



# City of Farmers Branch

## Minutes

### Senior Advisory Board

The Branch Connection  
14055 Dennis Lane  
Farmers Branch, TX 75234

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Thursday, April 10, 2025

1:00 p.m.

Community Recreation Center -  
Pecan Room

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**Meeting was held at 1:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center - Pecan Room.**

**PRESIDING: Deborah Hull, Chair**

**PRESENT: Matt Rice, Vice Chair  
Tammy Bennett  
Mary Creason  
Joyce Benoit  
Rick Cathey  
Deborah Long  
Ruth Fuls, Emeritus**

**STAFF: Robert Diaz, Parks and Recreation Director  
Jessica Alvarado, Recreation Superintendent  
Jackie Byles, The Branch Connection Manager  
Jennifer Stone, Recreation Assistant Manager**

**ABSENT: Debra Krusehart, Secretary**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Deborah Hull, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm on Thursday, April 10, 2025.

**B. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**C. AGENDA ITEMS**

**C.1 Consider approval of Minutes for March 13, 2025, meeting and take appropriate action.**

Matt Rice made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Mary Creason seconded the motion, which carried.

**C.2 Review Events and Activities.**

Matt Rice reported that the trip to Choctaw included about 40 people. Another trip is scheduled in August.

Jackie Byles reported that 70 people attended the monthly breakfast, one of the highest attendances we have had recently. The next monthly breakfast will be at the Rec Center and then back at The Branch Connection.

The Fishin' Fun event is this month; volunteers are still needed in case anyone hasn't signed up yet.

On the trip schedule, the May trip to the Arboretum has been changed to Lone Star Park because the flowers will be in bloom by then. This is an evening event and includes all the non-alcoholic drinks, but you will need to buy your own. It is live horse racing and the last trip was in 2022.

Deborah Hull mentioned visiting Mixed Nuts and how funny they were, and it might be a good event to consider for the future for The Branch Connection.

**C.3 Receive an Update from the following appointed subcommittees and take appropriate action:**

- **Spotlight**
- **Memorial**
- **Century**
- **Social Program Series**
- **Veterans Day**
- **Renovation**

The following updates were provided for each subcommittee:

- Spotlight: None.
- Memorial: Committee needs to review and discuss new forms and criteria. Virginia Cline has volunteered for 20 years and is worthy of the award recognition. She is 93 years old.
- Century: None.
- Social Program Series: Jennifer needs the theme, food type for the July 11<sup>th</sup> event at 1 pm– 3 pm. Some thoughts were included on food/games/entertainment.
- Veterans Day: Meeting has been rescheduled from 3/18/25 to 4/15/25. Matt Rice reported that a lunch has been scheduled with a potential guest speaker for the event. Veterans Day Event will be on November 11, 2025, at The Branch Connection.

- Renovation: Jackie Byles said they are working on ceilings, small items such as finishes and getting final walk-throughs with the fire department, etc. A walk-through will be on May 8<sup>th</sup> for our monthly board meeting at 1:00 pm at The Branch Connection. Robert Diaz reported that City Council and the Park Board members have been invited to participate, but he is not sure who will be in attendance. Opening is still on board for May 12, 2025

**C.4 Discuss agenda items for future Senior Advisory Board members.**

None

**C.5 Receive the Senior Advisory Board and City Council updated calendar and take appropriate action.**

- Jackie Byles reminded the board that since the May meeting will be a walk-through, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter report will be on the June agenda. The report will be from October 2024 through March 2025.
- Robert Diaz reported that no date is available yet for the Sunset Review.
- Jackie Byles reported the Year In Review will be in November.

**B. ADJOURNMENT**

Matt Rice moved to adjourn the meeting. Tammy Bennett seconded the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

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Deborah Hull, Chair

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Debra Krusehart, Secretary