said Springfield Historic Sites may have received a letter. Vice Chairman Sherman said Iles Park may have a tower as well. Commissioner Jacobson asked if it makes sense to review requests like this if they are beyond the County's jurisdiction. Commissioner Schackmann said it is not the HPC's responsibility to inform the municipality; the onus should be on the railroad's consultant. Commissioners Jacobson and Sims with Chairman Pell discussed whether to devote resources to reviews not in unincorporated Sangamon County. No consensus emerged. Chairman Pell asked to have the letter forwarded to him for review when complete.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additional Comments:** Commissioner Raut entered the meeting during the tower discussion.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Brooks made a motion to adjourn the February meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.

Respectively submitted,  
Steve Keenan

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**March 2, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** Mike Brooks

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan

**Others Attending:** Mary Jessup, Pastor, Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church

**Call to Order:** A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

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

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell reminded the Commissioners to search for National Register sites in their townships. He advised that Wikipedia is a good source to start with and IHPA's HARGIS system is another. Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Williams to introduce a guest speaker.

Commissioner Williams introduced Mary Jessup, Pastor of the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church. He asked about the church's style, to which Vice Chairman Sherman said it is probably Victorian vernacular with no dominant style.

Reverend Jessup said the church was built in 1900; and, she has been pastor for 23 years. She said the congregation formed in 1896. Reverend Jessup summarized two additions, one in 1957 (a kitchen) and another in 2007 (a Sunday school classroom). Reverend Jessup said there are original pews and that some stained glass windows are replacements after a 1927 tornado. She said newer (yet also historic) windows are not identical to the original stained glass windows in the rear of the church. Reverend Jessup said some original stained glass windows were found in the attic. She said the sanctuary holds about 85 people shoulder to shoulder. Reverend Jessup said in 2007 three dividing walls were removed and the wood paneling was removed, cleaned, and put back on the walls. Reverend Jessup said the floor was from 1957. She discussed the Buffalo Hart train station, a closed general goods store, and a prior wooden sidewalk to the store. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if most of the European settlers were "Yankees", to which Reverend Jessup replied they came from the east and from Kentucky. Vice Chairman Sherman said the bump out in the station was used to watch for an approaching train. Vice Chairman Sherman, Commissioner Sims, and Reverend Jessup discussed the migration of the settlers from

Scotland to the Buffalo Hart area. Reverend Jessup said 1824 was the first time early European migrants became settlers. She mentioned a bicentennial in 2024. Commissioner Schackmann asked about the design of the stained glass window, to which Vice Chairman Sherman said it was Palladian. Chairman Pell said the shape is Palladian but there is not much significance to the design. He said it is interesting to compare the 1900 and the 1927 windows. Commissioner Williams asked about historically significant events. Reverend Jessup mentioned a church in Mechanicsburg that maybe was a hospital in the Civil War. She mentioned a member hosted the Farm Progress Show in the 1960s. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if the church in Mechanicsburg is still standing, to which Reverend Jessup said yes. Chairman Pell said it is likely in the Village of Mechanicsburg. Commissioner Jacobson asked about the spelling of Buffalo Hart. After some discussion, Reverend Jessup's interpretation of several local communities with -hart spellings seemed to carry. Commissioner Williams asked how long the congregation existed, to which Reverend Jessup said since 1896. He asked how many people come on Sundays, to which Reverend Jessup said about 60. Chairman Pell thanked Reverend Jessup for speaking and mentioned she is the spouse of the publisher (Mr. Fletcher "Bud" Farrar) of the *Illinois Times*. Reverend Jessup said the history of the church is extensively documented.

Commissioner Williams asked if Reverend Jessup would consent to landmarking the church. Reverend Jessup said in the Presbyterian system the Clerk of Session is considered the property owner of record. She said this person is an archivist. Commissioner Williams asked if Reverend Jessup could pass along the paperwork. He asked who is the owner, to which staff said the church, adding that the landmark application must be consented to by the legal property owner of record. Reverend Jessup said the Clerk of Session is in Barkley. Commissioner Jacobson asked if she was similar to a chair of the church board, to which Reverend Jessup said yes.

Commissioner Sims said this building strikes him as a good historical example of how rural churches were built. Reverend Jessup mentioned Rock Creek Presbyterian Church outside Tallula as another historic church to evaluate. She also mentioned Indian Point Church. Chairman Pell said you might want to mention to your congregation that the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission is undertaking an oldest farmhouse search. Everyone thanked Reverend Jessup for attending. Chairman Pell said it is always interesting to have an owner with a great knowledge of a building along with an accomplished photographer (Commissioner Williams).

**Old Business:** Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson to report on the Farmhouse Committee meeting. Commissioner Jacobson said Commissioner Brooks prepared a press release that was circulated to the Farmhouse Committee members. Commissioner Jacobson said he thought it was an action item that the Historic Preservation Commission supports the press release. Chairman Pell asked if the press release was released, to which staff said it is not known. Commissioner Sims suggested this item is a ministerial function with a prior approval to move ahead on the project. Otherwise, it cannot be heard today because it is not on the agenda. [The Farmhouse Committee did not meet due to lack of a quorum.] Chairman Pell said he believed most items are managerial or ministerial actions. He said the agenda did not mention approving a press release. Commissioner Sims said this is not a decision point that requires new policy.

Commissioner Williams said the George Power farm wants to have Channel 20 use them as an example farm for B-roll. Chairman Pell asked if the Power farm would submit an application, to which Commissioner Williams said no. Commissioner Williams asked to have any reporter(s) contact him after the release goes out. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Sims, Commissioner Jacobson, and Commissioner Williams discussed using the farmhouse for a news story. The

consensus was it might be better to use a non-participating house to avoid endorsing a particular property.

Staff highlighted the new website. He said if anyone has comments to please email them. Staff asked for any additions Commissioners might want to see beyond Facebook news feeds. Commissioner Williams suggested a Facebook icon. Staff demonstrated how to access the website. Chairman Pell asked about Facebook likes, to which Commissioner Schackmann reported there are 65 likes. Chairman Pell suggested adding photos to the Facebook page as they are discussed in the meetings.

**New Business:** None.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None.

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Williams asked if the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church was worthy of landmarking. Chairman Pell said it is worth it as an example of a rural church. He also said it would need to be examined in totality. Chairman Pell said it would be nice to know if the historic church in Mechanicsburg is in unincorporated or incorporated Sangamon County. He said it would also be good to know if the church in Tallula is [in Sangamon County]. Chairman Pell asked if the Buffalo Hart church is in the unincorporated area, to which staff said yes. Commissioner Williams said he would go through the history to determine what significant events have occurred. Commissioner Sims said it might not have to have significant events. Chairman Pell said an application could mention the church is a rural church with a long history of operation. He said the more important question is whether the owners are interested in landmarking the property, which is unknown. Chairman Pell said the original building is compelling with the stained glass windows, the arch, and the bell tower. Commissioner Williams said the wainscoting and the altar are originals. Chairman Pell said the entryway is sometimes called a narthex and that there was a dividing wall that could be moved. Commissioner Williams and Vice Chairman Sherman pointed out there is a door from floor to ceiling that separates the gathering space from the sanctuary. Vice Chairman Sherman said the original doors were located underneath the bell tower; he said the church had a stove for heating in it originally. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Lathan knew when the Island Grove Church was constructed. Commissioner Lathan said 1862. Chairman Pell said this church is newer. Vice Chairman Sherman said knowing when the congregation was established helps a great deal.

Commissioner Williams thanked the Commissioners for attending the premiere of the Lincoln funeral re-enactment documentary. He offered a DVD to Commissioner Goza so she can watch it.

Commissioner Jacobson highlighted a farmhouse search entry located in Cartwright Township near Pleasant Plains. He said it is a two-story building that was constructed in 1855/1856 according to the application. Commissioner Jacobson said it was remodeled in 1922. Chairman Pell asked if this is the fifth entry, to which Commissioner Jacobson said yes. Commissioner Jacobson described some photos of the basement and the exterior of the structure. He asked if the stone in the basement could help date the house. Vice Chairman Sherman said it might date it to 1860 or before. He added knowing where the stone quarry was for the foundation would help a great deal. Vice Chairman Sherman said he remembered looking at a farmhouse in the area about 30 years ago that had limestone blocks in the basement. Commissioner Jacobson said there is little hard evidence with the entry to establish a construction date that is not word of mouth. Vice Chairman Sherman said the house looks like it has a central hall with two rooms on either side.

He said the detail looks Italianate. Commissioner Jacobson mentioned two other possible entries that might enter but have not submitted forms. Chairman Pell asked if there have been any site visits, to which Commissioner Jacobson said no. Commissioner Jacobson discussed the press release and how it indicates the house must have some connection to farming. He said the date remains 1860 or before.

Commissioner Goza said she found a house to survey. She said it is called the Wasser Farm and dates from 1874. Several Commissioners mentioned it would be a perfect survey item. Commissioner Goza indicated the owner has done some research on Sangamo Town. She said the owner has two houses he wants to have reviewed.

