



City of Farmers Branch

Minutes

Parks & Recreation Board

Farmers Branch
Community Recreation Center
14050 Heartside
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

Thursday, May 21, 2026

6:30 PM

Pecan Room

Meeting held at 6:30 PM

PRESIDING:	Adriane Young
PRESENT:	Christy Dimon Christian Gomez Deborah Hull David Jones Jennifer Nelson-Smith Stephen Stremel Jan Wooldridge
ABSENT:	Barbara Leedy Margaret Young, Emeritus
STAFF:	Robert Diaz, Director of Parks & Recreation Maria Minter, Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation Jessica Alvarado, Recreation Superintendent Ashley Walden, Recreation Facility Manager

A. CALL TO ORDER.

Adriane Young, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM on Thursday, May 21, 2026.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS.

None.

C. AGENDA ITEMS.

C.1 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 19, 2026 AND APRIL 26, 2026 MEETINGS; AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

David Jones recommended editing the March minutes to show that, under Item 6, the verbiage should reflect that various members attended Dutch Village, rather than just listing David Jones as attending.

A motion was made by David Jones to approve the March 19, 2026 Minutes with amendments. The motion was seconded by Jan Wooldridge. Motion carried.

A motion was made by David Jones to approve the April 16, 2026 Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Jan Wooldridge. Motion carried.

C.2 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MERCER PARK PLAN; AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

Robert Diaz, Director of Parks & Recreation, updated the board on Mercer Park. The Board received a copy of the updated playground area in the agenda packet.

The current area is undeveloped right now. Townhomes are being built and will face the park. The trail is available to use.

Jan Wooldridge made a motion to approve the Mercer Park Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Nelson-Smith. Motion carried.

C.3 RECEIVE THE PARKS DIVISION UPDATE.

Robert Diaz, Director of Parks & Recreation, provided an update on this item.

- Staff has removed the light poles at Cox Park. Poles will be reinstalled at Pepper Park.
- Farmers Branch Park will be our primary facility. There is no facility to replace Cox at this time.
- The majority of Cox Park belonged to the school district. The City maintained the fields in order to have access to and use of the fields all these years.

Dutch Village

- Staff is working on the basketball court for Dutch Village.

Oakbrook Median

- The lighting and landscape are completed.

C.4 RECEIVE THE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENTAL PROJECT UPDATES.

- Robert Diaz, Director of Parks & Recreation, reported that the park over at the Justice Center is completed. The park is adjacent to the Dallas College Trail. The Dallas College Trail is open to the public. There are no plans at this time for any shade structures, but it is an item for future development.
- Squire Park is still in design. Updates on Squire Park may be available at the June meeting.
- Robert reported he will keep the board updated on plans for Liberty Plaza. He is required to present options to City Council at the June 16 meeting.
- Discussions regarding the Community Garden by City Council included adding other amenities such as mulch, compost, and how to go about doing that.

C.5 RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE BIRD CITY SUBCOMMITTEE.

- Adriane Young reported that the subcommittee has met once and begun assigning tasks to the other subcommittee members.
- The subcommittee will meet next Thursday again.

C.6 RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON PARKS, PROGRAMS, EVENTS, OR FACILITIES ATTENDED IN THE CITY OF FARMERS BRANCH.

Jennifer Nelson-Smith reported that she attended the Events Subcommittee meeting.

- The Fishin' Fun event continued to be well attended with 2100 people in attendance.
- The community misses the weighing of the fish. It's been two years since the weigh-in was done.
- Discuss the possibility of having a place set up for cleaning fish for people.
- Food vendors for the event worked out well.
- Cabanas are sold-out for the July 4 Event.
- Firecracker Passes are available for residents. Cost for non-residents is \$7.
- Bike Valet for events due to parking issues.
- The Fall Festival will be on October 10 and will include an all-day event, a Haunted House, Trick-or-

Treat stations, and a 5K Fun Run. Shuttles for both events will be provided.

- Volunteer opportunities will be available.
- There were a lot of comments made about the fish caught at Fishin' Fun. They were much larger this year than in previous years.

Jessica Alvarado, Recreation Superintendent, introduced the new Facility Manager, Ashley Walden, to the Board.

C.7 DISCUSS POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS.

- Dog park shade structure update.
- Future music event.

D. ADJOURNMENT.

Christy Dimon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by David Jones. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Note: A full video of the meeting is available on the YouTube FBTV channel.

Adriane Young, Chair

Linda Gaucin, Sr. Administrative
Assistant