



**FARMERS  
BRANCH**

**MINUTES  
CITIZEN BOND COMMITTEE  
FARMERS BRANCH COMMUNITY  
RECREATION CENTER  
14050 HEARTSIDE PLACE  
FARMERS BRANCH, TEXAS 75234  
OCTOBER 27, 2016  
7:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Chairperson Michelle Holmes, Tamara Cleghorn, Rodger Cramer, Martina De Los Santos, Jorge Gonzalez, Michael Driskill, Meredith McLeod, Marcus Miller, David Merritt, Joan O'Shea, Nic Rady, Tim Yarbrough

**Members Absent:** Bronson Blackson, Vincent Montenegro, James Webb, Colin Eddy

**Staff Present:** John Roach, Special Projects Manager, John Land, Deputy City Manager, Steve Parker, Fire Chief

**Guests:** Artie Palmer, Billy McLeod

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Michelle Holmes called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion made by Rodger Cramer to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2016 Citizen Bond Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Tim Yarbrough. *Motion approved unanimously.*

**3. DISCUSS LISTENING MEETING OUTCOMES, DISCUSS PROGRESS OF THE CITIZEN BOND SUB-COMMITTEES DESIGNATED TO CONSIDER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-RESIDENTIAL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-COMMERCIAL, PARKS & RECREATION, ARTS & CULTURE, PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS AND PROPOSALS, AND REVIEW AND EDIT POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

Chairperson Holmes reported there were 3 of 11 reports outstanding, needed from Committee members by end of week, to be added to the final report for City Council. Ms. Holmes stated that she would complete final edits on project plans for Tiers 1, 2, and 3 as well as add results from Listening Meetings to the final report. All Committee members would receive an emailed copy of the final report.

The Committee revisited earlier subcommittee recommendations for Library reconstruction, noting that they were not in agreement with Library Board requests for renovation of the

existing building, or with recommendations from an updated estimate by Gallagher Construction Services with a proposed renovation cost of \$7M-\$8M, and no or limited expansion. The earlier proposal from the subcommittee to double the square footage of the Library to 70K square feet was deemed excessive, and it was determined that Library needs included repurposing of space, technology upgrades and parking and a possible expansion of space to 44K square feet from 35K square feet.

Motion was made by Rodger Cramer to recommend a renovation of the Library for \$7.9M with more detailed information from Gallagher Construction specific to square footage and renovation costs. Motion seconded by Martina De Los Santos. *Motion approved unanimously.*

The Committee discussed hotel/motel tax support for funding Historical Park restorations and possible certificates of obligation to purchase a 75K square foot building for Park purposes that is currently on the market. It was considered that when the City purchases a commercial property it goes off the tax rolls thereby impacting City coffers. It was also noted that we couldn't issue bonds to support the hotel/motel tax however hotel/motel taxes can be saved to front a bond. The Committee suggested there might be opportunity to partner with private sector to fund the building purchase through shared use and multi-purposing of space.

Meeting guest Billy McLeod proposed the idea of Frisbee golf to be added to the Trails Master Plan for \$20K and included in the Tier 1 bond proposal. The Committee recognized this idea as a program not qualified for bond support.

The Committee gave a final review of the power point presentation and written report to Council of our recommendations.

Motion was made by Meredith McLeod to accept the Tier proposals as they stand. Motion seconded by Michelle Holmes. *Motion carried with one opposed.*

John Land explained the process following the conclusion of meetings and dissolution of the Citizens Bond Committee. Ms. Holmes reported that the group had collectively accrued 2400 volunteer hours and acquired 373 responses from Farmers Branch citizens through community outreach: Listening meetings, City sponsored events and online. She reminded the Committee to attend the November 1 City Council meeting in show of support of our collective work.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Michelle Holmes. Motion seconded by Joan O'Shea. *Motion approved unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Attest:

  
Chair

  
Secretary