Vice Chairman Sherman highlighted a house in Curran Township that has both modern additions and an older section. He said part of the house is a log house. Vice Chairman Sherman said it is to the left in the photo provided. Chairman Pell said this is a potential survey and a potential farmhouse item. Vice Chairman Sherman also highlighted a house in Williams Township. He said it is close whether it was built prior to 1860. Vice Chairman Sherman said it is a typical I-house with an addition on the back.

Commissioner Sims said staffing is down two or three. He advised the Commissioners to be prudent with staffing requests in the short term as the Regional Planning Commission embarks on several very large planning projects.

**Staff Reports:** Staff presented a tower for the Union Pacific railroad located outside Williamsville, Illinois. He said it is located in the unincorporated area and there are no landmarks or potential historic resources within ½ mile of the site. Staff said there was a reply from the railroad's consultant for the tower request considered at the February HPC meeting. He said the letter referred to guidelines advocating a ¼-mile buffer for these types of towers. Chairman Pell asked where the HPC notion of ½ mile came. Commissioner Sims said it is as good as any other number and that it is something that is easily visualized. Chairman Pell said it is arbitrary, to which Commissioner Sims said there is nothing in code. Commissioner Sims said that is typically a distance used in an Environmental Impact Study [EIS]. Chairman Pell asked if there would be a letter, to which staff replied yes. Some discussion ensued about the beginnings of the positive train control project and its indirect relations to high-speed rail.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additional Comments:** None.

**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 4:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Keenan

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**April 6, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan

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

Chairman Pell explained that Commissioner Brooks wished to attend the Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] meeting via speakerphone due to employment purposes. A motion to allow Commissioner Brooks to attend the meeting by speakerphone was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Vice Chairman Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous. Commissioner Brooks acknowledged his presence at the meeting by speakerphone.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the March minutes. Commissioner Jacobson read an email of minor revisions. A motion to approve the March minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Schackmann and was seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell indicated he was asked to participate in a story about a farmhouse entry on WCIA TV by Commissioner Brooks. He noted the home owners were very accommodating. Chairman Pell mentioned the Sangamon County Historical Society ran an article about the oldest farmhouse search in its newsletter *Historico*. Discussion ensued between Chairman Pell and Commissioner Jacobson about future meetings of the County's Historical Society. Chairman Pell encouraged the Commissioners to search for National Register sites in their townships. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if the video of the story about the farmhouse was online, to which Chairman Pell said he did not know. Chairman Pell said the story was shot on March 22.

**Committee Reports:** Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Jacobson for the Oldest Farmhouse Committee report. Commissioner Jacobson said the Committee decided to extend the deadline for entries to May 1, 2016. He said a few late entries might be eligible for inclusion and this was a reason for changing the deadline. Commissioner Jacobson summarized some of the entries discussed at the Committee meeting. He said the Committee discussed planning for a potential event at the Sangamon County Fair.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Chairman Pell recognized staff to discuss the New Business item. He noted the letter provided with the agenda was addressed to a railroad consultant rather than to the Norfolk Southern railroad. Staff presented a tower adjacent to the former Pillsbury Site in Springfield. Staff noted the HPC does not have jurisdiction for this tower as it is in Springfield. Staff mentioned this item is on the agenda so the HPC can make comments against or object to a tower in its jurisdiction if it so desires. Commissioner Jacobson suggested inserting a line to the effect of: “the SCHPC has no jurisdiction over incorporated local governments, only over unincorporated areas of the County.” He suggested ignoring letters outside the HPC’s jurisdiction. Vice Chairman Sherman suggested passing it on, with which Commissioner Sims concurred. Some discussion ensued among Chairman Pell, Vice Chairman Sherman, Commissioner Jacobson, and Commissioner Sims regarding whom to copy on the letter. Commissioner Sims mentioned it is courteous to include both Springfield Historic Sites and the Springfield Building and Zoning Department on the letter. He mentioned that while there may not be historic resource issues with this tower, perhaps there might be a zoning issue. The consensus appeared to favor sending the letter as written with some of Commissioner Jacobson’s comments. Chairman Pell asked for a motion. Commissioner Lathan noted she might check if a permit was filed with the City. Staff mentioned an earlier email from the Union Pacific consultant stating railroads might be exempt from zoning to the extent construction occurs in the railroad’s right of way. Commissioner Jacobson reiterated his comments from earlier.

A motion to approve sending the letter with amendments as discussed was made by Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None.

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Williams reported the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church is interested in pursuing landmark status. He hoped to have a completed application soon. Later, he mentioned the Lincoln film won some awards. He also mentioned he might work on a documentary on the Illinois State Fair.

Commissioner Schackmann said some messages were posted on Facebook regarding the farmhouse search. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if a video of the farmhouse story could be added to Facebook. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Brooks if the video from the farmhouse was turned, or could be turned, into a podcast. Commissioner Brooks was not sure.

Vice Chairman Sherman said he would be attending a National Barn Alliance meeting in April. After discussing with a colleague a travel route to see historic barns, he had a thought that perhaps people could travel by historic trails all over the country. Staff mentioned the Regional Planning Commission [RPC] has some resources on the Edwards Trace, an old trail slightly east of Springfield. Chairman Pell said that was an interest of Commissioner Raut. Commissioner Sims said if the HPC wants to package a set of visits or a trail then the HPC should see if the Springfield CVB (Convention & Visitors Bureau) wants to do anything with it. Chairman Pell mentioned Route 66 sites. Vice Chairman Sherman said there was a Native American trail going west as well. Commissioner Sims suggested a windshield tour. Vice Chairman Sherman also discussed several potential farmhouse entries. [Commissioner Brooks left the meeting at approximately 4:25 PM and returned at approximately 4:30 PM].

Commissioner Lathan said she found a farmhouse on Spaulding Orchard Road she thought was built in 1830. She said the house has remained in a family for its entire existence. Chairman Pell said the farmhouse could be a survey item and a potential farmhouse entry. He asked which township, to which Commissioner Lathan replied Curran.

**Staff Reports:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additional Comments:** Commissioner Lathan asked for clarification if unincorporated meant anything outside Springfield. Chairman Pell said anything to be surveyed could be in unincorporated Sangamon County. He mentioned the two preservation bodies in Sangamon County are the HPC and the Springfield Historic Sites Commission. Chairman Pell said the other municipalities do not have historic preservation bodies. He said there are historic resources in other municipalities, but the charge of the HPC is unincorporated Sangamon County. Commissioner Sims said the HPC could act as an historic preservation body in a municipality if an [intergovernmental agreement (IGA)] is in place. He said for instance if there is a unique site in Williamsville, an IGA must be in place before the HPC could landmark that site. Chairman Pell said in the consideration of an IGA, a municipality should weigh whether it wants to grant the HPC jurisdiction in its building permitting process. He acknowledged it can be tough to know incorporated versus unincorporated areas especially near Springfield. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if there must be an IGA before the HPC does something in a municipality. Chairman Pell said an IGA would not be needed to survey a particular site. He said action on an item, e.g. landmarking, would require an IGA because neither the HPC nor the County Board has jurisdiction to landmark something inside a municipality absent an agreement.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to adjourn the April meeting with Commissioner Brooks seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:34 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Keenan

\* Attendance by speaker-phone

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**May 4, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** Mike Brooks, Jeanette Goza

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan

**Call to Order:** A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the April minutes. Staff read some amendments from Commissioner Jacobson. A motion to approve the April minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Pell asked for a motion to allow Commissioner Brooks to attend the meeting electronically due to employment purposes. A motion to allow Commissioner Brooks to attend the meeting due to employment purposes was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Schackmann. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell mentioned there were 11 entries in the Oldest Farmhouse search and that it was good to get the Commission's name in the public's mind. Chairman Pell asked everyone to get out and survey historical sites. He also mentioned there might be training opportunities through organizations like the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency or Landmarks Illinois.

**Committee Reports:** Commissioner Jacobson reported that the Farmhouse Committee took no action today as there was no meeting due to lack of a quorum.

Commissioner Jacobson said he wanted to summarize some developments in the Farmhouse Search. He summarized two recent submissions through Commissioner Sherman, one of which is a classic Greek Revival house. He said it is located in Gardner Township on a highway. Commissioner Jacobson said it was likely built prior to 1860. Commissioner Jacobson said this entry is a good residential example – it has two chimneys and columns emblematic of the Greek Revival style. Chairman Pell wondered if there is a tie-in to area settlement patterns since so many of the entries were from a particular township. Vice Chairman Sherman thought the entries could be indicative of where settlement took place. Chairman Pell asked what the group's consensus is concerning the oldest farmhouse. Commissioner Jacobson said one of the houses is definitely pre-1860 because of its architecture. He thought of the one of the better-documented houses had a diary entry indicating when the owner bought wood to construct the house. Commissioner Jacobson said it was the best documented entry other than the Greek Revival as to

being prior to 1860. Commissioner Sims said the operation here is to deal with the houses submitted and the best evidence available. Chairman Pell asked if the Committee would recommend giving certificates to all the entries. He mentioned the letter sent to most of the entries indicated verification of application information. Commissioner Jacobson said he made contact with all the entries except the two Vice Chairman Sherman submitted. Chairman Pell suggested an expert such as Anthony Rubano or Mike Jackson help verify the age of entries. Commissioner Sims reminded the Commissioners there is approximately one month until an announcement. Chairman Pell asked by what process the Committee determined the authenticity of the entries. Commissioner Jacobson said he had done that in conjunction with the property owners. He said other than one or two entries the property owners have done their utmost to document the early construction of their houses. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Jacobson feels comfortable with the assessments whether the houses are pre-1860 or not, to which Commissioner Jacobson said no. Commissioner Jacobson said he believes the only two with solid evidence are the entry with the diary and the Greek Revival house. Chairman Pell said the group would ultimately have to meet again, perhaps before the June meeting.

