

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
January 4, 2017

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

Commissioner Schackmann made a motion to appoint Commissioner Jacobson as temporary Chairman until Chairman Pell would arrive. Commissioner Lathan seconded the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Temporary Chairman Jacobson called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Temporary Chairman Jacobson entertained a motion to approve the amended December minutes. A motion to approve the amended December minutes was made by Commissioner Goza and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Temporary Chairman Jacobson discussed the barn book idea. Commissioner Brooks stated he still needs to draft up the press release for obtaining photographs of barns in Sangamon County. Commissioner Brooks stated that when photographs get submitted, the Commission should also look at some of these barns to determine if they would be worthy of completing a survey and potentially landmarking. Staff reported from the compiled list of surveys completed to date there are a couple surveys submitted just for barns, but there were also some submitted for the entire farmstead. Commissioner Brooks stated the (Sangamon County) Farm Bureau did not know of any records that existed documenting barns in Sangamon County. Chairman Pell (who arrived during the discussion) stated the Sangamon Valley Collection may have records kept on some barns in Sangamon County and that could be a resource for the Commission. Commissioner Brooks stated seed salesmen could be a good resource for identifying various barns in Sangamon County since they travel to various farms. Commissioner Jacobson stated Commissioner Sherman would be an excellent person to spearhead this project to keep everyone on track with what needs to be done each month in between meeting times. The Commission agreed the next step would be getting the press release written and sent out to start receiving submissions of pictures of barns.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell reported that on December 10th Commissioner Lathan, Commissioner Williams, and he attended the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC) Annual Meeting in Joliet and accepted an award for Commission Excellence. Chairman Pell

also gave a presentation at the annual meeting about the Pre-Civil War Farmhouse Search project and talked about the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission in general. Chairman Pell stated people were impressed with the media coverage the project had received. Commissioner Jacobson asked Chairman Pell if a press release was sent out by the IAHP and Chairman Pell stated a press release was not sent out by them, but that Chairman Pell was waiting on a quote from Doug Kaarre before he would send out a press release.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Schackmann reported he posted the photos on Facebook from the IAHP Annual Meeting.

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

Commissioner Raut reported he is still working on getting a survey filled out for the Ramsey Farmhouse.

Commissioner Williams reported he is writing a grant application to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) for a CLG grant that will be due January 31st. The grant will be for creating a video documenting various sites throughout the county that can be used in films and what would be required in order to film in some of these places. Commissioner Williams reported a grant application was previously submitted three years ago for this project but was not funded.

Commissioner Goza reported she has been working on the Stone Farmhouse survey and might try to obtain more information on the farmhouse, because it was stated in the farmhouse application that it was a part of the Underground Railroad. Chairman Pell stated this could be another topic for the Commission to take on by finding all the properties that were once a part of the Underground Railroad. It was mentioned that Terry Ransom, a local researcher on the history of the Underground Railroad, would be a good resource to find other properties in the County.

Commissioner Jacobson is working on the first draft of the landmark application for Churchill Cemetery.

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 January meeting with Commissioner Goza seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:04 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
February 1, 2017

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

Members Absent: Jeanette Goza, Tina Lathan, James Schackmann

Staff Present: Emily Prather

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

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

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell brought the Commission Excellence award which the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission was presented by the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (IAHPC) during their annual meeting in December. Chairman Pell also stated that the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) would be providing reimbursement for the mileage to attend that meeting, and he would be submitting the form requesting reimbursement of \$348.82 for the two vehicles that drove up to Joliet, IL. Chairman Pell stated he worked with Commissioner Brooks to get a press release sent out about the Commission being honored with the Commission Excellence award. Chairman Pell also worked with Commissioner Brooks to send out a press release asking for photographs of historic barns within Sangamon County.

Chairman Pell reported to the Commission that on Tuesday, January 31st, he submitted two CLG grant applications with IHPA. The first grant was a resubmission of a previously applied for grant where Dean would create a video showing the various places within the county the film industry could utilize. That project was requesting approximately \$38,000 in grant funding. The second grant was in regards to the barn e-book project the Commission is working on. Chairman Pell stated if this grant was funded the money could go towards a professional photographer to take pictures of all the barns. One photographer Chairman Pell talked with has done 3D photography that could be utilized if the Commission would want to photograph the inside of some of the historic barns and include them in an e-book. If either grant would be funded, IHPA would pay 70% of the project costs with the other 30% being paid for by the Commission through in kind commission "man-power." Chairman Pell stated that for the future the Commission might want to think about scaled back projects since the state only has so much grant money to spread around the various CLG (Certified Local Government) communities that apply. The Commission congratulated Commissioner Sims on being awarded the Wally Henderson Lifetime Achievement Award by DSI at their annual dinner.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Commissioner Brooks brought in a Champaign County Barn Book for the Commission to look through as an example. Commissioner Sims stated the University of Illinois Press may be a resource and could be interested in co-venturing in a project like this. Commissioner Brooks stated this project could also be used to create a content bank of images that could be used by other groups to be included in their publications. Chairman

Pell stated the Commission needs to figure out the next steps that need to be taken since the press release has been sent out. Chairman Pell stated the Commission will be looking to Commissioner Sherman for some leadership since he is the expert on barns. Commissioner Brooks stated the Commission should also reach out to the various media outlets like Mr. Steve Bridge and his farm program with Neuhoff Media (1450 am, etc.) to see if they would be interested in running a story about the project. Commissioner Sherman stated the schools within the county with agriculture programs could be a good resource along with local FFA chapters, 4-H clubs, and the Scouts. Commissioner Sherman will contact the schools with FFA programs and the 4-H clubs to get student volunteers. Commissioner Brooks will work on securing a location or locations of barns where on-site press releases could occur. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Sherman, and Commission Brooks discussed that the National Barn Alliance has a barn that can be taken apart and reassembled which could be a good class activity if Commissioner Sherman could get it to come to Sangamon County.

