



**FARMERS
BRANCH**

City of Farmers Branch

Minutes

Historical Preservation & Restoration Board

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

Thursday, July 23, 2020

6:30 PM

Dodson House

Meeting held at 6:30 PM via Zoom

Presiding: Chair Ann Christman

Present: Melissa Dours, Johannes Hylkema, Betina Miller, Danielle Neumeyer, Bill Stolp, and Ginny Welch.

Staff: Hillary Kidd, Historical Park Manager

A. AGENDA ITEMS

A.1 Call to order.

Meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

A.2 Approval of minutes from the June 25, 2020 Board meeting; and take appropriate action.

Johannes Hylkema moved to approve the minutes. Bill Stolp seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A.3 Introduction of new Board members.

There are two new Board members, Betina Miller and Ginny Welch. Betina has lived in Farmers Branch since 2014. She is married and has two boys. Ginny has lived in Farmers Branch since 1987. She teaches kindergarten at Janie Stark Elementary. She has been a Historical Park volunteer. Warren Wetzel is no longer on the Board as he has moved out of Farmers Branch. Two positions on the Board are still open. There have been some applicants, but applications are open for the next two weeks.

A.4 Consider annual appointments for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary; and take appropriate action.

The current Board officers have agreed to another term: Ann Christman – Chair, Johannes Hylkema – Vice Chair, and Danielle Neumeyer – Secretary. There were no other Board members seeking appointments. Johannes Hylkema moved to appoint the officers for another term. Bill Stolp seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ann reviewed the Board appointment terms. Normally Board members are appointed for two years. However, Betina Miller is filling the seat vacated by Kay Lynn Lyon. Betina will be on the Board for one year, and then will need to re-apply. Ginny Welch has been appointed for a new two-year term. Johannes and Ann were reappointed. This will be Ann's last two years as it will be her maximum of six years.

A.5 Discuss *Witness to History Award*; and take appropriate action.

The *Witness to History Award* is appointed to an outstanding business that has been in Farmers Branch for 50 years or more, or a person who has been in Farmers Branch 75 years or more. The award process starts now, is voted on in October, and presented by City Council in February. The application was included in the Board Packet. Danielle Neumeyer asked why an individual needs to be a resident for 75 years, as that seems excessive. Ann Christman and Hillary Kidd are going to look into the individual requirements for the *Witness to History Award*.

A.6 Discuss Board questionnaire; and take appropriate action.

Ann Christman sent out a questionnaire just prior to the meeting for the Board to respond to. Given the short amount of time to consider the questions, Melissa Dours moved to table the topic for next month. Ginny Welch seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ann asked that Board members send feedback to the questionnaire by August 10.

A.7 Receive committee updates; and take appropriate action.

Johannes Hylkema gave an update on the Fundraising committee. He has met with Hillary Kidd, but in person meetings with a fundraising committee have been limited due to COVID restrictions. Hillary offered up the Church as a location to meet and social distance. A big goal of the Board is to come up with a plan of action for the fundraising committee. A potential option is to partner with The Friends of the Historical Park. Johannes noted that he has met with the Friends last year, and will reach out again to Clare Connally, Friends of the Farmers Branch Historical Park President.

A.8 Receive an update from Board members on parks, programs, events, or facilities attended in the City of Farmers Branch; and take appropriate action.

Danielle Neumeyer inquired on how things are changing since Victoria Anderson's departure as Museum Educator. The Historical Park has three part-time Park Attendants; with one of those positions being currently vacant. Hillary Kidd is looking to fill the Curator and Museum Educator positions. Hillary noted the Girls Make History Camp just completed. It was sold out, and a great success. They will have a display in City Hall of the quilt made during camp. Melissa Dours asked if the Park was planning any events for the upcoming school year tailored to home schooled students. As of right now, Hillary said there is nothing planned, but there are discussions on what programming can be created to support homeschoolers, such as life skill events.

Hillary gave an overview of Park personnel and positions. Hillary is the Historical Park Manager, which is like a Museum Director. Kim Jolly Chapman is the Historical Park Coordinator. Bonnie Neumann

is the Historical Cultural Specialist who does modern programming, which are specialty programming not tailored to historical events. There are also two maintenance staff members.

Johannes Hylkema asked if non-residents of Farmers Branch could be involved in helping out the programming and initiatives of the Historical Park. Hillary said that volunteers to the Park can be non-residents of Farmers Branch.

A.9 Discuss agenda items for future Historical Preservation and Restoration Board Meetings, and take appropriate action.

No new items, besides the Park Questionnaire were brought up for the August Meeting. Ann Christman discussed the timeline for agenda items. The agenda is approved the week before the monthly meeting. The City Secretary's Office must approve the agenda, and then the agenda is posted, so August 10 is the deadline for the Board members adding items for August.

B. ADJOURNMENT

Danielle Neumeyer moved to adjourn the meeting. Melissa Dours seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.



Chair



Recording Secretary