Chairman Pell suggested discussing does the Committee only want to present something to two of eleven entries; or, should there be an alternative method chosen to determine the dates of the entries. Commissioner Jacobson said everything that can be done has been done for all but about two or three of the entries. He said there have been pictures sent of the beams and foundations of many of the houses. Commissioner Jacobson said he suggested certificates for all participants. Vice Chairman Sherman said that is a good idea. Commissioner Jacobson suggested a special citation or other means for recognizing those who could be confirmed as pre-1860 entries. Vice Chairman Sherman suggested language on the certificates saying one of the oldest, as opposed to the oldest, farmhouses in Sangamon County. Commissioner Sims asked if there were any entries that have not submitted any evidence to meet the 1860 criteria. He suggested everyone else should receive a participation certificate. Commissioner Sims said it does not make sense to tell a property owner they are wrong about the age of a house. He said this is a good news item. Commissioner Sims said make a determination based upon the best available evidence as to what you think the oldest one is and present the owner with a plaque. He said the Committee discussed having Brandt and/or the Farm Bureau contribute to the cost of a plaque. Commissioner Sims suggested having an expert (similar to Rubano) look at the top one or two entries. He said then you can say this expert looked at the houses and helped to determine the oldest house based on the submitted evidence. Commissioner Jacobson said he was negative about the plaque because there are only two so far that are verified pre-1860. Commissioner Sims said the nature of the search is the oldest one submitted. He said a good question to ask for some of the older entries would be is it likely a house was built in the year submitted on the application. Commissioner Sims said some entries have a span of time and there is no evidence as to exact date of construction. He said it is okay to give something to everyone who submitted an entry, but what was billed was a plaque would be given to the oldest farmhouse submitted which has the best evidence.

Vice Chairman Sherman asked if there are alternate sources of information not considered. Chairman Pell said to some extent we rely on property owners, some of whom have family who have lived a particular house for generations, to determine the age of the entries. Commissioner Jacobson said abstracts generally do not indicate mortgages. He asked about the date of tax cards, to which staff replied they date generally from the 1950s on. Commissioner Jacobson noted records are different from township to township.

Chairman Pell said he is comfortable saying that the person or persons chosen with the oldest farmhouse were the oldest of the entries chosen. Commissioner Sims said if there are other old houses they should still submit because the Commission wants to know about them. Vice Chairman Sherman said the evidence needs to indicate the age of a house that is still standing today. He mentioned the diary entry and another entry with a court case. Chairman Pell asked if the house that was once a log house meets the criteria of having an active association with farming acreage. Staff mentioned no one determined what active connection to farming the Greek Revival entry has. Vice Chairman Sherman said he would check if there is an active connection to farming the acreage for his two entries. Chairman Pell suggested another meeting to hash out some of these issues during May. [Commissioner Williams entered the meeting at approximately 4:30 PM]. Commissioner Jacobson said Commissioner Brooks intended to contact the Farm Bureau. Chairman Pell advised coordinating plans for the County Fair with the Farm Bureau. Chairman Pell noted Commissioner Brooks was not in attendance. [Commissioner Brooks did not call in to participate].

Commissioner Jacobson suggested adding an additional member to the Farmhouse Committee to help with a quorum. Chairman Pell asked what would be required to have a Committee quorum, to which Commissioner Sims said a majority plus one. Chairman Pell said he would be more than happy to attend, schedule permitting. Commissioner Jacobson asked Chairman Pell if he would attend as a member of the Farmhouse Committee. Chairman Pell asked if there was a vote on formation of the Committee. Staff said selection of the Committee was an election of the Chair. Chairman Pell asked if he could place himself on the Committee. Staff said there are no rules saying yes or no. Commissioner Jacobson asked if there needed to be a vote on this action. Commissioner Sims said not if it is the will of the Chair. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if a quorum would be three. Commissioner Sims said if the Committee is five then three is a quorum. Chairman Pell asked if the Committee could communicate amongst each other to establish a date for a Committee meeting. Staff said he believes if there is a committee with five members that two can discuss, but a third constitutes a quorum that triggers an open meeting. Commissioner Sims said if a quorum is present, an open meeting is triggered. Chairman Pell asked if the five members could discuss a date for a meeting. Staff and Commissioner Sims both said a meeting notice is required 48 hours prior to any public meeting. Chairman Pell asked if all five members attend the Committee meeting, then the only business that should be discussed is for the Farmhouse Committee because five members constitutes a quorum of the Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] under the Open Meetings Act, to which Commissioner Sims said correct. Commissioner Sims advised that the Committee should only discuss items on the posted agenda. He said with a five-member committee if two people get together it means there is a meeting. There was some discussion about the meaning of the Open Meetings Act regarding the Committee's business. Chairman Pell said sometime in the not too distant future the Committee should meet and discuss how to finish the search.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** Staff stated Commissioner Williams, on behalf of the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church, submitted a new landmark application. He summarized the different ways the HPC handled the two public meetings required under the ordinance. Staff said since it appears the Farmhouse Committee has business and the HPC has business it might make sense to hold both meetings on the same day. Chairman Pell asked if there was a benefit to having another meeting. Staff said it could have the church

proceed to landmarking sooner and the ordinance specifies an initial report and a public hearing within a certain period. After some discussion, it was determined a special meeting of the HPC would be held at 4:00 PM on Wednesday May 18, 2016 in the Regional Planning Commission office, Room 212, County Building. Staff said he would send out a meeting notice. Commissioner Jacobson asked if there would be a Committee meeting before the special HPC meeting. Staff suggested a 3:15 PM Farmhouse Committee meeting on the same date. Commissioner Raut asked for a date confirmation email.

**Member Reports:** Vice Chairman Sherman said he suggested the Greek Revival house be placed on the County's register of historical surveys. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if landmarking is similar to adding a home to the National Register. Commissioner Sims said no it is easier. Vice Chairman Sherman, Chairman Pell, and Commissioner Sims discussed the certificate of appropriateness process for landmarks. Vice Chairman Sherman informed the Commissioners about some Quaker meetinghouses he saw at a recent historic preservation conference.

Commissioner Sims highlighted some staff changes to the Regional Planning Commission's office. He said to be aware there might be staffing changes in the near future.

Commissioner Schackmann said he posted a link to the agenda and minutes on the HPC Facebook page.

**Staff Reports:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additional Comments:** None.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Schackmann made a motion to adjourn the May 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**  
**May 18, 2016**

**Members Present:** Chuck Pell, Chairman  
Bob Sherman, Vice Chairman  
Mike Brooks\*  
Jerry Jacobson  
Tina Lathan  
Aakash Raut  
James Schackmann  
Norm Sims  
Dean Williams

**Members Absent:** Jeanette Goza

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan

**Call to Order:** A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Chairman Pell entertained a motion to allow Commissioner Mike Brooks to attend the Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] meeting via speakerphone due to employment purposes. Vice Chairman Sherman made a motion to allow Commissioner Mike Brooks to attend the meeting via speakerphone due to employment purposes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schackmann and the voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Pell said the purpose of the special meeting was to consider the initial report for the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Pell said the Commission would postpone approving the May minutes until the regular June meeting.

**Committee Reports:** Commissioner Jacobson discussed a summary of the farmhouse entries. He said there were multiple entries from Cartwright (4) and Gardner (3) Townships; other townships had one entry each, i.e. Cotton Hill, Rochester, Loami, and Lanesville. Commissioner Jacobson said seven entries had insufficient documentation for pre-1860 construction dates. He said four houses had evidence to indicate construction prior to 1860. Commissioner Jacobson said the youngest documented house in Cartwright Township has a diary stating the owner bought lumber presumably for the house in 1857. He said the next oldest house was an 1847 addition to a Greek Revival house in Gardner Township documented by family history. Commissioner Jacobson said the original house was built in 1833; however, only the addition remains. He said the second oldest house was an entry in Cotton Hill Township, built around 1835. Commissioner Jacobson said a family history indicates when the family bought the house in 1854 the owner at the time indicated the house was constructed in 1835. Commissioner Jacobson said the oldest documented house for which the Committee has evidence is located in Cartwright Township. He said it was constructed in 1832 according to court testimony. Commissioner Jacobson said the style of the house is not incompatible with an early date. He said this house appears to be the oldest house for which the Committee has evidence at this point. Commissioner Jacobson said the Committee might contact a tree ring expert to help confirm some dates. He said some of the entries that do not have great documentation might have hewn

logs that could be dated. Commissioner Jacobson said he would try to contact Professor Glen Freimuth at the Illinois State Museum. He said after discussing the entries with the expert, the Committee would distribute a press release summarizing the information presented at the meeting. Commissioner Jacobson said the Committee discussed its presentation at the Sangamon County Fair. He said there would be a display near the Farm Bureau area. Commissioner Jacobson said there would be contact with the owners to perhaps be present at the display at the County Fair, or to mention their names in association with the houses. Chairman Pell asked if there was anything Commissioner Brooks cared to add, to which Commissioner Brooks said no. Chairman Pell said the Committee did great work and noted the next month will be very exciting.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Application:** Chairman Pell said the reason for the meeting was to consider an initial application for a new landmark for the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church. He said the Commission's purpose is to approve the initial report and to show the landmark meets the criteria specified in the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Chairman Pell said he typically prepares the initial reports as the Chair [of the HPC]. He said Commissioner Williams worked with the pastor of the church and the leader of its governing board to agree to landmark the property. Chairman Pell said this landmark would be the first that represents a religious order. He said Sangamon County landmarks represent the width and breadth of the people who have lived here. Chairman Pell said the next meeting would be the public hearing. Staff said the public hearing would be scheduled for June 1, 2016 at 4:00 PM. Chairman Pell said if anyone has comments or wants to make an objection to the landmark, they could appear at the public hearing. He said the public hearings are usually pretty slim meetings. Chairman Pell said the church meets the criteria within the ordinance. He asked Commissioner Williams if he wants to add anything.