The Commission received updates about converting the Oldest Farmhouse applications to survey forms from those in attendance. Commissioner Raut had completed one survey and was still working on his second survey for the Ramsey Farmhouse. Commissioner Goza was not in attendance but sent a report that she was working on her farmhouse surveys and also had contacted Terry Ransom who is an expert on properties used for the Underground Railroad and he would be getting Commissioner Goza information on those that are located within Sangamon County. Commissioner Sherman reported he has completed two surveys and still has the Gibson Farmhouse left to complete.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: Commissioner Jacobson stated he has worked with Clear Lake Township to complete a landmark application for Churchill Cemetery which has forty-four recorded gravestones. Commissioner Jacobson stated a lot of the information came from Patricia Curry and all the gravestones are from the 19th century with the earliest marker being from the 1830s and latest gravestone being from the 1890s. Commissioner Jacobson stated the Churchill Cemetery could be one of the oldest cemeteries in Clear Lake Township. Thomas Runyon, who is Clear Lake Township Supervisor, officially sent in the landmark application. Commissioner Sims stated the landmark application would have to have the official legal description for the property before the Commission can proceed.

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

Commissioner Sims reported to the Commission that the County will be updating the County Comprehensive Plan at some point and would like the Historic Preservation Commission to write the short history portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

Staff Reports: Staff reported that the Sangamon County Farm Bureau would be celebrating their 100 year anniversary in December 2018, so the Commission could capitalize on that with the Barn Book Project.

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sherman made a motion to adjourn the February meeting with Commissioner Brooks seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
March 1, 2017

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

Members Absent: Mike Brooks

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 February minutes. A motion to approve the February minutes was made by Commissioner Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Goza. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell stated that he completed the initial report for the landmark application for the Churchill Cemetery in Clear Lake Township. Chairman Pell encouraged all the Commissioners to go out to their assigned townships and conduct surveys. Chairman Pell reported that Commissioner Schackmann has been working to get the Historic Preservation Commission's social media presence known, and the Facebook page has recently received 41 new likes since the last meeting.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Laura Knox, a local photographer, attended the meeting after learning about the commission's search for barns and presented barn photographs that she has captured throughout Sangamon County that the Commission could use in the barn book. Commissioner Jacobson stated it would be nice to compensate photographers like Laura for the photographs they take that could be included in the barn book. Chairman Pell stated the Commission does not have any funding in order to pay photographers for their photos, but they would get credit for taking the pictures in the barn book. Commissioner Sims stated if the Commission completes an e-book, a link could be added to all photographs submitted detailing where someone could go to get a copy of a print of the photograph. Staff indicated that currently with Laura's contributions there have been five other barns within the county that have been submitted. Staff has received several calls and e-mails inquiring about the Barn Book Project. Chairman Pell stated that currently the Barn Book Project has been featured in the Illinois Times and in two radio spots with Capitol Radio Group (WTAX) and Neuhoff Media (1450 AM). Commissioner Schackmann stated these radio spots and the article from the Illinois Times should be added to the Commissioner's Facebook page. Chairman Pell stated the next step could be to reach out to the Farm Bureau, Brandt, FS or other groups with a formal proposal asking for

funding to help finance this project. Commissioner Sherman stated including older barns that are no longer standing could also be an important part to the e-book for documenting the history of Sangamon County. Chairman Pell stated the Commission should compile a list of addresses for all the barns the Commission has received photographs or information. Commissioner Sherman stated each Commissioner could go out to their specific assigned townships to not only complete surveys but also photograph barns in the townships. Commissioner Lathan asked Chairman Pell if he had an update on the grant submission and when the Commission would know if they had received funding for the Barn Book Project or the other project. Chairman Pell stated that he was not sure when they would announce the grant recipients. Chairman Pell did say the Commission should consider asking for smaller funding amounts since there is limited grant dollars available.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys Follow-Up: Commissioner Goza stated she has one farmhouse survey completed but has not submitted it yet and has rough drafts for the other two farmhouse surveys she was assigned.

Commissioner Raut reported he has completed and submitted one of his farmhouse surveys and is working on completing the second survey.

Commissioner Sherman reported he has completed and submitted two of his farmhouse surveys and is working on completing the third survey. Commissioner Sherman also made the comment that for the Barn Book Project, the Commission should look at including grain elevators in the book.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: Chairman Pell introduced the Churchill Cemetery in Clear Lake Township as being the eighth landmark application to come before the Commission. Chairman Pell prepared a report acknowledging the cemetery as a good candidate for landmarking within Sangamon County. Chairman Pell stated if the Commission were to move forward with the landmarking process, the next step would be to hold a public hearing and then if recommended it would move forward to the County Board for them to approve (or not) the landmark. Commissioner Jacobson stated he is planning to provide the color images of the pictures taken of the cemetery to staff since the faxed version of the application is very hard to see. Commissioner Jacobson also noted he was unable to obtain an official legal description for the property. Staff concluded that the parcel identification number would be sufficient for the notice that will need to go out in the absence of the legal description.

Chairman Pell entertained a motion to accept the landmark application for the Churchill Cemetery. Commissioner Jacobson made a motion to recommend that the Churchill Cemetery be considered for landmark status, accept the initial report, and set the official public hearing for the landmarking of Churchill Cemetery to occur during the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting scheduled for April 5, 2017, at 4:00 PM in the Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission Conference Room, Room 212. Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Member Reports: Commissioner Schackmann reported that he will find the story from the Illinois Times on the Barn Book Project and post it on the Historic Preservation Commission's Facebook page to try and get more interest.

Commissioner Sherman reported that he went out to the George Kennedy property and took several photographs of the barn on his property.

Commissioner Sims added to the earlier conversation in regards to the grants that back in 2013 IHPA had a total of \$124,500 in funding available and most grants that were awarded that year averaged \$5,000-\$7,000 with only thirteen awarded. Commissioner Sims stated it would be in the best interest of the Commission to submit grant applications asking for less funding to have a better chance of being selected.

Commissioner Jacobson asked the Commission if anyone has ever had a problem with Street view in Google Maps with the image being distorted. It was determined after illustrating how Google Maps works on the monitor in the room that either Commissioner Jacobson was zoomed in too much or his computer was unable to process the Google Street view images.

Staff Reports: Staff created a webpage on the Historic Preservation Commission's website specifically for the Historic Barn Project.

