City of Farmers Branch

Farmers Branch City Hall
13000 Wm Dodson Pkwy
Farmers Branch, Texas
75234

Meeting Agenda - Final

City Council

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 **4:00 PM** **Farmers Branch Historical Park**
2540 Farmers Branch Lane
Farmers Branch, Texas 75238

Special Called Meeting
Joint City Council and Historical Preservation and Restoration Board Meeting

Presiding:	**1 -**	Mayor Bob Phelps
City Council Members Present:	**5 -**	Mayor Pro Tem Harold Froehlich, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Ana Reyes, Council Member John Norwood, Council Member Terry Lynne, Council Member Mike Bomgardner
Historical Preservation Board Members Present:	**9 -**	Chair Clare Connally, Vice Chair Beth Wood, Ann Christman, Marjorie Cutler, Scott Ames, Elisa "Bitsy" Laney, Carol Dingman, Kay Lynn Lyon, and Emeritus Patsy Mayo
Staff:	-	Charles Cox City Manager, John Land Deputy City Manager, Amy Piukana City Secretary, Braeden Metcalf City Attorney, Benjamin Williamson Assistant to City Manager, Sherrelle Evans-Jones Director of Finance, Allison Cook Director of Economic Development, Jeff Harting Director of Parks and Recreation, Derrick Birdsall Historical Park Superintendent, Danielle Brissette Museum Educator

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Phelps called the joint meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

B. AGENDA ITEMS

B.1 17-439 **Discuss Historical Park Future Capital Projects.**

Historical Park Superintendent Derrick Birdsall welcomed everyone to the Dodson Historical Building.

Council Member Norwood asked Staff to provide an update regarding the Buchanan Building. Economic Development Director Allison Cook provided an update, stating she contacted the

Buchanan building owner to see if they had any interest in selling the building to the City. Ms. Cook stated the owner replied they are currently negotiating a contract with another buyer.

Historical Park Chair Clare Connally thanked staff for researching the Buchanan building.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Reyes asked if the Historical Park Board had researched any other locations.

Board Member Connally stated the Historical Park Board is looking for a climate controlled storage facility that can store and display historical artifacts and collections. She further stated the board has researched the meadow celebration area, property adjacent to the Historical Park, and an area near Ford Road. She explained none of these locations worked out, due to parking and flood plain issues.

Council Member Lynne suggested the Historical Park Board create a written business plan. He stated the following two items are necessary:
1) Itemize and protect what we have, and;
2) Prepare list of needs, office space, and costs
He urged more sponsorship be sought for programs, and to consider charging for certain events. He suggested the Board consider soliciting benefactors to find some improvements such as the footbridges.

Board Member Marjorie Cutler asked City Council to provide a vision to the Historical Park Board, so they can meet Council's expectations.

City Manager Charles Cox explained the City recently completed debt service payment for the conference section of the Dr. Pepper Star Center, which freed up $300,000, from the hotel motel tax fund. These funds can now be used for the Historical Park. Mr. Cox stated Certificates of Obligations could be used to fund a new museum building. He explained City Hall front lobby area could be used to show case some of the historical artifacts.

Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Harting suggested researching grant funding.

Council Member Norwood stated he supports planning for a new building in the bird sanctuary location. He urged the Committee to meet, review and comprise a plan and work with non-profits and charity organizations.

Mayor Pro Tem Froehlich suggested researching funds necessary to carry out the plan, noting there are many other costs, such as employee and building maintenance costs.

Council Member Bomgardner explained with his private business, maintenance and expenditures on building upkeep was approximately $72,000 a year. He further stated this amount does not include staff compensation.

Former Mayor John Dodd suggested the Historical Board comprise a comprehensive plan with a one or two year timeline.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Reyes suggested having the Historical Parks Board meet with a facilitator who could assist with the creation of a plan.

Deputy City Manager John Land stated a Historical Park Board meeting would be set for Friday, April 21, 2017 at 1 p.m. at City Hall.

C. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Council Member Norwood to adjourn the meeting at 5:54 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Bomgardner. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Mayor Pro Tem Froehlich, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Reyes, Council Member Norwood, Council Member Bomgardner, Council Member Lynne

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Mayor,
Bob Phelps

ATTEST:
Amy Piukana,
City Secretary

Clare Connally,
Chair of Historical Board