Commissioner Williams said Buffalo Hart was founded in 1824. He summarized some developments in the township in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Commissioner Williams said the church, constructed in 1900, was a social gathering place to bring residents together to discuss news and information. He said he feels the church has significance as a rural gathering place that is representative of the history of central Illinois. Commissioner Williams said the church maintains much of its original parts intact. He mentioned a tornado blew out a wall and some stained glass windows in 1927. Commissioner Williams said much of the church chapel interior remains the same as it did in 1900 including but not limited to: wainscoting, pulpit, and the overhead doors. He said the church was constructed because the chapel, constructed in 1832, was the size of a garage and the group needed a larger space.

Chairman Pell said what the HPC is here to do today is to entertain a motion on the initial report recommendation for the church to become a County landmark. He said this would activate the public hearing where the HPC will vote on a landmark recommendation to the County Board. Chairman Pell said the vote today is not to send the recommendation on the landmark to the County Board, to which staff said correct. Commissioner Sims said the effect of the vote is whether to have a public hearing on the landmark. Chairman Pell said the HPC is saying the church is worthy to be a County landmark and at the public hearing, the HPC will then present its recommendation as to whether the County Board should make the church a landmark. Commissioner Sims said the landmark would then proceed to [the Public Health, Solid Waste, and Zoning] Committee and be placed on the regular County Board schedule. Chairman Pell said he thought it might be at the County Board's July meeting at the earliest. Commissioner Sims suggested the HPC have a representative to go to Committee and/or to Caucus. [Commissioner Brooks had lost the call. He reconnected at this point.] Chairman Pell suggested contact with the

County Board representative for the area. He said the County Board member may make the motion to approve the landmark.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to accept the initial report for the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church that the nominated landmark does meet the criteria, i.e. letters A, B, and H checked on the application, for designation. Commissioner Schackmann seconded the motion. Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Jacobson for discussion.

Commissioner Jacobson said the brief description of significance in the landmark application could have used some of the language from the initial report. He said there is nothing in the application description about the church's architecture. Commissioner Jacobson said this should be incorporated in the statement of significance. Chairman Pell said the body of information [application and report] is all one item. He said the HPC could return the application for lack of information but there is not much point. Commissioner Sims said the application conveys the sense of the landmark. He reminded the Commission that the application needs only meet one of the criteria to be worthy for landmarking. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson if he wants more information for posterity. He noted the application and the report combined have a description of the Commission's wants. Commissioner Williams said the application contains over thirty pages of the Church's historical significance. Commissioner Jacobson said the most important part of an application is the description of significance. He said it seems that the statement of significance should indicate the structure has certain architectural elements to preserve. Chairman Pell said the Commissioners received two different documents: an application and an initial report. He said the application under item four does not say see additional information attached. Commissioner Jacobson said the architecture has some significance since it was mentioned in the initial report. He said within the statement of significance that architecture should be included. Commissioner Sims said what is significant here is not the application, but what goes to County Board. He suggested if there is additional information that should proceed to the County Board to put that in writing. Commissioner Sims said that could be amended at the next meeting as part of the hearing. Commissioner Jacobson asked if Commissioner Williams accepted Chairman Pell's architecture statement, to which Commissioner Williams said yes. He said it should be included and forwarded. Chairman Pell suggested adding "see additional materials that were attached to the application including their history and including the initial report." Commissioner Jacobson said the file for the landmark would only include a report. Commissioner Sims said the file can include anything the HPC wants to include in it. Staff said there is a smaller application in the Commissioners' hands for the meeting. Commissioner Jacobson said the statement of significance is the first thing an historic preservationist examines. He suggested language to the effect that "the building has architectural significance, see [the attached]." Chairman Pell said the application is meant for the layperson, rather than an architect or an architectural historian. He mentioned people often use consultants due to the complexity during the National Register application process. Chairman Pell said the landmark application captures the spirit of what is important for a site historically. Commissioner Sims said this is the prima facia evidence that the HPC has a reason to take the landmark to a hearing. He said at the hearing there might be more reasons presented why the building is significant as a landmark. Commissioner Sims said someone might come to the hearing and say that none of the information in the application and the initial report is true and that is why the landmark goes to hearing. He said the information is not like a final document for the National Register. Commissioner Jacobson said he wanted to make a statement and to have it included in the statement of significance. Vice Chairman Sherman said the church has a vernacular architecture with elements of Palladian [window], Roman [arch], and other

architecture. He said it is not one style of architecture. Vice Chairman Sherman said it is vernacular because it was built by a builder rather than designed by a particular architect.

Chairman Pell said there is a motion on the table to move this to a public hearing. He said the HPC is all in agreement on this point. Chairman Pell said the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church, built in 1900, is worthy of a County landmark. He said the next step is to take it to a public hearing. Chairman Pell said he would be more than happy, without Dean's objection [Commissioner Williams indicated his assent], to have that wording added that talks about architecture within the brief statement of significance. Chairman Pell said this motion was on the table by Commissioner Williams, to which staff added there was a second by Commissioner Schackmann. Commissioner Jacobson asked for clarification. Chairman Pell said to add to the written verbiage about its architectural significance as in the report or as will be determined at the public hearing.

The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Vice Chairman Sherman said the significance of the church is community. Chairman Pell said the church is a gathering place and that it is significant to the people of Buffalo Hart Township.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to adjourn the May 18, 2016 meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Keenan

\*Attendance by speakerphone

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**June 1, 2016**

**Members Present:** Chuck Pell, Chairman  
Bob Sherman, Vice Chairman  
Mike Brooks  
Jerry Jacobson  
Tina Lathan  
Aakash Raut\*  
James Schackmann  
Norm Sims  
Dean Williams

**Members Absent:** Jeanette Goza and Norm Sims

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan

**Others Present:** Janice Wray and Ann Hughes

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

Chairman Pell entertained a motion to allow Commissioner Raut to attend the meeting via speakerphone. Commissioner Schackmann made a motion to allow Commissioner Raut to attend the June Historic Preservation Commission [HPC] meeting via speakerphone due to family or other emergency. Vice Chairman Sherman seconded the motion and the voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Pell entertained motions to approve the May 4 and the May 18 minutes. A motion to approve the May 4, 2016 minutes was made by Vice Chairman Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

A motion to approve the May 18, 2016 minutes was made by Commissioner Schackmann and was seconded by Commissioner Williams. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Public Hearing:** Chairman Pell introduced the public hearing for the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church. He entertained a motion to recess the regular meeting and to open the public hearing. Commissioner Lathan made a motion to recess the regular meeting and to open the public hearing and the motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Pell reviewed the adjacent property owner notice requirements. Staff said there were four certified mailings sent out and four were returned. Chairman Pell said the hearing gives the landowner and adjacent property owners an opportunity to present information for or against a proposed landmark. He said he does not know if there have been opponents to a landmark in the past. Chairman Pell said two members of the church are here and are interested in the pros and cons of landmarking the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church. He said the group feels [landmarking] is in general a good thing. Chairman Pell said many of the pros might not apply here, as the church is tax-exempt. Chairman Pell said a (perceived) con is what happens when the

congregation decides they want to complete remodeling or other construction to the church, e.g. tear off the siding, change the windows, or demolition. He said if the process works right that the County informs the HPC that the church wants to put on a new roof on the bell tower and that the HPC would evaluate the request for a certificate of appropriateness. Chairman Pell said the ordinance does not really stop the church from doing anything as the property owner. He said the (perceived) cons are minimized by the fact that the landowner can do usually do what they want eventually. Chairman Pell said the HPC cares about the County's history and so wants to be part of the evaluation process [for a building permit]. He said the certificate of appropriateness described is very common for historic preservation bodies. Chairman Pell said there are several landmarks in Springfield, and the Springfield Historic Sites Commission evaluates improvements in a similar fashion. He said the process ensures a property owner is not harming a landmark in a way that affects its historic attributes. Chairman Pell said that because of owner consent the HPC can do little to stop the church from doing what it feels is best for its property. He said it is a feel-good that the church would be a County landmark. Chairman Pell said the HPC considers the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church to be a historic resource. He said the congregation started long before the church was built. Chairman Pell said there is significant pride of place with the church; and, this helps make it deserving of a landmark.