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: Commissioner Sims stated it may be beneficial for a Commission member to attend the Regional Leadership Council meetings where all the mayors and village presidents meet quarterly.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Schackmann made a motion to adjourn the March meeting with Commissioner Williams seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:22 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
April 5, 2017

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

Members Absent: Aakash Raut

Staff Present: Emily Prather * Attendance by phone

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

Chairman Pell explained that Commissioner Brooks wished to attend the Historic Preservation Commission meeting via speakerphone due to employment purposes. A motion to allow Commissioner Brooks to attend the meeting via speakerphone was made by Commissioner Schackmann and was seconded by Commissioner Sherman. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

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

Public Hearing: Chairman Pell introduced the public hearing for the Churchill Cemetery. He entertained a motion to recess the regular meeting and to open the public hearing. Commissioner Goza made a motion to recess the regular meeting and to open the public hearing and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Pell stated the public hearing is a time for the public to voice their opinion on a landmark application and that prior to the public hearing adjacent property owners were notified via certified mail about the proposed landmark designation for the Churchill Cemetery and this public hearing. Staff stated that two individuals came in the day before this meeting to provide the Commission with some additional information on the cemetery. They submitted an old newspaper article about the cemetery from 1974 and an old gravestone map of the cemetery depicting where individuals were buried. Staff stated the gentleman was a descendant of the Churchill family and he believed that the oldest grave site was older than the 1835 one listed in the application. Commissioner Jacobson stated these new items should be attached to the official landmark application. The woman had asked staff when the name of the cemetery was changed to Churchill Cemetery because she was never aware that the name was ever changed from Bissell Cemetery. Commissioner Goza and Commissioner Lathan asked if the additional names the cemetery has been known by would need to be referenced going forward. Commissioner Sims stated the landmark application references the other names that have been used for the cemetery like Bissell Cemetery and German Prairie Cemetery and that moving forward the

Commission could keep the Churchill Cemetery name as submitted. Chairman Pell stated there was no one from the public in attendance for the public hearing.

Chairman Pell entertained a motion to close the public hearing and resume the regular meeting. Commissioner Goza made a motion to close the public hearing and to reconvene the regular meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Williams. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Commissioner Jacobson made a motion that the Churchill Cemetery be recommended to the County Board for landmark status by the HPC and that the two pieces of information submitted to the Commission the day before this meeting be attached to the landmark application. Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion and the voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Staff stated the next meeting date would be the Public Health, Solid Waste, and Zoning Committee meeting on Thursday, April 20th at 6:00 PM in the County Board's conference room. After that meeting, the Churchill Cemetery landmark designation request would go before the County Board at their May 9, 2017 meeting for final decision.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell encouraged all the Commissioners to go out and complete surveys. Chairman Pell brought to the attention of the Commission that the 100th anniversary of the U.S. entry into World War I is this year and Landmarks Illinois is providing grant money to help restore aging WWI monuments and memorials around the state. Chairman Pell stated Frank Butterfield is the Director of the Springfield office for Landmarks Illinois if anyone had specific questions regarding Landmarks Illinois' program.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell started off by saying he was unsure when the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) would announce the recipients of the grants. Chairman Pell stated the Commission will look toward Commissioner Schackmann to reach more people for the project through Facebook and to Commissioner Brooks to reach more people through other media outlets. Commissioner Brooks stated it would be a good idea to get the information out again. Commissioner Brooks stated the press release for barn photographs should be sent out in the Farm Bureau's Sangamo Farmer newsletter. Commissioner Jacobson asked if Commissioner Brooks had heard from Brandt or any other potential funding sources, and Commissioner Brooks stated he had not been able to reach anyone. Commissioner Jacobson stated that several months have gone by and several photographs have been submitted and believes the Commission needs to move forward with this project. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Schackmann, Commissioner Goza, and Commissioner Brooks discussed that before the project can move forward the Commission needs to determine the cost for creating an e-book. Commissioner Goza was going to conduct some research as to how much putting together an e-book would cost. Chairman Pell stated the Commission would need someone with Adobe InDesign experience or experience with a program similar to that in order to assemble the book. Commissioner Sims state the Commission needs to know the form and nature for the book.

Chairman Pell reminded the Commission that it was decided the Barn Book Project would be worked on as a committee of the whole versus breaking out into a smaller committee. Chairman Pell stated that the Commission could break up into a smaller committee if that is what the Commission would want to do. Commissioner Sherman stated he believed a friend of his,

Wayne Price, had previously completed a three volume inventory of barns within Sangamon County, and Wayne has since passed away and Commissioner Sherman is trying to locate where it is or if it still exists. Commissioner Jacobson suggested Chairman Pell assign duties to various Commissioners so the project can continue to progress forward. Chairman Pell stated Commissioner Brooks could pitch the barn book idea to the various groups we would like to seek funding from. Commissioner Brooks stated it would be more beneficial if the Commission was able to present the idea with accurate cost estimates for completing this project so the groups would know how much the Commission would need to complete this project. Commissioner Brooks stated the Commission needs to figure out also what type of book the Commission would like to create whether it is a census of all the barns in Sangamon County or just example pictures of the types of barns someone could find in Sangamon County. Commissioner Brooks suggested the Commission could also use the media in order to search for someone who would be interested in creating the book for the Commission. Commissioner Sims drew a diagram for the Commission that was a good-fast-cheap paradigm in which for the project the Commission would only be able to achieve two of those and not all three, so the Commission would need to prioritize. Commissioner Williams made a motion to have Chairman Pell assign people duties or establish a committee and report back with progress at the next meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Goza. Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Schackmann, and Commissioner Goza discussed that it is hard to establish a separate committee that would meet prior to the regularly scheduled Historic Preservation Commission meeting time. The voice vote to approve was unanimous. Chairman Pell stated he would work on establishing a committee and assign tasks to get items completed for the barn book project.

Commissioner Schackmann shared an idea that the Commission take one photograph each month and provide a write-up about the barn and post it on Facebook and then each post can be compiled into an e-book. Commissioner Sherman worried about the control the Commission will have over the information that gets posted on Facebook. Commissioner Schackmann explained that he has set certain settings on the Facebook account that will not let anyone change the information the Commission posts and will not let anyone post inappropriate comments to the Facebook page. Commissioner Schackmann stated by posting the information on Facebook, the Commission could share the information to get more of a buzz going about the project.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys Follow-Up: No update was given.

