

**KENDALL COUNTY**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
**County Boardroom**  
**111 W. Fox Street**  
**Rooms 209 and 210 Yorkville, IL 60560**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**December 18, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Jeff Wehrli (Chairman), Eric Bernacki, Elizabeth Flowers, Kristine Heiman, and Marty Shanahan

Absent: None

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier and Wanda A. Rolf

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Bernacki made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the agenda. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Bernacki made a motion, seconded by Member Flowers, to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2023, meeting. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

***Discussion of 2024 Historic Preservation Awards***

Commissioners reviewed the press release and application for the awards.

The awards application window opens on January 12, 2024. Commissioners will discuss a list of potential nominees at the next meeting. Mr. Asselmeier stated that the following previously received awards: Chapel on the Green, LaSalle Manor, Howard Manthei, Historic Yorkville Jail and Sherriff's Residence, Beverly Casey, Lowell Mathre, and Stephenie Todd. Mr. Asselmeier stated the next meeting for Historic Preservation is on January 17, 2024. The window to accept nominations closes on February 28, 2024.

Commissioners discussed projects that were previously nominated, but did not receive awards, including Lyon Farm. It was noted that several nominees, such as the Ferndell Museum and the Misner Blacksmith Shop were still incomplete at the time of application submittal. Mr. Asselmeier will compile a list of nominees that did not receive awards in previous years. Chairman Wehrli asked if the historic commission can have Roger Matile come to one of our meetings as a guest. Mr. Asselmeier mentioned he would look into inviting Mr. Matile.

### ***Discussion of 2024 Meeting with Historic Preservation Groups***

Commissioners reviewed the list of invitees, save the date card, and letter to invitees.

Mr. Asselmeier stated that the “Save the Date Card” will include sentences regarding the nominees for the historic preservation awards and identifying the oldest structures and businesses in Kendall County. The “Save the Date Card” will be sent in January 2024.

### ***Discussion of Historic Structure Surveys***

Mr. Asselmeier stated the County Board approved Forty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$44,000) to survey unincorporated Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships. The grant window is expected to open in February 2024. The County Board is still waiting for a reimbursement check for the previous structure survey.

### ***Discussion of Having Commission Meetings at Historic Locations in the County***

Mr. Asselmeier reported that the below list are some of the locations the Commission could have tentative meetings:

United Plattville UPA hall is available for the January 17, 2024. They are still trying to find someone to speak on the history of the arsenal.

Plano Masonic Lodge is tentative for the March 2024 meeting.

Henneberry Barn and Ashley Farm have no insulation and meetings could be held in the spring or summer of 2024.

Pickerill Pigot House will be reserved after the Summer 2024 meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### ***November 20, 2023, November 22, 2023, November 27, 2023, and November 30, 2023, Emails from Edith Farnsworth House***

Commissioners reviewed the emails from Farnsworth House. There were four (4) emails sent in November. On December 18, 2023, another email was sent for the 2023 Annual Appeal.

Member Heiman asked if other counties have invited Kendall County Historic Preservation to their meetings. Mr. Asselmeier responded that geographically our neighboring counties are much larger than Kendall County and do not necessarily have the same types of meetings.

#### ***November 28, 2023, Federal Highway Administration and Illinois Department of Transportation Section 106 PA Development Notification Letter***

Discussion occurred regarding notification of historic places. Chairman Wehrli asked about Lyon Farm receiving a Section 106 notification letter. Mr. Asselmeier stated that the Planning, Building and Zoning Department receives the Section 106 notification letters, but the Lyon Farm letter might have been sent before he started with Kendall County in January 2017.

Chairman Wehrli spoke about several old homes being torn down on Wolf’s Crossing and how this type of demolition can be prevented.

Chairman Wehrli discussed the possibility of inviting Native American Tribes to a future Commission meeting. Member Bernacki mentioned having a Native American Tribe do a presentation on historic traditions at one (1) of the meetings. Member Flowers asked to possibly contact Aurora University to see if they have a contact. Mr. Asselmeier will check with Larry Nelson and Fran Klaas to see if they have contacts with some of the Native American Tribes historically associated with the area.

***December 4, 2023, Email from Landmarks Illinois***

Commissioners reviewed the email which included nominations for the most endangered historic structures in Illinois.

***December 2023 Edition of the Bell Tower***

Commissioners reviewed the newsletter.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to adjourn. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wanda A. Rolf  
Administrative Assistant

**Matt Asselmeier**

**From:** Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworth@farnsworthhouse.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 17, 2023 7:45 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]You're Invited to be a Part of Our Future

**CAUTION** - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

# EDITH FARNSWORTH HOUSE

*A site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation*

Ignite, Engage, Transform, and Build with Us



## Our Foundation for the Future is You!

Whether its **igniting** a passion for preservation, art, architecture, nature, and history; **engaging** new and diverse communities with programs, tours, and events; **transforming** lives through educational experiences leading to new discoveries; or **building** a bridge to the future by preserving and protecting this unique historic site, **we invite you to join us** as we strengthen our foundation and move forward into 2024.

---

**IGNITE** curiosity and passion through the arts with curated tours and special events.



**ENGAGE** on and offsite at one-of-a-kind events and community collaborations.



**TRANSFORM** through education, exploration, and discovery.



## You're Invited to **BUILD** Our Future

In 2024 we look to diversify our audience by expanding school visits, developing specialized guided tour experiences, deepening outreach efforts through offsite programs and collaborations, encouraging nature exploration, and increasing sustainability initiatives while maintaining and improving the natural environment of this unique setting.

No gift is too small, and we appreciate everyone's support as we strive to meet our year-end fundraising goal.

We invite **YOU** to be an integral partner in achieving these plans.

[Donate Now](#)

Edith Farnsworth House | 14520 River Rd, Plano, IL 60545

[Unsubscribe masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov](mailto:masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by farnsworth@farnsworthhouse.org powered by