Vice Chairman Sherman said the HPC is a sounding board for recommendations. He said if someone comes and proposes 'X' then the HPC could say well you should think about constructing the improvement this way. Vice Chairman Sherman said he sees the HPC's role as more of a recommending body rather than an arbiter.

Chairman Pell said the church members have an interesting question. He said they asked are you telling us we need to replicate the church as it existed in 1900. Chairman Pell said this is not the case. He said it might be nice to have a potential pros and cons of landmarking on the HPC website. Chairman Pell said this might alleviate some of the church's concerns.

Commissioner Brooks said if Route 54 were redesigned to run through the church's property would this protect them from eminent domain. Chairman Pell said he does not know if it gives them cover. He said it is a positive to say this is a County landmark that is recognized as significant. Commissioner Jacobson said historic resources are considered when planning is done for a state or federal road project. He said decisions are made partly on the evaluation. Vice Chairman Sherman said that early roads could not go through cemeteries and orchards. Chairman Pell asked the church members to introduce themselves. The church members identified themselves as Ann Hughes (Clerk of Session/Secretary of the Corporation) and Janice Wray (Treasurer of Board of Sessions and Head of Building and Grounds). Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Jacobson what are the pros and the perceived cons of landmarking.

Commissioner Jacobson said the usual argument against protecting historical resources is that it violates individual property rights. He said this does not apply because the church is a public facility that is an institution. Commissioner Jacobson said he does not see any downside to landmarking a public/community facility of this type. He said the pros are recognition, a sense of pride to the church, and that the community recognized the church as something worthwhile of preservation.

Chairman Pell said the only perceived con that he can surmise is if the church members want to do something to the church from the point of tearing it down to major renovations. He said there might be a new roof on the horizon for the bell tower or the whole church. Chairman Pell said

what happens if the HPC says during the building permitting process that wow the improvement should be green and not blue or that is not the right shingle and the roof should be metal. He said if the church says it wants to do 'X', but the HPC says 'X' is not appropriate that does not stop the church from getting it done. Commissioner Jacobson said if the HPC denies the permit then the property owner can proceed to the County Board and the Board can override the HPC. Chairman Pell said I am sure that would happen. Staff said he thought the ordinance indicates the HPC is the final decider of certificates of appropriateness and that it then proceeds to court. Commissioner Jacobson asked if this is the case. Staff said to his knowledge there has never been a certificate of appropriateness, with which Chairman Pell concurred. Chairman Pell said the HPC has never seen any work done on the landmarked pool at the old Lamplighter Inn. He said the first County landmark is the Brunk farmstead that exists as a ruin today. Chairman Pell said the farm has some outbuildings but the landmark is the entire farmstead because there is an old barn and a ruin of a house that has historic value. He said at the site the Morgan horse was introduced to the community. Chairman Pell said each County landmark has an unusual story that contributes to its history. He said the Brunk farm is on the National Register [of Historic Places]. Chairman Pell said he does not know if the church would rise to being on the National Register. He said the church is important for the vernacular of the County and that it is different in that respect. Chairman Pell said if approved, the church would be given landmark status. He said if the church does not want landmark status anymore it could request that the County Board remove the landmark status. Chairman Pell said as an extreme example Soldier Field was on the National Register but was removed after renovations. He said if the church wants to wrap a new structure around the historic exterior then maybe the HPC would want to remove the landmark status. Staff said removing the landmark goes through the County Board just as landmarking does.

Ms. Wray asked if the landmark is approved how people would know the church is landmarked. Chairman Pell said this is a question with which the HPC has struggled for a long time. He said the HPC does not have a plaque to give the church if it is landmarked because there is no budget. Chairman Pell said the HPC would love it if there were a commemoration of the landmarking somewhere on or in the building. Chairman Pell said the church would be mentioned on the County's website. Staff described the web map that shows County and City landmarks. Chairman Pell described the Lincoln-Van Buren Trail and the Illiopolis Munitions Plant Water Tower. Vice Chairman Sherman asked why the HPC could not make landmark certificates. Chairman Pell said the HPC is a volunteer organization. Ms. Wray said the church could add the landmark status to its Sunday bulletins. Chairman Pell said there would be a vote to recommend to the County Board that the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church, built in 1900, be a County landmark. He said the County Board has the final vote. Chairman Pell said unless there is opposition, or unless the County Board feels this is detrimental to the church, the County Board might see this as a feel good thing. Chairman Pell asked what [County Board] District the property is located. Staff answered he believed District # 3, David Mendenhall. Chairman Pell said that in all likelihood the County Board member would propose the motion on the landmarking. He asked to show some photographs he took of the church. Commissioner Williams said he has a bronze plaque made of the landmarks he proposes signed by Chairman Pell and the [HPC] members. He said he would donate one to the church. Chairman Pell described the pictures of the large overhead doors in the church. Ms. Wray said the doors are a pull-down type. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if the doors are segmented like garage doors, to which the reply was no. He asked if the doors go straight up into the attic, to which the reply was yes. Chairman Pell asked if the north side is the pulpit, to which the reply was yes. He noted the north wall is blank and wondered if it ever had windows, to which the reply was no. Chairman

Pell said the Palladian windows are at the west and east ends of the sanctuary. Vice Chairman Sherman said he could see where the doors could go up into the wall very much like a stage. Chairman Pell said the older windows are in that room. Ms. Wray said there are three windows. Chairman Pell said the windows on either side of the sanctuary were blown out in the past. He said there is a window on display that someone found in the attic. Ms. Wray said it matches the three that are in that room. Ms. Hughes pointed out that was from the old entryway when it was changed. Ms. Wray said the window was framed to be preserved. Chairman Pell asked if there were any other questions. Ms. Wray and Ms. Hughes said no we think you have answered most of them. Staff outlined the two other meetings where this would be discussed prior to a final vote [the Public Health, Solid Waste and Zoning Committee, 6:00 PM, on Thursday 6/16; and, the County Board, 7:00 PM, on Tuesday 7/12]. He said the HPC is a recommending body and that the County Board has the final vote. Ms. Wray asked if it is helpful to have something written from the church. Staff said it would be helpful to have something in the next week or so if the church wishes to submit it. Chairman Pell said if you want to support or oppose the landmarking the person to reach out to would be your County Board member. Staff added the Committee meeting would be the first time the County Board would get more information about the proposed landmarking. Chairman Pell said the HPC is overseen by a committee that decides what goes before the County Board. Vice Chairman Sherman asked if the church could contact their County Board member and let him know that this is coming up. He said he does not see a problem with that. Commissioner Williams asked if the HPC could present a similar plaque to the George Power Courthouse. Chairman Pell said that depends on what the church wants. He said the plaque from Commissioner Williams would be something the church could hang in its multi-purpose room.

Chairman Pell entertained a motion to close the public hearing and resume the regular meeting. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to close the public hearing and to re-convene the regular meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Commissioner Williams made a motion that the [Buffalo Hart Presbyterian] Church be recommended to the County Board for landmark status by the HPC. Staff asked for clarification that Commissioner Williams believes it meets the criteria for designation as a landmark. Commissioner Williams said he definitely feels the church meets the criteria to be a landmark. He said it was the CNN of its day and was an important community communications hub. Commissioner Williams said it further was the most important gathering place in the area. Vice Chairman Sherman seconded the motion and the voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Pell said we would be in contact. Staff said the next meeting date would be the Public Health, Solid Waste and Zoning Committee meeting on Thursday June 16 at 6:00 PM in the County Board's conference room. Everyone thanked Ms. Wray and Ms. Hughes for their comments and attendance.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell asked if before a certain date there would be a discussion of what is going on at the Sangamon County Fair. He said he really appreciated Commissioner Williams' connection to [Pastor] Mary [Jessup] with the church. Chairman Pell said he did not think [the church members'] concerns were great; but he hoped they would be satisfied with the information given at the public hearing. He said it is something to think about to address the pros and cons of landmarking.

**Committee Reports:** Commissioner Jacobson gave the Oldest Farmhouse Committee report. He said the dates of the County Fair are June 15-19. Commissioner Jacobson said the owner of the oldest house found in the search would select the date of the final certificate ceremony. He said the ceremony would likely be sometime between 10 AM and 3 PM, preferably the Thursday or Friday of the Fair. Commissioner Jacobson said a certificate was drafted and that Commissioner Brooks would make adjustments and changes as needed to the plaque text. He said there would be a press release to go out the Monday prior to the Fair as a teaser for the final ceremony. Commissioner Jacobson said the information about the oldest farmhouse would be held back until the day of the presentation. He said it would be up to the oldest farmhouse winner to choose the day. Commissioner Jacobson said they would add Brandt to some of the final literature since they are underwriting the cost of a plaque to give to the winner of the oldest farmhouse. Vice Chairman Sherman asked Chairman Pell if Chairman Pell would print the certificates. Chairman Pell said he would prepare a board to show all the houses highlighted by the one that is chosen as the oldest.

