



# City of Farmers Branch

## Minutes

### Parks & Recreation Board

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

Thursday, February 19, 2026

6:30 PM

Pecan Room

#### Meeting held at 6:30 PM

<b>PRESIDING:</b>	Adriane Young
<b>PRESENT:</b>	Christy Dimon Christian Gomez David Jones Barbara Leedy Jennifer Nelson-Smith Stephen Stremel Jan Wooldridge Margaret Young, Emeritus
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Deborah Hull
<b>STAFF:</b>	Robert Diaz, Director of Parks & Recreation Jessica Alvarado, Recreation Superintendent Mark Moffeit, Parks Superintendent Tara Bradley, Parks Planner
<b>GUESTS:</b>	Chloe Crumley, Audubon Texas Karen Carpenter, Audubon Dallas Chapter

#### A. CALL TO ORDER.

Adriane Young, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM on Thursday, February 19, 2026.

#### B. CITIZEN COMMENTS.

None.

#### C. AGENDA ITEMS.

##### C.1 DISCUSS BIRD CITY UPDATE.

Chloe Crumley of Audubon Texas, made a presentation to the board on Bird City. Chloe provided a brief overview of how individual cities earn Bird City designation, what it means for the community, and how it benefits the community and the City as a whole. No action taken.

**C.2 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 15, 2026 MEETING; AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.**

A motion was made by Jan Wooldridge to approve the minutes for the January 15, 2026, meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Stephen Stremel. Motion carried.

**C.3 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE SQUIRE PARK CONCEPTUAL PLAN; AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.**

Tara Bradley, City Planner, addressed the board and presented on the Squire Park Conceptual Plan along with the schematic plans for redevelopment. Overall, they liked Option 2 with some tweaks:

- Remove G parking.
- Extend the trail where G was located.
- Move C pavilion to the center of the linear area (near letter G)
- Remove trail on the east side near letter I.
- Add a trail connection south of the playground so there is a trail surrounding the playground.
- We will need to look at the budget now with these changes to see if we can refine it before going to the next PARB and Council.

Jan Wooldridge moved to table this item until the March meeting to allow staff to bring back a modified Concept 2. The motion was seconded by Stephen Stremel. Motion carried.

**C.4 REVIEW OF THE RELOCATION OF LIBERTY PLAZA.**

Robert Diaz, Director of Parks & Recreation, addressed the board and reported that Mayor Pro Tem Tina Bennett-Burton requested that the Park staff bring back options to relocate Liberty Plaza from its current location. Staff presented the following options:

- Historical Park
- Keenan Cemetery
- Piece of park adjacent to Farmers Branch Park near The Branch Connection

Staff will develop visual concepts for the City Council to demonstrate how this can be done on the property. Robert reported that he is unaware of what is happening at the current location at this time. Funds allocated for this project are \$100,000. Board members expressed concern as to why Liberty Plaza is being relocated; they feel the current location has a very meaningful impact. Robert reported that the City Council did discuss this possibility at the February 3, 2026, City Council meeting.

**C.5 DISCUSS PARK BOARD TOUR DATES.**

Robert Diaz, Director of Parks & Recreation, recommended a fall tour date of September 19, 2026, and is seeking the Board's input. Current plans are to use a bus, post the tour.

**C.6 RECEIVE THE RECREATION DIVISION UPDATE.**

Jessica Alvarado, Recreation Superintendent, reported that positions at the Aquatics Center and the Recreation Center are currently being reclassified, where both divisions will have one unified manager overseeing the complex. There will be two supervisors officing out of the Recreation Center and one supervisor at the Aquatics Center, along with coordinators. No positions are being lost; positions are just being reclassified. This same structure was already implemented at The Branch Connection. Jessica reported that, in the interim, she will be officing at the Recreation Center, assisting with the transition, and returning to City Hall as needed.

The search for a complex manager was posted on the City's website. Elianna will now supervise the front desk operations at both locations, the Aquatics and Recreation Center. Ashley will oversee all Youth Programs, Community Outreach and Partnerships, and community events. And Dylan will oversee the wet side of Aquatics (indoor & outside pool).

No decision has been made at this time on replacing Tara Bradley's position as Park Planner.

**C.7 RECEIVE THE PARKS DIVISION UPDATE.**

Mark Moffeit, Parks Superintendent, reported on the Rose Rosette disease affecting the Rose Garden. Staff is currently trying to eradicate what remains of the diseased plants. Staff are planting other plant species in the garden to replace the diseased ones. One of the new plants that will be used in the garden is a Honey Hibiscus. Staff will also look at using various types of ornamental grasses throughout the garden.

**C.8 RECEIVE PARD DEPARTMENTAL PROJECT UPDATE.**

Tara Bradley, Park Planner, gave a report on the following projects:

- Dutch Village – Replacement playground
- Mercer Park
- Oakbrook Parkway Medians

**C.9 RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON PARKS, PROGRAMS, EVENTS, OR FACILITIES ATTENDED IN THE CITY OF FARMERS BRANCH.**

Barbara Leedy asked the staff about the fencing around the stage area at The Grove. Staff reported that it was placed there to protect the stage/storage area in the park.

Jan Wooldridge attended the tea at The Branch Connection; it was very nice. She noted that the tea was warm rather than hot, and staff might need to check the hot water urns' functionality prior to the event.

Stephen Stremel attended the Events Subcommittee meeting with Jennifer Nelson-Smith. Stephen praised Jocelyn Avina, Community Events Manager, for her work on the subcommittee and all the events she and her team produce. The next event is Gateway to the Globe on March 28, 2026. Jennifer stated that there will be a kangaroo on site at this event, as well as a petting zoo.

**C.10 DISCUSS POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS.**

- Park audit – March or April meeting
- Provide a native plant list for the Rose Garden replacement plants.
- More in-depth discussion on Bird City; possibly designating an exploratory subcommittee.

**D. ADJOURNMENT.**

David Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Christy Dimon. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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

---

Adriane Young, Chair

---

Linda Gaucin, Sr. Administrative  
Assistant