



Warrenville Historical Society
 3 S 530 Second Street
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January 11, 2023

City of Warrenville
 28W701 Stafford Place
 Warrenville, IL 60555

Dear City Council Members,

The Historical Society would like to extend our gratitude to the City of Warrenville for your grant to allow the Historical Society to contract for a part-time Director/Curator. Your support has allowed our Museum to grow over the past thirteen years and in these times with increase costs, this grant has been instrumental in allowing us to continue our important work of engagement with the community around history. By making the investment in our community's rich local history, you have also helped us to expand our work of preserving Warrenville history and work to make sure Warrenville history is accessible to all. As we look forward to another year, we respectfully request that you continue your support of our mission with a renewed grant of \$20,000.

Over the past twelve and a half years, the Historical Society has contracted with Sara Phalen, an academically trained museum professional with a museum studies graduate degree, law degree and masters in non-profit management. She, with the support of our board of directors, have continued museum operations, developing exhibitions and educational programs, community outreach, interactions with other museums, organizations, schools and individuals in the pursuit of historic education, accumulation of historic items, coordination of programs with various other organizations and local school districts, accessioning of Museum artifacts, and receiving and responding to requests for information and historical documentation. Over the past five years, Sara has also taken part in equity and accessibility work in the larger museum field and is honored to serve on the City's IDEC Commission as well. This additional training and involvement have helped us better position ourselves to serve our entire community and foster community pride and involvement through connections to local history.

Thank you for your past support. The Historical Society is thankful for all the encouragement and collaboration the City of Warrenville has provided over the years. We look forward to our continued partnership as we continue to make Warrenville's history meaningful to all.

I hope you will agree to continue to invest in Warrenville history. As our community grows, history has never been more important as continuing to foster community and placemaking. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Respectfully,

Melissa Simmons, President