Commissioner Brooks said Farm Bureau and Brandt are both accepting of having the ceremony in their spaces at the County Fair. He said the display could stand in either one of those spaces. Chairman Pell asked for clarification. Commissioner Brooks said the Brandt rep sounded excited about having the farmhouse display near the Brandt display; or, the display could move between the two areas [Farm Bureau and Brandt]. Chairman Pell asked if Brandt has a graphics specialist so the three logos would appear on the final display. He asked if Brandt could put out a certificate, or should the HPC just get it done. Commissioner Brooks said we should just get it done. Vice Chairman Sherman said there should be four signatures on the certificates: [HPC Chairman] Chuck [Pell], the County Board Chair, the Farm Bureau, and Brandt. Chairman Pell said that makes sense but the Committee can decide. Commissioner Brooks said he does not think all the sponsors will care if they sign the certificates or not, especially if the logo is on the certificate. Chairman Pell said my deadline is June 14 because the display will be in someone's booth. He asked if there is a size requirement. Commissioner Jacobson suggested Commissioner Brooks and Chairman Pell keep in consultation on the nature of the space and details about the ceremony. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Brooks was in contact with Brandt or the Fair manager, to which Commissioner Brooks said Brandt. Commissioner Brooks said he would talk to the Fair board chair. He said there should be an easel at the ceremony. Commissioner Brooks, Chairman Pell, and Vice Chairman Sherman discussed potential use of an easel. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Brooks, and Commissioner Jacobson then discussed potential options for the layout of the display. The consensus appeared to be to have several houses with the oldest farmhouse prominently displayed.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Commissioner Jacobson said certificates are an easy solution to recognize County landmarks. He suggested looking at printing certificates one could put in a frame. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Jacobson, and Vice Chairman Sherman discussed a potential certificate for the Lincoln-Van Buren Trail. Chairman Pell said it is a fantastic point and that maybe a Committee should study it. Vice Chairman Sherman said something in a vestibule would be nice. Commissioner Brooks suggested signs similar to the Centennial Farm signs. Vice Chairman Sherman said he thought the signs from the Department of Agriculture were approximately \$100. Commissioner Lathan asked if the discussion was for signs or certificates. Chairman Pell said it is under debate. Commissioner Brooks asked if IDOT could make one, to which several people said no. Commissioner Jacobson asked if the HPC could approach the

County Board to ask for sign money in the budget. Chairman Pell said there was talk of approaching the Finance Committee about using unspent meeting compensation funds in the budget for signs.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None.

**Member Reports:** Vice Chairman Sherman said he is compiling a bibliography of house styles for each of the Commissioners, but had printer difficulties this month.

Commissioner Jacobson asked if there is a handout on house styles. Chairman Pell said there was a series of videos from IHPA on house styles. He asked Anthony Rubano and was told the IHPA is trying to put the videos on their website so people can view them. Chairman Pell said if it were done, he would send the link to everyone.

**Staff Reports:** Staff suggested someone from the HPC attend the Committee meeting on June 16. Chairman Pell said he normally attends the Committee and County Board meetings where landmarks are discussed.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additional Comments:** None.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Brooks made a motion to adjourn the June meeting with Commissioner Schackmann seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:02 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Keenan

\*attended via speakerphone

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**July 6, 2016**

**Members Present:** Chuck Pell, Chairman  
Bob Sherman, Vice Chairman  
Mike Brooks  
Jeanette Goza  
Jerry Jacobson  
Tina Lathan  
James Schackmann

**Members Absent:** Aakash Raut, Dean Williams, Norm Sims

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan

**Call to Order:** A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the June minutes. A motion to approve the June 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 oldest farmhouse event at the Sangamon County Fair. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Brooks discussed media coverage of the event. Some discussion ensued of photos taken by Chairman Pell of the houses and RPC staff of the final event. Additional discussion occurred amongst several Commissioners about potential survey sites. Later, Chairman Pell indicated he would send out letters of appreciation.

**Committee Reports:** Commissioner Jacobson presented the Oldest Farmhouse Committee report. He said the awarded house is likely the oldest farmhouse in Sangamon County. Commissioner Jacobson said it is owned by the Barringer family and is a log cabin covered with siding. He said there were seven recipients at the event with the Barringers receiving a handsome plaque. Commissioner Jacobson listed prominent attendees. He said there was media coverage. Commissioner Goza said approximately 35 people attended. Several Commissioners mentioned the event was a popular draw. Some discussion ensued about a picture taken by RPC staff of the owners. Chairman Pell mentioned an owner was interested in organizing a historic homes tour to raise funds for our organization. Vice Chairman Sherman discussed Mr. Barringer. Commissioner Jacobson said he inadvertently did not notify a few entrants of the event. He reported the Farmhouse Committee then voted to recommend its dissolution to the HPC Chair. Chairman Pell said the event was fun and now the group can think of something else to do.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Jacobson to discuss certificates or plaques for landmarks. Commissioner Jacobson said there was discussion about certificates at a recent meeting. He said they could be an inexpensive way to highlight the County's landmarks. Some discussion ensued amongst Chairman Pell, Commissioner Jacobson, and Commissioner Brooks about additional funding sources. Commissioner Jacobson asked about Centennial Farms signs. Commissioner Brooks said Spinner Plastics indicated they could make signs in the future, if desired. Commissioner Jacobson asked Chairman Pell if there could be a Commissioner who

could look into this item. Chairman Pell said he would take it under advisement and then seek a volunteer(s).

Commissioner Jacobson said there are several sites that could possibly be added to the survey list for Sangamon County.

After considerable discussion, the consensus of the group was:

- Commissioner Lathan will provide townships of County National Register sites.
- Vice Chairman Sherman would try to survey the Barringer, Gisi, and potentially the Gibson properties.
- Commissioner Raut would try to survey the Cotton Hill [Marvin] and Rochester [Ramsey] Township entries.
- Commissioner Goza would try to survey the entries in Cartwright and Gardner Townships as indicated on the farmhouse entry spreadsheet. [Barringer and Gisi may need coordination between Vice Chairman Sherman and Commissioner Goza as they are in Gardner Township.]
- Commissioner Jacobson would try to landmark the Trapp house, owned by the Kilhoffers.

Chairman Pell said the Kilhoffer house has an original part on the south end from the 1850s and that it grew toward [Old Route 36] and became an Italianate house. He said there is a stair in a corner rather than a central stairway. Vice Chairman Sherman said corner stairs that make a turn are indications of an old house. Chairman Pell said the house probably did not look like it currently does until the 1880s. He said the Italianate style was common on the east coast in the 1830s and 1840s, but came later to central Illinois. Chairman Pell said the house is mostly preserved. Commissioner Brooks mentioned a family connection to the property. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Brooks if he has any old family photos of the Kilhoffer residence he has shared with the owners. Commissioner Brooks mentioned there were some photos a sibling found of family members sitting in front of the house in the past. He said family lore mentions the house is a 12-mile house. Chairman Pell said 12-mile houses had food and drink, rest for the horses, and occasionally a room to stay overnight. Commissioner Brooks said it was probably on the [court] circuit that Lincoln rode.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None.

Chairman Pell asked when the County Board meeting is for the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church landmark. Staff said July 12 at 7:00 PM. Chairman Pell said he would attend the Board meeting. Commissioner Jacobson asked about discussion at the [Public Health, Solid Waste, and Zoning] Committee meeting. Chairman Pell said there was a brief discussion and that the Board seemed excited about the landmark. He said he felt it was an easy vote for them.

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Goza said the County Fair event was interesting.

Vice Chairman Sherman said he talked to two families about surveying two sites.

Commissioner Goza asked about establishing an oldest farmhouse tour. Chairman Pell said it has potential, but the logistics could be difficult. Commissioner Brooks suggested a small bus to take people to different sites with each site on the tour open for 30-45 minutes. Chairman Pell said the

media wanted to know what the next search would be. Vice Chairman Sherman said it takes work to write an agenda for a tour and has some cost for the riders, but that it can be fun.

**Staff Reports:** Staff mentioned new website content and there would be some new content added to the landmarks application. He said a new planner would start on July 25 and would likely start staffing the Historic Preservation Commission meetings in September.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additional Comments:** None.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Goza made a motion to adjourn the July meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Keenan

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**August 3, 2016**

**Members Present:** Chuck Pell, Chairman  
Bob Sherman, Vice Chairman  
Mike Brooks  
Jeanette Goza  
Tina Lathan  
Aakash Raut  
James Schackmann  
Norm Sims  
Dean Williams

**Members Absent:** Jerry Jacobson

**Staff Present:** Steve Keenan, Emily Prather

**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 July minutes. Staff read an email with amendments from Commissioner Jacobson. A motion to approve the July minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Schackmann and was seconded by Vice Chairman Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell passed around a thank-you card that he created for the oldest farmhouse project, and he stated that they would be sent. Chairman Pell also encouraged the Commissioners to continue to survey historical properties. Chairman Pell will speak on behalf of the Commission to the King's Daughters Organization in October and give a presentation on the oldest farmhouse project and on county landmarks. Vice Chairman Sherman asked Chairman Pell if the Commissioners could get a copy of the thank-you card.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Commissioner Williams brought a rough draft of the proclamation for Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church and passed it around for the Commissioners to review. Commissioner Goza stated she would retype the new proclamation adding the Commissioners' names, Historic Preservation Commission logo, and all other necessary changes and then send it to staff to distribute to the Commission for final review before the proclamation is presented to Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Lathan handed out copies of a spreadsheet she created with a list of 22 sites in the County that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and also included the township information and notes on the site. Vice Chairman Sherman asked why the Carpenter's Mill was not included on the spreadsheet Commissioner Lathan created. Chairman Pell stated it might not be listed on the National Register so it would not be included on the list

and Vice Chairman Sherman stated then it should be included on the Commission's list. Commissioner Lathan stated the list she created was based on a list that was provided to her by staff for sites that are located in the unincorporated area and does not include National Register sites in Springfield.

