



## **Foundation Academic Angels Committee Meeting**

**Minutes for Tuesday, October 6, 2020**

**2:00PM**

### **Meeting Participants**

#### **Committee Members Present**

Christine Anderson, Marge Dodge (Chair), Norma Castaneda and

#### **Non-Voting Committee Members Present**

Cynthia Cottrell and Linda Weakley

#### **Committee Members Not Present**

Nancy Harris and Roberta Duke-Jennings and Jane Saltonstall

#### **Guest(s)**

Catherine Abbott, Gailya Brown and Bill Chunowitz

#### **Recorder**

Eve-Marie Dehondt

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03PM. Marge Dodge introduced Cynthia Cottrell who just joined the Committee to the Committee members.

#### **2. Action Items**

**2.1 Approval of Agenda: Foundation Academic Angels Committee Meeting of October 6, 2020 Agenda:** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2), the Committee may take action on items of business not appearing on the posted agenda, upon a determination by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a

need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted as specified in subdivision (a).

**2.1 Confirmation of Agenda: Approval of Agenda for the Academic Angels Committee Meeting of October 6, 2020 with any addition, correction or deletions.**

**2.1 Conclusion**

Christine Anderson moved to approve the agenda as presented, Norma Castaneda seconded.

Motion carried.

| <b>2.1 Follow-up Items</b> | <b>2.1 Task of</b> | <b>2.1 Due by</b> |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| None                       | None               | None              |

**3. Minutes**

3.1 Approval of the Academic Angels Committee Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2020

The minutes were approved as presented.

**4. Comments from the Public**

**3. 1 Comments From The Public:** Comments from the Public: In accordance with Executive Order N-25-20 and guidance from the California Department of Public Health on gatherings, remote public participation is allowed and will be accepted by email until October 5, 2020 at 5PM to [codfoundation@collegeofthedesert.edu](mailto:codfoundation@collegeofthedesert.edu) and read into the record during public comment.

There were no comments from the public received.

**5. Discussion Items**

**5.1 Youth Leadership Program**

Cathy Abbott provided an update on the Youth Leadership Program. She met with the Leadership Coachella Valley on October 5 and had the opportunity to bring the proposal to their board to collaborate with COD Foundation and allow a cohort of students to participate in the Leadership Coachella Valley’s program, which is a 10-session program.

Leadership Coachella Valley responded very positively to the offer to work with the Foundation and would like to move forward selecting 3 to 6 students in the Fall of 2021 to participate in the program. Cathy Abbott suggested that the fundraising

for this program could be done during the Stepping Up for COD campaign. The LCV Board would like to draft an MOU to ensure longevity and commitment towards this program. As their program is currently on hold due to COVID-19, they have four more sessions that they need to finish in January 2021. Leadership Coachella Valley has invited both Cathy Abbott and Gailya Brown to participate in the next 4 classes to observe and report on any suggestions for improvement they have on the current curriculum.

Leadership Coachella Valley suggested that the students could fill out an application including a 100-word essay, to make the application a set process that would bring buy in from the students to participate in the program. Finally, successful students who completed the program would be offered a scholarship to continue their studies at the College.

One of the pillar of the Stepping Up for COD Campaign is dedicated to this program through the Fund for Student Success; however, Marge Dodge encouraged the Academic Angels to contribute by raising additional funding for this program.

The Committee positively received the initiative that they consider would be a great way for the Foundation to connect with local businesses and to relaunch the President’s Business Circle.

**5.1 Conclusion**

Linda Weakley will gather some information and techniques she developed over the years, particularly on leadership, and motivational skills training, which could be useful to the program.

Cathy Abbott recommended that ‘**Motivation**’ and ‘**Team Building**’ could be two training topics that would worth infusing into the Chambers’ existing program. Cathy Abbott will provide Linda Weakley with the LCV current curriculum for her input.

Norma Castaneda also offered to help work together with Cathy Abbott and Linda Weakley, as she may have webinars that could be used, particularly on job interviewing skills.

Cathy Abbott will work with Marge Dodge to draft a sponsorship package for the program, which they will bring to the Committee at the next meeting.

| <b>5.1 Follow-up Items</b>   | <b>5.1 Task of</b> | <b>5.1 Due by</b> |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| Cathy Abbott will share the Chambers’ current curriculum with Linda Weakley for her input. | Cathy Abbott       | November 10, 2020 |

|  |               |                   |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| Linda Weakley will gather some useful information on training techniques she developed over the years. | Linda Weakley | November 10, 2020 |
| Cathy Abbott will work with Marge Dodge to draft a sponsorship package for the program.                | Cathy Abbott  | November 10, 2020 |

**5.2 Academic Angels Supporting the President’s Circle Committee**

Marge Dodge and Cathy Abbott provided background on the President’s Circle and explained that they are currently organizing culinary virtual events including COD Students, as well as a Martini Cocktail Party featuring the President of the College. Marge Dodge suggested that that Academic Angels should work in conjunction with the President’s Circle Committee on these events.

**5.2 Conclusion**

The Committee unanimously agreed to work with the President’s Circle Committee. Cathy Abbott will connect with the President’s Circle members in that regards.

| <b>5.2 Follow-up Items</b>   | <b>5.2 Task of</b> | <b>5.2 Due by</b> |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| Cathy Abbott will connect with the President’s Circle members to discuss how the Academic Angels Committee can help. | Cathy Abbott       | November 2020     |

**5.3 Holiday Event in December**

Historically, the Academic Angels organized a holiday luncheon. Marge Dodge proposed that members who will have renewed their membership after receiving the mailing inviting them to do so, should be invited to a cocktail event at Cuistot, where Cathy Abbott will be introduced and present the Stepping Up for COD campaign.

**5.3 Conclusion**

The Committee discussed the ideal timing for this event and recommended to set it up around January to coincide with the Campaign’s launch. The renewals letters should then invite recipients to renew their memberships by the end of the fiscal year to benefit from their tax deductions, and should include a note that renewed members would be invited the cocktail party. The Committee will continue to discuss these letters at their next meeting to find when they should be sent.

Marge Dodge will contact Cuistot for information on how we could organize this and cancellation options.

| <b>5.3 Follow-up Items</b>   | <b>5.3 Task of</b> | <b>5.3 Due by</b> |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| Marge Dodge will contact Cuistot for information on how we could organize this and cancellation options. | Marge Dodge        | November 2020     |

## **6. Adjournment**

The Committee Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:46 PM.

### **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, November 10, 2PM - Zoom