New Business: Commissioner Jacobson stated he is going to be working on converting National Register sites into completed surveys and potentially landmark applications for the Commission and currently has completed a survey for the Flagg Farmhouse. Commissioner Jacobson asked how the best way to contact the owners of property that the Commission would wish to landmark since owner consent is required. Commissioner Sims stated unless the owner is known personally sending the owner a letter providing them information on the landmarking process for the county would be the best way. Chairman Pell stated those sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places do not require owner consent to be designated as a National Site, but the owner is allowed to make changes to the property and if the changes remove the historic features, the historic status may get pulled for the site.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Sherman stated that from April 20-22 the Illinois State Historical Society is having their Illinois History Symposium and he is planning on attending the event and trying to reactivate the Illinois Barn Alliance group.

Commissioner Sims reported that a bill was passed in the House to separate the Presidential Library and Museum from IAHPA and the IAHPA will be moved within IDNR. The hope would be that Union Square Park would be open for public use with this change taking place.

Commissioner Brooks reported that he has submitted three survey forms for the farmhouses he has previously discussed during prior meetings. He still needs to provide pictures for two of them but was able to get pictures of the old plat books where the houses are located.

Staff Reports: Staff reported that since the last meeting, two e-mails were received with barn pictures.

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sherman made a motion to adjourn the April meeting with Commissioner Schackmann seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
May 3, 2017

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

Members Absent: Aakash Raut

Staff Present: Emily Prather * Attendance by phone

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

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

Chairman Pell explained that Commissioner Brooks wished to attend the Historic Preservation Commission meeting via speakerphone due to employment purposes. A motion to allow Commissioner Brooks to attend the meeting via speakerphone was made by Commissioner Williams and was seconded by Commissioner Schackmann. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell reminded the Commission of an Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions' (IAHPC) event coming up on May 6th in Princeton and if anyone is interested in attending to RSVP.

Chairman Pell explained that Commissioner Jacobson wished to attend the Historic Preservation Commission meeting via speakerphone also, but there was only one line which Commissioner Brooks was using so Commissioner Jacobson called Chairman Pell's mobile. A motion to allow Commissioner Jacobson to attend the meeting via Chairman Pell's mobile was made by Commissioner Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Pell reported that Commissioner Jacobson had drafted a letter to send to sites on the National Register of Historic Places within unincorporated Sangamon County to explain the landmarking process and benefits for Sangamon County. Chairman Pell stated he would edit the letter before being sent out, and if there are less than fifty letters his office could take care of sending the letters. Commissioner Sherman asked how many of those on the register are public properties, and no one knew how many so that would need to be considered before sending the letters. Commissioner Jacobson will send Chairman Pell the list of addresses for the owners of those with National Register Sites within Sangamon County.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell stated he was going to contact Laura Knox to confirm that she was giving the Commission permission to use her photographs, and the Commission would then give her proper credit for all her photographs that would be featured in the book. Chairman Pell stated that Commissioner Schackmann previously suggested posting a picture with a write up of a barn monthly on Facebook, and Chairman Pell stated we have enough pictures right now that we could do one story per week until the Commission gets the book going. Chairman Pell also stated the Commission may need to figure out the location for some of these barns and ask the owner for permission to feature their barn. Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Brooks if he had a chance to contact any groups in regards to funding the barn book project, and Commissioner Brooks stated that he has not had the time to approach any of the groups. Commissioner Brooks did report that he talked to Farm Bureau President Larry Beaty in regards to the barn book and he liked the idea. Chairman Pell reminded the Commission that as they are going around and completing surveys to keep an eye out for various barns throughout the county and document them. Chairman Pell also stated that while going out make sure to determine whether a barn is actually in unincorporated Sangamon County or located within a municipality. Commissioner Goza stated she was able to get in touch with a lady that has some experience with Adobe InDesign and would get more information from her to determine if she could help the Commission with the barn book project. Commissioner Sherman reported that he was able to obtain one volume of Wayne Price's barn survey books, which has approximately 29-30 barns in Sangamon County with history on each barn. An excerpt of one barn was passed around for the Commission to review.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys Follow-Up: Commissioner Goza reported that she is still working on her surveys, but has received information on those properties involved in the Underground Railroad from Terry Ransom to verify information on one of the farmhouses.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Chairman Pell reported that on April 20th he attended the Public Health, Solid Waste, and Zoning Committee meeting, which approved the Churchill Cemetery landmark application. The final meeting to officially designate or not designate the Churchill Cemetery as a county landmark would be the May 9th County Board meeting. Commissioner Jacobson asked when a press release would be sent out in regards to the Churchill Cemetery becoming the eighth county landmark. Chairman Pell stated that he will work with Commissioner Brooks to get a press release sent out after the cemetery officially is approved as a landmark by the County Board.

Commissioner Williams reported that he had contacted Springfield Reprographics Inc. and Capitol Blue Print in regards to printing a book and was advised PDF format would work best.

Commissioner Sherman reported that he attended the Illinois State Historical Society's annual meeting and is working with other members of the National Barn Alliance to try and reinstate the Illinois Barn Alliance. Commissioner Sherman also brought an excerpt from *Material Culture* of various types of gravestone markers for the Commission's reference.

Commissioner Lathan reported that as the Commissioners are going out and completing surveys she is more than happy to help look up tax parcel ID numbers for anyone.

Commissioner Brooks asked if there is a way for the Commission to figure out what dollar amounts are more likely to get funded for grants. Chairman Pell stated that the review committee thought our projects were interesting, but represented the first and third highest grant requests. The Commission did get good feedback from Rachel Leibowitz in regards to the two grant submissions; she gave a model example to look at in work done by Will County. Commissioner Sherman asked if the Commission could get a list of those projects that did get funded and for how much and maybe even a copy of the applications submitted. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Brooks stated that the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency might be able to give the Commission the list of those projects awarded, otherwise the Commission should be able to obtain that information under the Freedom of Information Act. Commissioner Sherman asked how the grants were funded, and Chairman Pell stated the funding for a grant would be covered 70% by IHPA and then 30% by the applicant, which could be achieved through sweat equity at minimum wage rate.

Staff Reports: Staff suggested creating a Dropbox or Google Photos account to upload and share all the barn photographs amongst the Historic Preservation Commission, so the entire Commission would be able to access the photographs and upload any new photographs they may take.