Commissioner Brooks brought up the Bolivia Road Bridge. Chairman Pell stated it currently has not been landmarked but he believes a survey was completed. Commissioner Brooks noted the bridge is supposedly one of the oldest steel truss bridges in the state but it is marked for demolition and currently is closed. Vice Chairman Sherman, Commissioner Brooks, Chairman Pell, and Commissioner Sims discussed (conceptually) relocating the bridge, incorporating it in a bike trail either for the Sangamon Valley Trail or Sherman, whether to landmark it or not, the lack of state funding and other funding sources to either preserve it or move it, and the amount of work to move the bridge since it is over 100 feet long. Commissioner Sims stated there are at least two key problems: 1) finding funding for moving the bridge and making it structurally sound and 2) finding someone who wants to take it. Vice Chairman Sherman stated he believed Commissioner Jacobson asked Landmarks Illinois to place the bridge on its "10 Most Endangered" in Illinois. Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Sims, Vice Chairman Sherman, and Chairman Pell also discussed other historic bridges in the County that the Commission might need to identify.

Vice Chairman Sherman reported that he is working with three of the people that submitted their farms in the oldest farmhouse search to finish surveys.

Commissioner Brooks reported he took Bob Ramsey his certificate. Chairman Pell asked what was done with the Harrison Farmhouse and who received the certificate. Staff mentioned the owner was mailed a certificate and the submitter was believed to be at the event. Commissioner Brooks and Chairman Pell had a discussion on a farmhouse located near the Ramsey house as to whether that farmhouse is historic (or new construction to appear historic); Commissioner Brooks will investigate.

Commissioner Schackmann had a question about the Sugar Creek Bridge and it being deemed a landmark and who actually owns the bridge. Commissioner Schackmann will try and figure out ownership if it is Chatham and staff will check if a survey has been completed.

Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Sims, and Chairman Pell discussed the Bolivia Road Bridge. The discussion included the estimated \$250,000 cost to move and reassemble the bridge, figuring out where the bridge would go, and applying for grants after the future location is known. The discussion also included why a new bridge would not be built next to the current bridge. Chairman Pell stated it might be feasible to move the new bridge, because it would require buying people's property, evaluating parts of the environment that are affected, and completing additional studies. Chairman Pell stated it would be a good idea to start thinking about where this bridge could be relocated in Sangamon County and get a plan in place for that time when money becomes available. Commissioner Brooks stated he would reach out to Tim Zahn to ask him for the status on the bridge and then would report back to the Commission.

**Staff Reports:** Staff introduced new staff member Emily Prather who will be working with the Historic Preservation Commission going forward. Staff also informed the Commission of a potential guest speaker in regards to the Kilhoffer house who wanted to know the pros and cons for landmarking at the September meeting.

**Public Comment:** None

**Additional Comments:** None

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Schackmann 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 4:50 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**September 7, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** Bob Sherman, Norm Sims, Mike Brooks

**Staff Present:** Emily Prather

**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 August minutes. Commissioner Jacobson wanted to recognize in the official minutes those distinguished guests that attended the Oldest Farmhouse Event at the Sangamon County Fair including but not limited to: Senator McCann, County Board Members Tom Fraase and Lori Williams, and Farm Bureau dignitaries Jim Birge and Larry Beaty. A motion to approve the August minutes was made by Commissioner Schackmann and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the July Oldest Farmhouse Committee minutes since the Committee had dissolved. A motion to approve the July minutes was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Raut. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell reported he has been out in his townships looking for potential survey candidates and encouraged the Commissioners to go out to their assigned townships and perform surveys. Chairman Pell reported Commissioner Brooks is performing surveys for two farmhouses in Cooper Township that may be 19<sup>th</sup> century structures, so the Commissioner assigned to Cooper Township will know not to complete surveys for those two farmhouses. Chairman Pell stated now that the Oldest Farmhouse project is complete; it is time for the Commission to think about a new project. Chairman Pell provided an example that school houses could be a building type the Commission could review in the future.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Old Business:** Commissioner Jacobson brought up that the Commission will need to convert the oldest farmhouse entries into surveys. Commissioner Jacobson stated the farmhouse entries would be surveyed by the Commissioner assigned to the township where the farmhouse is located. Chairman Pell stated the information gathered during the farmhouse search will need to be distributed to the whole Commission since not everyone was on the Farmhouse Committee. Commissioner Jacobson stated he has hard copies of all of the entries and believes Staff Member Keenan kept electronic copies. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Jacobson, and Commissioner Goza discussed that over half the entries were in Commissioner Goza's townships so Commissioner Goza may need some help in order to complete all the surveys. Commissioner Raut referenced the July HPC minutes stating the

Commission delegated which Commissioner would survey each farmhouse entry. Chairman Pell stated the process for these farmhouse entries would be to first complete a survey of the farmhouse entry and then determine if the farmhouse would be a candidate to landmark, and if so contact the owners to discuss the process of landmarking to determine if they would be interested. Commissioner Jacobson stated the Trapp house, owned by the Kilhoffers, is not interested in landmarking. Commissioner Jacobson has a handout on landmarking and was going to e-mail the handout to Chairman Pell for the Commission's reference.

**New Business:** Commissioner Jacobson had found an idea for a barn calendar from Kane County and wanted to bring a discussion before the Commission to determine if the Commission would like to create a similar calendar for Sangamon County. Commissioner Jacobson stated the calendar could feature twelve historic barns and include a written description for the history of the barn. Chairman Pell stated the Commission could try and find twelve different photographers to do pro bono work to help create the calendar. Commissioner Jacobson stated the Commission could ask the townships to submit pictures of barns that the Commission could then narrow down to twelve barns for the calendar. Commissioner Jacobson stated he has a call into Capitol Blue Print to provide an estimate for how much printing 100 copies or 500 copies of the calendar would cost. Chairman Pell suggested the Commission could try and find sponsors to pay for a calendar. Staff reported Commissioner Sherman stated he has some pictures of barns from around the county and would be able to provide some information at the October meeting.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Schackmann had brought up the Sugar Creek Covered Bridge during last month's meeting and gave a follow up report that a survey had been completed for the bridge on November 2011. The bridge is located in Chatham Township. The owner of the bridge is the Village of Chatham and Ball Township.

Commissioner Raut reported he was going to be completing a survey for the Marvin Farmhouse in Cotton Hill Township, but he has never completed a survey before and wanted to know the best way to complete one. Chairman Pell stated Commissioner Raut could take all the important information from the farmhouse entry and transfer it to a survey form.

Commissioner Goza presented the Commission with copies of the updated proclamation for the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church. Commissioner Goza received some changes that would need to be made to the proclamation and Staff will provide her with the date the County Board declared the church a landmark, and then she will e-mail the final draft to Commissioner Williams.

**Staff Reports:** Staff handed out an updated Commissioner Contact list and an updated Sangamon County Landmarks list.

**Public Comment:** None

**Additional Comments:** None

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Goza made a motion to adjourn the September meeting with Commissioner Schackmann seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:52 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**October 5, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** Bob Sherman, James Schackmann

**Staff Present:** Emily Prather

**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 September minutes. A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Brooks. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell reported he prepared and gave a presentation for the King's Daughters Organization on October 4<sup>th</sup> about the HPC, the seven Sangamon County Landmarks, and the Oldest Farmhouse Project. Chairman Pell stated the presentation that he prepared could be improved and presented to various other groups to tell people about the HPC. Commissioner Sims stated many social and fraternal organizations are always looking for speakers, and presenting to other groups helps build a constituency for historic preservation and our work in general.

