



City of Farmers Branch

Minutes

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

Historical Preservation & Restoration Board

Thursday, September 25, 2025

6:30 PM

Dodson House

Absent	4 – Member Teresa Webster, Member Ginny Welch, Member Ann Christman, and Member Sharon Montgomery
Presiding	1 – Chair Missy Dours
Present	4 – Member Christian Martinez, Member Samaria Cate, Alternate Helena Fregia, and Alternate Pat Steed
Staff	2 – Hillary Kidd, Historical Park Manager, and Jessica Alvarado, Recreation Superintendent

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Missy Dours 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.

Resident, Andy Olivo, residing at 2625 Farmers Branch Lane, attended the meeting and had several comments including: the name of Venue 1842 should change to the Christmas Hall because no one knows what 1842 refers to; wanting a community Christmas Tree and lights at the Historical Park; improved historic-style lighting along Ford Road; and Farmers Branch citizens would be willing to volunteer and install Christmas lights around the Historical Park if the City did not have the resources.

Chair, Missy Dours, explained the name Venue 1842 refers to when Farmers Branch was settled, that the name was selected after a thorough survey within the community, the name was one of two

selected by the Historical Preservation & Restoration Board, and the name was approved by City Council. Regarding the Christmas Tree and lights at the Historical Park, Recreation Superintendent, Jessica Alvarado, explained the upcoming Christmas Carnival and all the activities included with the community celebration scheduled for Saturday, December 6 and thanked him for his feedback on improved street lighting and holiday lights throughout the City.

C. AGENDA ITEMS

25-640 Consider approval of the August 28, 2025 meeting minutes; and take appropriate action.

Member Samaria Cate moved to approve the minutes as written of the August 28, 2025 Board Meeting. Alternate and assigned voting Member Pat Steed seconded. Motion carried by the following vote:

Aye **5** – Member Samaria Cate, Member Christian Martinez, Alternate Helena Fregia, and Alternate Pat Sneed

25-641 Discuss election of Board officers and their responsibilities; and take appropriate action.

Chair Missy Dours, discussed the responsibilities associated with the following positions: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Liaison to the Friends of the Historical Park. Elections will take place at the October 2025 meeting.

25-643 Consider applications to the Witness to History award; and take appropriate action.

Chair Missy Dours, addressed the qualifications for applicants for the Witness to History award - 50 years a resident or business in Farmers Branch. The suggestions of Clare Connelly was made and members will discuss further at a future meeting.

25-645 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:

Classic Car Show, postponed. Low registration and Sam Pack Ford moved their car show to the same date.

Haunts & Houses: Trick or Treating; Thurs., Oct 16, 4-6p; volunteer sign up was handed out

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

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

Christmas Teas are sold out for Sat., Dec. 6 and Sat., Dec. 13

Park Closed: Thurs and Fri, Nov 27-28 – Thanksgiving

Park begins closing at 5p on Sun, Nov 2

25-646 Receive an update from Board members on parks, programs, events, or facilities attended in the City of Farmers Branch.

A pickleball social party was held in August and enjoyed themselves.

25-647 Discuss agenda items for future Historical Preservation and Restoration Board meetings.

Board elections will take place at the October meeting. Discuss Witness to History award and also add update on Friends of the Historical Park under Historical Park current projects, events, and upcoming activities for October meeting.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Missy Dours adjourned the meeting at 6:59 PM.

Chair

Secretary