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: Commissioner Jacobson asked again if the Commission should put out the press release before the County Board would act on the Churchill Cemetery Landmark designation. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Brooks stated it would be best to wait until the landmark designation became official before sending out the press release.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lathan made a motion to adjourn the May meeting with Commissioner Goza 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
June 7, 2017

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

Members Absent: Aakash Raut

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 May minutes. A motion to approve the May minutes was made by Commissioner Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Goza. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell reported that Commissioner Jacobson had drafted a letter to send to owners of sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places within unincorporated Sangamon County and Chairman Pell made some revisions to the letter before it would be sent out. A list of benefits will also be included with each letter when they are sent. Chairman Pell stated the list of benefits would be a good resource for all the Commission members when talking to other property owners within the county about seeking landmark status. Chairman Pell stated that Commissioner Brooks and he have not sent out the press release yet for the Churchill Cemetery County Landmark, but they will get that sent to the media shortly.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell stated he would be sending Commissioner Schackmann photographs at certain intervals with a barn write up to post on Facebook. Commissioner Sherman is working on finding the other volumes from Wayne Price's barn collection and is planning to go out and get updated photographs of the barns in the volumes. Commissioner Sherman also reported that he has added seven photographs of the Bartletti barn on Buckhart Road to the Dropbox folder. Commissioner Brooks reported he has not been able to get in touch with Brandt or the Sangamon County Farm Bureau yet. Commissioner Brooks did state that although the Farm Bureau may not be able to sponsor the book, they would be able to get the word out better and noted the Women's Committee and Young Leaders are active groups within the Farm Bureau that might be able to help spread the word about the barn book project. Staff stated that she would be attending the Young Leader's next meeting and would be willing to talk to the group about the barn book project. Commissioner Sims stated the Commission needs to figure out the design, layout, and size of the book before continuing. Commissioner Sherman stated the book could be broken down by township for organization of the barns. Commissioner Jacobson asked whether the Commission needs to set up criteria for determining which barns would be included in the book. Commissioner Brooks stated

another way to group the photographs would be by barn styles. Commissioner Sims suggested tasking someone to come up with three layout options for the barn book and bring the options to the next meeting for the Commission's review. Commissioner Sims also suggested limiting the book to forty pages or less. Commissioner Brooks suggested the layout of the book be in an easily printable size in case the book would ever get printed. Chairman Pell stated before the next meeting it would be nice to have a template of how some of the pages may look and if there are a couple options, the Commission could vote on a template at the next meeting. Commissioner Brooks asked Commissioner Sherman to bring in a couple of his barn coffee table books as examples for the Commission to look at as well. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Sherman, Commissioner Brooks, and Commissioner Lathan stated they would each help in some manner regarding layout ideas or with other thoughts for the barn book before the next meeting. Commissioner Goza stated she had talked to the person with Adobe InDesign experience and she would normally charge \$15 per hour, but since she has never done an e-book project like this she could potentially offer a discount. Commissioner Goza indicated she would provide Chairman Pell the person's contact information to discuss the project more with her.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys Follow-Up: Commissioner Sherman stated he still has one farmhouse survey to complete, and Commissioner Goza reported she is still working on getting her farmhouses onto surveys.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Sims suggested the Commission invite someone from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) to a meeting and have them explain to the Commission the various changes that are occurring at the IHPA now that they are within IDNR.

Commissioner Lathan reported that an article was published in The State Journal-Register on the Island Grove Methodist Church for their 195th Anniversary, and Chairman Pell stated that it would definitely be a landmark candidate as he was recently at a funeral there and noted its significance within that part of the County.

Staff Reports: Staff stated that all Commission members should have received an invitation for a shared Dropbox folder that contains all the photographs submitted to staff for the barn book project. Now any Commission member could access the photographs and add more to the collection for everyone to see.

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Goza made a motion to adjourn the June meeting with Commissioner Brooks 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
July 5, 2017

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

Members Absent: Aakash Raut & James Schackmann

Staff Present: Emily Prather * Attendance by phone

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

Vice Chairman Sherman explained that Chairman Pell wished to attend the Historic Preservation Commission meeting via speakerphone. A motion to allow Chairman Pell to attend the meeting via speakerphone was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

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

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell reported that with the help of Commissioner Brooks, they were able to get out the press release regarding the Churchill Cemetery Landmarking. Chairman Pell stated the Commission may need to reach out to the newspaper again to encourage printing the story. Commissioner Brooks did state that a short segment on the Churchill Cemetery Landmarking was shown on Channel 20 and Channel 55. Chairman Pell reported that he has not sent out the letters to all the National Register of Historic Places sites in unincorporated Sangamon County yet, but will complete that when he receives the final list of addresses.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell presented a draft of what the barn book could look like and requested that the Commissioners provide feedback based on the layout and design. Chairman Pell stated the book could have different types of write-ups for each barn, but overall will have the same look and feel to keep the book unified. Chairman Pell also stated that if the barn book ends up being 40 pages or less that his office could help create the book using Adobe InDesign. Chairman Pell indicated they had contacted several various printing sources who all agreed that 8 1/2" x 11" was the most economic size. Commissioner Jacobson stated that eventually the Commission would have to put together an introductory page for the book. Commissioner Sims stated the Regional Planning Commission could help create the standard ownership pages that would go into the beginning of the book.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys Follow-Up: No additional surveys have been completed.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Williams brought in a copy of the new book on the Donner Party entitled “The Best Land Under Heaven”.

Vice Chairman Sherman brought in a barn brochure from McDonough County, Illinois that showed a map of various barn tours in the county with pictures of the barns along each tour. The brochure is an example of what the Commission could do after the barn book is complete. Vice Chairman Sherman also reported that he submitted several other barn photographs that staff was able to upload to the Dropbox folder prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Lathan passed around some research she had completed on eBooks including: “Types of eBooks” and “The 6 Most Popular eBook Formats To Know About”. Commissioner Lathan also reported that for the next meeting she would bring in copies of the demo delay list for the City of Springfield as general information for everyone.

Commissioner Jacobson has been working on editing the list of benefits that will be sent out to all the National Register of Historic Places sites within unincorporated Sangamon County. Commissioner Jacobson also asked if the Commission was still going to post individual write-ups on some barns, and it was stated that it was still the plan but has not been done yet.

Chairman Pell wanted to remind everyone that the first Wednesday of the month (same as our meeting) at 5:30 running from May to October, Downtown Springfield Incorporated hosts the Downtown Architectural Walking Tour led by Anthony Rubano of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

Staff Reports: None

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: Commissioner Jacobson asked what the next steps would be for the barn book project. Chairman Pell stated his office can continue working on the draft of the barn book if there are any suggestions and the Commission should reenergize the community about the project to get more barn photograph submissions.

Adjourn: Vice Chairman Sherman 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 4:35 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
August 2, 2017

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

Members Absent: Bob Sherman and Jerry Jacobson

Staff Present: Emily Prather * Attendance by phone

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

Chairman Pell explained that Commissioner Raut wished to attend the Historic Preservation Commission meeting via speakerphone. A motion to allow Commissioner Raut to attend the meeting via speakerphone was made by Commissioner Schackmann and was seconded by Commissioner Williams. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the July minutes. A motion to approve the July 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 brought to the Commission's attention that Sangamon County has received a certificate for the County being a Certified Local Government since 2011 in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Chairman Pell reported that he is planning to invite someone from the Historic Preservation Division of IDNR (Illinois Department of Natural Resources) to the next meeting to discuss any changes that may be going on within the agency since the agency is now part of the IDNR. The preservation division representative would also be able to provide the Commission with information on submitting a strong/better CLG grant application.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell will send Commissioner Schackmann some barn pictures each with a write-up to post on the Commission's Facebook page. Chairman Pell requested Commissioner Brooks get in touch with the various forms of media again to request more barn photograph submissions. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Brooks will try to secure some sponsors for the project as well. Commissioner Brooks stated Monsanto is a company the Commission could reach out to for sponsorship or a way to promote the project, and he would contact someone he knows within the Public Relations Department in St. Louis and they could direct the Commission to the right contact for this area. Commissioner Brooks also stated TV morning shows are always looking for guests for their shows and sometime between or after the Illinois State Fair and the Farm Progress Show could be a good time to get a time slot. Commissioner Brooks also stated that the Commission could try and get

a poster with information together to place in the museum area on the first floor of the grandstand at the Illinois State Fair to try and attract more attention to the project.

It was discussed that the book would be sized 8½” x 11” in case any hard copy books would be printed. Commissioner Brooks asked whether the SSCRPC had anyone that could use GIS to create general location maps for the barns. Commissioner Sims stated the SSCRPC does have staff that could create a map or maps, and individual maps could be added to each page in a corner showing where the certain barn featured on the page is located versus one map that people would have to flip back and forth to within the book. Some barns within the book may also feature smaller pictures that document additional features of the barn or interior shots.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys Follow-Up: No additional surveys have been completed.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Lathan brought up an idea that the stipend that the Commissioners receive for coming to meetings could be donated by each Commissioner and utilized to pay a photographer for the barn book project.

Commissioner Brooks reported that he is purchasing a former one room schoolhouse located near his house for which he previously completed a survey. After looking through the house, he believes that at the latest the Bell Fountain Schoolhouse was built in the early 1900s before being converted into a residence. Commissioner Brooks stated he is not sure if the building would be a good landmark since so much work has been completed on the inside to update the schoolhouse to a residence.

Staff Reports: None

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lathan made a motion to adjourn the August meeting with Commissioner Williams seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
September 6, 2017

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 4:00 PM.

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

Guest Speaker: Rachel Leibowitz, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer with the Historic Preservation Division at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) was in attendance to discuss the changes that have occurred now that the former Illinois Historic Preservation Agency is now the Illinois Historic Preservation Division and a part of the IDNR.

Ms. Leibowitz also discussed information on submitting a stronger CLG (Certified Local Government) grant application. Ms. Leibowitz explained that projects that make a big impact on the entire county or municipality are those that are looked at more favorably to receive funding, which could include but isn't limited to: updating a historic preservation plan, conducting county wide surveys, identifying and designating county landmarks, submitting locations to be included on the National Register of Historic Places, and conducting a workshop or educational session. She gave examples of survey and inventory projects completed in Will County and one starting up in Kankakee County that could be useful examples to the Commission. She also told the Commission to look on the Illinois Historic Preservation Division's website for the list of projects that have received funding previously.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell brought to the Commission's attention the call for proposals for educational sessions, panels, and roundtables from the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC). The call for proposals is in preparation for the NAPC Forum 2018: A Preservation Caucus on July 18-22, 2018 in Des Moines, Iowa.

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell reported that his office has been continually working on a draft of the barn e-book. Commissioner Jacobson asked whether anything has been done in regards to reaching out to the media or getting any sponsors for the project. Chairman Pell stated no media outreach has been done at this time but made a comment that WTAX radio has told him the HPC could schedule a radio interview anytime. Chairman Pell also mentioned that Brandt remains interested in sponsorship depending on the project.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys Follow-Up: No additional surveys have been completed.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Sherman reported that everyone should try and read the book on the Donner Party that Commissioner Williams brought to the attention of the Commission a couple months ago.

Commissioner Schackmann reported that he has posted the meeting agenda on the Facebook page.

Commissioner Raut reported that he is working on completing his oldest farmhouse surveys.

Commissioner Jacobson is working with Chairman Pell on getting the landmark letters finalized for all the National Register of Historic Places located within unincorporated Sangamon County.

Staff Reports: Emily Prather reported that with her maternity leave coming up the Commission could either call the SSCRPC office, contact Steve Keenan, or e-mail the HPC's e-mail schpc@co.sangamon.il.us because that e-mail is linked to three people within the SSCRPC.

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sherman made a motion to adjourn the September meeting with Commissioner Lathan seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
October 4, 2017

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

Members Absent: James Schackmann

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

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

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to approve the September minutes. A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Commissioner Sherman and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was 7 in favor and 1 abstention.

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell said the 2018 Certified Local Government (CLG) grant applications are not out yet. He suggested considering what comparable counties did with previous grants, e. g. Will, McHenry, and Kankakee. Chairman Pell said it would be nice to get consensus around 1-2 grants in November.

Old Business: Creation of the Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell said a first draft of the barn book is almost complete, hopefully for the November meeting. He asked whether any new barns were received, to which staff said no. Chairman Pell and Commissioners Brooks and Williams discussed press opportunities with Channel 20, WMAY, and WTAX.

Oldest Farmhouse surveys follow-up: Chairman Pell asked Commissioner Goza about surveying an old farmhouse. Commissioners Goza and Schackmann still need to finish a survey because of work schedule differences. Commissioner Raut said he would survey the Galloway farmhouse entry. Chairman Pell asked if Commissioner Raut contacted the owner, to which Commissioner Raut said no. Chairman Pell offered to call the owner, if needed.

Commissioner Jacobson asked about letters to National Register (NR) property owners. After some discussion about the letter's contents, Chairman Pell summarized there are a certain number of properties and the HPC needs to determine if they are in unincorporated Sangamon County. Commissioner Sims said if someone sends him the list he will hunt them down.

New Business: None

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson asked about sending Ms. Prather and family a congratulatory card. After some discussion, Commissioner Lathan volunteered to bring a card for everyone to sign.

Commissioner Jacobson said a church in the Village of Mechanicsburg just celebrated its 175th anniversary. He asked how it could be landmarked. Commissioner Sims said the County Board would need to enter an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Village of Mechanicsburg. An IGA would authorize the Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission to handle historic preservation functions in Mechanicsburg. Chairman Pell suggested reaching out to the church leadership to see if County landmark status is desired.

Commissioner Jacobson said he contacted Mike Wiant with the Illinois State Museum to discuss archaeology sites in Sangamon County. He suggested trying to determine archaeology sites by township. Chairman Pell said it might be a potential CLG grant application. He asked about Commissioner Williams' affiliation with a regional archaeology group. Commissioner Williams highlighted some work of the Center for American Archaeology, upon whose board he sits. Commissioner Sims and Chairman Pell discussed the merits of archaeological digs. Commissioner Sims said a list of known archaeological sites could be an important educational tool. He further suggested using college students on public property digs to save money. Chairman Pell said the community could benefit if a group were to conduct an archaeological dig for free. Commissioner Jacobson reminded the group that much archaeology is done on a commercial basis. The consensus was a list of known archaeological sites would be useful. Commissioner Sims suggested asking the museum staffer if there are unrestored sites on public property; and, noting any suggestions the staffer has for potential grant applications. Commissioner Sherman suggested the Pensacola house site and old Sangamo town as potential sites.

Commissioner Lathan highlighted a September 26 SJ-R article describing Springfield African-American historic site surveys. She said IDNR awarded a \$20,000 grant along with a city match. Commissioner Sims said this is a city historic sites project.

Commissioner Sherman asked about the status of landmarking the Donner site by Pet Cemetery Road. Commissioner Williams highlighted some of his recent meetings regarding the matter.

Commissioner Williams said his recent meetings suggest that a previous CLG grant proposal might fit better under a tourism grant. Commissioner Sims suggested asking whether the former proposal is eligible for a tourism attraction grant.

Commissioner Sherman highlighted talks given about the history of barns in the previous month. He said he would give a talk to the Farm Bureau about Illinois barns in November.

Commissioner Brooks described an old school house he bought that is now a residence. Chairman Pell asked about surveying it. Commissioner Brooks said he has a survey, but needs to take some photos. Commissioner Williams asked about its age. Commissioner Brooks said he saw its location in an 1894 plat book. Commissioners Sherman and Brooks discussed an old plaster ceiling in the attic above the drywall.

Staff Reports: None

Public Comment: None

Additional Comments: None

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Goza made a motion to adjourn the October meeting with Commissioner Sherman seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:53 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
November 1, 2017

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

Members Absent: Aakash Raut, Jeanette Goza

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chairman Pell called the meeting to order at 3:58 PM.

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

Chairman's Report/Comments: Chairman Pell highlighted some media interviews about the barn book. He interviewed with Channel 55, WTAX, WFMB (farm show), and WMAY. Chairman Pell and Commissioner Brooks discussed additional potential interviews.

Staff highlighted four new barn requests in Lanesville, Rochester, and Talkington townships. Commissioner Sherman agreed to contact three of the owners and Commissioner Jacobson agreed to contact the fourth.

Chairman Pell said there is a letter to National Register owners being prepared that will be sent with a list of benefits and responsibilities and inquiring about their desire to receive County landmark status. He said Commissioner Sims did a terrific job putting together the list of benefits back in June. Chairman Pell said there were a couple minor tweaks but the letters will go out soon. Commissioner Jacobson asked how many sites there are. After discussion between Chairman Pell and Commissioner Jacobson, the best guess was between ten and fifteen sites. Commissioner Jacobson asked if there were any other sites in municipalities other than Springfield. The reply was yes several. Commissioner Jacobson asked about National Register properties in other municipalities. Chairman Pell suggested a separate letter and said the focus should be on ones in the County.

Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: Creation of a Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell showed the draft barn book. He said the book is forty-two pages. Chairman Pell said it included all the barns submitted; discussion called for approximately forty barns. He said he asked Commissioner Sherman to write a forward about the history of barns in Sangamon County. The Commission then discussed the rough draft of the barn book. Chairman Pell and Commissioners Brooks,

Jacobson, Schackmann, Sherman, Sims, and Williams participated. After much discussion, the following suggestions were made concerning the draft book and what potential next steps might entail:

- Create a small County map with a dot for the barn's location.
- Place one barn per page.
- Use a landscape layout.
- Use a landscape layout with a solid photo on the left page and text and some smaller photos on the right page.
- See what kinds of photographs you receive. If the photos are iconic or of high quality then two pages may be appropriate, otherwise it is a lot of white space to fill, balancing some other artwork against the photos and text may be needed.
- Make a second trip to barns for higher quality photos, consider a professional.
- Create an indexed map at the back of the book.
- Place higher quality barn photos in the book.
- Writing 41 barn descriptions will be a big task, a division of labor will be needed.
- Consider the audience. Potential audience members suggested include: barn owners, publishers (Schiffer Publishing out of Pennsylvania), barn experts, architects, teachers, students, antiquities people, and outdoor (photography) enthusiasts. The primary purpose of the book should be educational.
- Two goals of the barn book are press attention and simply document County resources.
- Identify the best barns by type and have fewer but more descriptions about them.
- Create a list of barn types to help classify them for the descriptions.
- Discussed mailing the owners a form versus calling the barn owners, calling may give more information.
- Consider the size of the book (MB or GB). If it is too large, there may be difficulties transmitting it via email or hosting it on the County's website. It may be necessary to consider hosting on an outside website if it is too data rich.
- Create a list of questions that Commissioners should ask the barn owners to obtain more information to help write the description for each barn.
- Identify the townships in which the barns are located and make assignments. If a township has too many, more Commissioners may be assigned to it.