Chairman Pell reported during his report last meeting that Commissioner Brooks was performing surveys for two farmhouses in Cooper Township and asked Commissioner Brooks for an update. Commissioner Brooks stated he has identified three houses that he is completing surveys for and conducting research on that are all near his house on Roby Road south of Mechanicsburg. One house was previously the Bell Fountain Schoolhouse back in the 1800s and was remodeled into a residence. Just across the road is a single story house that may have been built around the 1890s; the current owner noticed dates marked on boards in the attic of the house while completing a remodel. Just south of those houses is an older two story house that Commissioner Brooks heard may have the potential for being built around the 1850s. Staff was able to show these houses on Google Maps and the Sangamon County Parcel Viewer. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Jacobson, and Commissioner Sims discussed these three houses and the potential of them being historic.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Old Business:** Sangamon County Barn Calendar: Commissioner Jacobson reported there are approximately 1,000 farms in Sangamon County and he received an estimate from Capitol Blue Print that printing 1,000 calendars would cost \$2,900. Commissioner Jacobson stated Kane County told him they were funded through a grant provided by a local river boat casino. Commissioner Jacobson, Commissioner Brooks, and Chairman Pell discussed whether the calendar would be distributed to Farm Bureau members. Chairman Pell stated the Commission may have to determine if they would like to give

a certain number of calendars away depending on who would be the sponsor(s) and then sell the balance of the calendars that would be printed. Chairman Pell stated if a committee is formed they would also have to determine if one photographer would take all the pictures or if multiple photographers would be utilized. Commissioner Brooks brought to the Commission's attention that not many people buy calendars anymore, and it may be more beneficial to create a Barns of Sangamon County book that could be sold for multiple years versus a calendar which could only be sold in the last half of 2017 and start of 2018. Chairman Pell suggested getting some feedback from the Farm Bureau and others as to whether a calendar would be of any interest. Chairman Pell stated before the next meeting Commission members interested in this project should step forward to be a part of a committee.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys: Commissioner Lathan stated she was going to help Commissioner Goza by completing surveys for the farmhouses at 931 Wake Road and 1981 Yankee Town Road. Commissioner Goza would work on completing surveys for the other three farmhouses in her townships. Commissioner Jacobson already had completed a survey for the Kilhoffer farmhouse. Commissioner Raut reported he would work on the two farmhouse surveys in his townships.

Bolivia Road Bridge: Commissioner Jacobson asked Commissioner Brooks for a follow-up if he had contacted Tim Zahn about the Bolivia Road Bridge. Commissioner Brooks stated he had not had time to meet with Tim Zahn. Commissioner Jacobson had stated it was his understanding that no funding is currently available to build a new bridge or to move the bridge to a different location. Commissioner Sims confirmed that so far no funding is available to replace the bridge and no one has expressed interest in taking the bridge and no funding has been made available to move it.

**New Business:** Commissioner Jacobson brought to the attention of the Commission that the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions is accepting nominations for the 2016 Illinois Commission Excellence Award, and with the completion of the Oldest Farmhouse Project; it would be a great time to nominate the Commission for this award. Chairman Pell stated he would submit a nomination by the October 15, 2016 deadline.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Williams presented a completed version of the proclamation for the Buffalo Heart Presbyterian Church Landmark completed by Commissioner Goza. Commissioner Williams wanted to know when would be the best time to present this proclamation to the church. Chairman Pell stated to let the church pick a Sunday and as many Commission members that are available will attend to present the church with the proclamation.

**Staff Reports:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Additional Comments:** Commissioner Jacobson asked if anyone knew who took Catherine O'Connor's position for outreach at IHPA and no one knew for sure.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Goza 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 4:54 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather  
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**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**November 2, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** Mike Brooks & Norm Sims

**Staff Present:** Emily Prather

**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 October minutes. A motion to approve the October minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Goza. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell reported to the Commission that he submitted an application to Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC) for the 2016 Illinois Commission Excellence Award nominating the Oldest Farmhouse Project. Chairman Pell had contacted the President of IAHPC, Douglas Kaarre, about when the award winners will be announced but has not received a response. Chairman Pell also reported as a follow-up from last month's meeting that he heard instead of someone taking Catherine O'Connor's position at IHPA that Rachel Leibowitz has absorbed most of Catherine's duties. Chairman Pell recognized guests of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting, Pastor Mary Jessup and Janice Wray with the Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church, and Commissioner Williams read the official proclamation for landmarking Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church. Chairman Pell officially presented the proclamation to Pastor Mary Jessup and Janice Wray.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Old Business:** Sangamon County Barn Calendar: Chairman Pell summarized the discussion from last month's meeting about whether the Commission would like to create a barn calendar or create a barn book since calendars are becoming obsolete. Commissioner Jacobson reported he has asked Commissioner Brooks to contact Brandt and Sangamon County Farm Bureau about helping finance a calendar or a project like this. Vice Chairman Sherman reported he has previously taken pictures of various barns throughout the county, and he also brought two barn calendar examples for the Commission to go through during the meeting. Chairman Pell stated a committee would need to be formed to get this project moving forward or determine if this is a project the Commission would want to tackle.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys: Commissioner Lathan reported she had taken the information from the farmhouse applications and wrote up surveys for the farmhouses on 931 Wake Road and 1981 Yankee Town Road. Commissioner Lathan will type up the surveys she has completed and

send them to Staff. Commissioner Goza, Commissioner Raut, and Vice Chairman Sherman will all continue to work on surveys for the farmhouses they were assigned.

**New Business:** Staff prepared the notice of 2017 meeting dates for the Commission to review and approve. Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the notice of 2017 meeting dates. A motion to approve the notice of 2017 meeting dates was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Vice Chairman Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Goza asked what the Commission thought about the railroad excavation near 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Madison Street in Springfield. Chairman Pell stated it would not be in the County's jurisdiction, but believes the City would be going through the proper process for completing the excavation. Vice Chairman Sherman mentioned that Floyd Mansberger with Fever River Research has conducted presentations on this site if anyone is interested in more information.

Commissioner Jacobson reported the Dendrochronologist would be contacting the various Oldest Farmhouse owners to see if anyone would like him to collect core samples of tree ring data to determine dates when the various farmhouses were built.

Vice Chairman Sherman will work on the three farmhouse surveys. Vice Chairman Sherman also reported that the ownership issues with the two cemeteries of Sulfur Springs and Campbell still exist.

Commissioner Schackmann reported he will be posting the photos from the landmark proclamation for Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church on Facebook.

**Staff Reports:** Staff reported to the Commission that a zoning petition has been filed for the Caldwell Farmstead located between Springfield and Chatham along State Route 4 to have a bed and breakfast in the mansion and the residence connected to the bed and breakfast, and tavern with banquet hall in the barn on the property.

**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 November meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission**  
**December 7, 2016**

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

**Members Absent:** Bob Sherman, Vice Chairman

**Staff Present:** Emily Prather

**Call to Order:** A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.

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

**Chairman's Report/Comments:** Chairman Pell reported to the Commission that the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC) is holding their annual meeting on December 10, 2016, and the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission will be honored with an award for the Pre-Civil War Farmhouse Search project, and Chairman Pell will conduct a small presentation about the Farmhouse project and the Commission. Chairman Pell introduced a guest, Lauren Gibson, who is the Springfield Historic Sites Commission Coordinator, and she was considering attending the IAHPC's Annual Meeting.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Old Business:** Sangamon County Barn Calendar: Chairman Pell discussed the barn calendar/book idea. Commissioner Brooks reported that he has not been able to get in touch with Karl Barnhart with Brandt about providing funding, and stated the Farm Bureau would most likely be able to provide office time and marketing help to promote the calendar/book. Commissioner Brooks stated the Commission could also approach FS since they work with the Farm Bureau. Chairman Pell asked if FS or Brandt already give out calendars to their customers, and Commissioner Brooks stated he believed they do give out calendars already which could be a conflict. Commissioner Brooks stated he has looked into the cost of creating an e-book and also wanted to note that printing paperback books are cheaper than hard cover. Chairman Pell stated that the Commission has discussed several times that calendars are not as popular as what they used to be so the Commission may have better luck creating a Sangamon County Barn Guide. Commissioner Sims stated if the Commission would be looking to create a book, it may be beneficial to see if IHPA (Illinois Historic Preservation Agency) or even the Illinois Department of Agriculture has any grants available for creating something like this. Commissioner Brooks stated that a book could be created by anyone with a computer with Publisher or InDesign, and maybe a student group could take on the task of helping create a barn book. Commissioner Williams would be happy to reach out to other photographers

to take pictures of the various barns that would be featured in the book. Commissioner Brooks and Chairman Pell stated a press release could also be created asking for photo entries of barns in Sangamon County since there are a lot of freelance photographers out there. A general consensus was reached by the Commission that a press release to obtain photos would be a great idea, so Commissioner Brooks was going to work on drafting a press release before the next Commission meeting. The Commission will work on the Sangamon County Barn Book within the regular Commission meeting and will not create a special committee for this task.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys: Commissioner Raut submitted a survey for the Galloway-Marvin Farmhouse.

Commissioner Goza has been working on a Farmhouse Survey and will send it to Chairman Pell and staff when she has it completed.

**New Business:** Commissioner Jacobson asked about whether the Commission should put out a press release about receiving the IAHPC Award. Chairman Pell stated he would check with Doug Kaarre if the IAHPC is already sending out a press release, and if they are not then the Commission could create one.

**Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications:** None

**Member Reports:** Commissioner Jacobson stated he is looking at the Churchill Cemetery in Clearlake Township and determining if it would be worthy of landmarking.

Commissioner Raut has completed one farmhouse survey and is going to be working on completing the other survey but wanted guidance since the other farmhouse entry did not provide a lot of detail.

Commissioner Schackmann stated he would not be able to attend the IAHPC's Annual Meeting, but any Commissioner that is attending can send him photos so he can post them onto the Commission's Facebook page.

Commissioner Brooks is working on completing surveys for the three farmhouses that were discussed in a previous meeting.

**Staff Reports:** Staff reported to the Commission that the zoning petition for the Caldwell Mansion that was discussed during last month's meeting will go before the Sangamon County Board on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. The zoning petition states the plan is to operate a bed and breakfast in the mansion and the single-family residence and have a tavern with a banquet hall in the barn on the property.

**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 Brooks seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather