



City of Farmers Branch

Minutes

Farmers Branch
Dodson House
2540 Farmers Branch Ln
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

Historical Preservation & Restoration Board

Thursday, October 23, 2025

6:30 PM

Dodson House

Absent	2 – Chair Missy Dours and Member Samaria Cate
Presiding	1 – Vice Chair Christian Martinez
Present	5 – Member Teresa Webster, Member Ginny Welch, Member Sharon Montgomery, Alternate Helena Fregia, and Alternate Pat Steed
Staff	3 – Hillary Kidd, Historical Park Manager, Robert Diaz, Parks and Recreation Director, and Jessica Alvarado, Recreation Superintendent

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Christian Martinez at 6:30 PM. Alternate Helena Fregia and Alternate Pat Steed were assigned as voting members for the meeting due to absences of other members.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

This agenda item provides an opportunity for citizens to address the Board or Committee on any matter that is not posted on the agenda. Anyone wishing to address the Board or Committee should complete a Citizen Comments Registration Form and submit it to the Board Liaison or Board Chair prior to the start of the meeting. There is a three (3) minute time limit for each citizen to speak with a reasonable limitation on speakers on one topic or item with a maximum of fifteen total minutes on the same topic item. Anyone wishing to speak shall be courteous and cordial.

The Board or Committee is not permitted to take action on any subject raised by a speaker during Citizen Comments. However, the Chair may have the item placed on a future agenda for action; refer the item to the City Administration for further study or action; briefly state existing City policy; or provide a brief statement of factual information in response to the inquiry.

There were no citizen comments.

C. AGENDA ITEMS

25-829 Consider approval of the September 25, 2025 meeting minutes; and take appropriate action.

Member Teresa Webster moved to approve the minutes as written of the September 25, 2025 Board Meeting. Member Ginny Welch seconded. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye **5** – Member Teresa Webster, Member Ginny Welch, Member Sharon Montgomery, Alternate Helena Fregia, and Alternate Pat Steed

25-830 Discuss election of Board officers and their responsibilities; and take appropriate action.

Member Teresa Webster made a motion to table the election until the November 20, 2025 meeting. Member Sharon Montgomery seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye **5** – Member Teresa Webster, Member Ginny Welch, Member Sharon Montgomery, Alternate Helena Fregia, and Alternate Pat Steed

25-831 Consider applications to the Witness to History award; and take appropriate action.

Member Teresa Webster nominated Clare Connelly as the 50-year resident of the City of Farmers Branch. Member Ginny Welch nominated Pete's Café as the 50-year business in the City of Farmers Branch. Applications will be given to Clare Connelly and Jose Hernandez, owner of Pete's Café. Member Teresa Webster made a motion to postpone the Witness to History vote until the November 20, 2025 meeting. Member Ginny Welch seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye **5** – Member Teresa Webster, Member Ginny Welch, Member Sharon Montgomery, Alternate Helena Fregia, and Alternate Pat Steed

25-832 Receive an update on Historical Park current projects, events, and upcoming activities.

Hillary Kidd, Historical Park Manager, gave the update. A listing of events was included in the current Board packet. Highlights for upcoming events include:

Halloween in the Park, Sat., Oct 25, 5-10p - Cancelled

Branch Arts Live; Sun., Oct 26; Gussie Field Watterworth Park; 12:45-4p

Día de los Muertos; Thurs., Oct 30 6:30-9:30p; free; volunteer sign up was handed out

Fall Family Minis: Photoshoot; Sun., Nov 16 9a-5p; \$150 per 20-minute session

Victorian Fencing; Sun Nov 16; 1-3p, free

Mad Hatter Tea tickets on sale, Mon., Dec 1

Artchella: Summer Artventure Camp tickets on sale, Mon., Dec 1

Artchella: Surf's Up! Camp tickets on sale, Mon., Dec 1

Girls Make History Summer Camp tickets on sale, Mon., Dec 1

A Christmas Carnival, Sat., Dec 6, 5-9p

Christmas Teas, Sat., Dec. 6 and Sat., Dec. 13 – SOLD OUT

Christmas Exhibit Tours, Sat, Dec 6 & 13, Fri, Dec 12 & 19

Wreaths Across America, Sat, Dec 13 11am

Park Closed: Thurs and Fri, Nov 27-28 – Thanksgiving; Wed and Thurs, Dec 24-25 - Christmas

Park begins closing at 5p on Sun, Nov 2

Ann Christman took an early retirement and sold her home, moving out of Farmers Branch which led to her resignation from the Board.

Robert Diaz informed us of the cancellation of Halloween in the Park, due to bad weather.

A liaison is needed to help with Wreaths Across America on Dec. 13, 2025. Member Ginny Welch will help.

25-833 Receive an update from Board members on parks, programs, events, or facilities attended in the City of Farmers Branch.

Member Pat Steed and Ginny Welch attended the Friend's General meeting, September 20, 2025.

Member Teresa Webster, Chair Missy Dours, Alternate Pat Steed, Member Ginny Welch, and Alternate Helena Fregia attended Haunts & Houses.

Member Sharon Montgomery attended Young Frankenstein at the Firehouse Theater.

25-834 Discuss agenda items for future Historical Preservation and Restoration Board meetings.

For the November 20, 2025 meeting, add to the agenda:

- Board elections
- Witness to History award
- Review Board presentation for the yearly update to City Council which will take place on Tuesday, December 2, 2025.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Member Ginny Welch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Teresa Webster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Chair

Secretary