Oldest Farmhouse Surveys follow-up: Chairman Pell said Commissioners Raut and Goza were following up on farmhouse surveys but were not in attendance to present their surveys. Commissioner Sherman said he would follow up with another entry.

New Business: 2018 Calendar of Dates: Chairman Pell introduced the 2018 calendar of dates item. The July meeting is July 11 due to Independence Day on July 4. Chairman Pell entertained a motion. A motion to approve the 2018 calendar of dates was made by Commissioner Jacobson and was seconded by Commissioner Lathan. The voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None.

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson said Illinois State Museum staff were still working on the archaeological sites. He also said he has contacted a person who is involved with the Christian Church in Mechanicsburg. Commissioner Jacobson described a letter he drafted indicating the advantages and responsibilities of landmarking.

Commissioner Sherman asked about the Bissell church newspaper article and highlighted his upcoming talk in Peoria on barns.

Commissioner Brooks asked if someone wanted to have the legislature proclaim something about barns in the bicentennial year. Chairman Pell, Commissioner Sherman and Commissioner Brooks discussed some possibilities (non-binding resolution, mention in bicentennial literature, license plate, state declaration, etc.) Commissioner Brooks said declaring 2018 as the year of the barn might be difficult because there would need to be a statewide organization to get behind the idea. He said a resolution to the Bicentennial Commission might be a possible venue. After some discussion, Commissioner Sims suggested asking the County Board to proclaim something about barns in Sangamon County for 2018.

Commissioner Williams thanked Chairman Pell for his radio interview. He is still planning on meeting with IHPA concerning potential grant opportunities.

Staff Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Additional Comments: None.

Adjourn: Chairman Pell entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sherman made a motion to adjourn the November meeting with Commissioner Williams seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Steve Keenan

Minutes of Meeting
Sangamon County Historic Preservation Commission
December 6, 2017

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

Members Absent: Tina Lathan

Staff Present: Steve Keenan

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

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

Chairman's Report/Comments: At the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions Annual Meeting in Riverside on December 2, Chairman Pell was awarded the IAHPC Commission Excellence Award for Leadership. Commissioner Jacobson, on behalf of the Commission, wrote the nomination. Chairman Pell gave an overview of the meeting which began with some networking and then presentations were given regarding fiber cement siding and roofing materials. Rachel Leibowitz talked about the CLG grant application process, and the applications are still not available. A legislative update was given including that the historic tax credit is in jeopardy of going away. The IAHPC had its board meeting and elections and then four Commission Excellence Awards were presented.

Chairman Pell recognized Commissioner Sims as this will be his last meeting since he is retiring at the end of the year. Commissioner Sims stated that the Interim Director for the SSCRPC will be Molly Berns and she will most likely attend the Commission meetings unless she assigns someone other than herself. The Commission thanked Commissioner Sims for his service.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: Sangamon County Barn Book: Chairman Pell stated before the next meeting the barns that the Commission has pictures of currently will be divided up amongst the Commissioners based on the assigned townships and each Commissioner will work on writing up the history of the barn, contacting the owners, and taking any additional supplemental pictures. Chairman Pell presented a layout of the book and stated the Commission could provide a map of the county divided by the townships with each barn represented by a dot on the map for

each barn page. Commissioner Brooks asked why the map would be divided by townships instead of by county roads since most people do not know townships. Commissioner Sims stated that when the barn addresses are identified several versions of the map could be made using township lines or county roads to determine the best layout. Chairman Pell stated a large county map could also be created depicting the location for all the barns to serve as an index for the book. Chairman Pell stated the Commission will have to figure out how to format the book to be an e-reader and Commissioner Brooks stated as long as the book is in PDF format it should work with any e-reader. Chairman Pell stated the file size will also have to be considered since people will have to download the e-book. Commissioner Sims stated most e-reader publisher software will allow you to compress a file. Chairman Pell stated he would send an e-mail with a spreadsheet assigning the townships and the barns in each township to each of the Commissioners. Commissioner Jacobson stated that it would be helpful to include a short list of talking points in the e-mail for the Commissioners to address when making phone calls to the barn owners. Commissioner Sherman stated he is working on the talking point questions for all the Commissioners. Chairman Pell stated he would also put the draft book shared at the meeting into the Dropbox folder for all the Commissioners to see.

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

Commissioner Goza and Commissioner Sherman will continue to work on the farmhouse surveys before the next meeting.

New Business: Chairman Pell brought some photographs of the Mechanicsburg Christian Church after Commissioner Jacobson and he went to Mechanicsburg on November 28, 2017. Commissioner Jacobson explained Tammy Van Pelt showed them a booklet with the history on the church and the Christian Church may be the oldest functioning church in the county since it was constructed in 1856. Commissioner Jacobson explained that the church is mostly original and the church tried to apply to the National Register of Historic Places but was rejected because the porch and overhang is not original. Commissioner Jacobson stated that the church would be very welcoming to receiving some recognition from the county since the church was not able to get on the National Register. Chairman Pell stated that the church is within Mechanicsburg, so the county would need an intergovernmental agreement in order to landmark the church. Commissioner Sims explained that an intergovernmental agreement would not be for this project specifically but for the whole city of Mechanicsburg because the county generally does not do intergovernmental agreements on a project by project basis; Chairman Pell indicated other communities had done them per project and would check on this issue. Commissioner Sims suggested the Historic Preservation Commission attend one of the Regional Leadership Council meetings to explain to all the villages and cities what this Commission does to see if any would be interested in the Commission's services.

Initial Recommendation for New Landmark Applications: None

Member Reports: Commissioner Jacobson sent a description of a barn in Lanessville to Chairman Pell and Commissioner Sherman for the barn book.

Commissioner Brooks sent out the press release for Chairman Pell receiving his Leadership award.

Commissioner Goza stated the Comptroller's Office had a flag ceremony and is very active in the Bicentennial. The Comptroller is also featuring events on their website to be held in 2018 related to the Bicentennial.

Commissioner Schackmann has been pumping out some podcasts and other details about the Barn Book and the Commission on the 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 December meeting with Commissioner Goza seconding the motion. The voice vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 5:01 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Emily Prather