



Historical Preservation and Restoration Board

City Council Meeting | December 9, 2025

Requested By: City Council

Historical Preservation & Restoration Board– Year in Review

Overview



1 Board Members/Attendance Percentage

2 Engagement and Community Involvement/Outreach

3 Accomplishments of the Historical Preservation & Restoration Board

4 Future Goals

Historical Preservation & Restoration Board



Board Members

Missy Dours – Chair, Christian Martinez – Vice Chair, Ginny Welch – Secretary, Teresa Webster, Samaria Cate, Sharon Montgomery, Helena Fregia, Pat Steed, and Ann Christman (resigned)

Attendance Percentage

84% Attendance rate for the fiscal year.

Encourage Participation

Board members encourage participation through volunteering at Historical Park and community events, supporting the Friends of the Farmers Branch Historical Park, and supporting historical preservation within the City.

Strategic Focus Area Outcomes

C.2 Provide Attractive, Unique, and Connected Spaces for Community Interaction.

Community ENGAGEMENT



Serving the Community

Many members of the Historical Preservation & Restoration Board are deeply rooted in the community and volunteer with many different organizations to serve and engage our residents.

Engagements

Historical Preservation & Restoration Board members stay actively involved by volunteering at City-wide events throughout the year, including *Gateway to the Globe: A Multicultural Celebration*, *Mad Hatter Tea*, *Coffee with a Cop*, *Independence Day Celebration*, *Haunts and Houses*, and *Day of the Dead Celebration*, among others.

Community Involvement

Our partnerships and community connections strengthen the impact of culture throughout the City. Collaborations include:

- Friends of the Farmers Branch Historical Park
- Farmers Branch Police Department
- Farmers Branch Fire Department
- Farmers Branch Parks and Recreation Department
- Manske Library
- Boy Scouts of America
- Wreaths Across America
- American Legion Post 597, Carrollton, TX

Accomplishments of the Historical Preservation & Restoration Board



Witness to History Award

This award offers a unique opportunity to honor individuals and/or businesses who have been in Farmers Branch at least 50 years. The Historical Preservation & Restoration Board nominates recipients which are then presented the award by City Council.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Missy Dours, Historical Preservation & Restoration Board Chair was named Volunteer of the Year at the February 2025 Boards & Commissions Banquet.



Wreaths Across America at Keenan Cemetery

Annual participation with the national celebration of Wreaths Across America, an organization that recognizes all branches of the service by placing remembrance wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery and over 4,000 cemeteries across the US.

Friends of the Farmers Branch Historical Park

This Friends group is a separate 501c3 organization which supports the Historical Park through fundraising efforts. Through chair rentals during City events, the Friends group, which Board members volunteers with, have raised thousands of dollars for collections care and Keenan Cemetery.

Future Goals



Reassemble (3) Log Structures Project

Three log structures representing the 1840s-1850s, Peters Colony Land Grant Office, two-story Log Cabin, and Barn/Blacksmith Shop, were disassembled and stored in 2022 by Phoenix I Restoration to construct, Venue 1842, an 8,100 square foot event center and rental venue. The goal was to store the log structure materials until reassembly to a location centralized within the tour area of the museum complex.



Keenan Cemetery Maintenance Day

In partnership with the Friends of the Farmers Branch Historical Park, host a Keenan Cemetery Maintenance Workshop where community volunteers will learn how to properly clean the historic headstones to help us protect the oldest cemetery in Dallas County.



Continue Community Support

Remain actively involved in serving the community through dedicated volunteer efforts at the Historical Park, as well as participation in Parks & Recreation events, the Fire and Police Departments, and other local organizations.



Questions



FARMERS BRANCH
TEXAS