

## **Foundation Executive Committee Regular Meeting (Wednesday, February 21, 2024)**

*Generated by Dotty Durney on Thursday, February 22, 2024*

### **1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

#### 1.1 Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:32pm

#### 1.2 Roll Call

Members present: Diane Rubin, Christine Anderson, Bill Chunowitz, Marge Dodge, Barbara Fromm, Tom Minder, Rob Moon, Jane Saltonstall, Jake Wuest.

Non-voting members: Laura Hope, Rod Garcia.

Staff: Catherine Abbott.

Recorder: Dotty Durney

### **2. AGENDA**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2), the Board may take action on items of business not appearing on the posted agenda, upon a determination by a 2/3 vote of the Board, or (if less than 2/3 of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those 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.

2.1 Confirmation of Agenda: Approval of agenda for the February 21, 2024, Foundation Executive Meeting with any additions, corrections, or deletions.

Agenda was approved as amended to include discussion of Finance Ad Hoc Investment Committee.

### **3. MINUTES**

Approval of January 21, 2024, Foundation Executive Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Tom Minder to approve minutes as amended and the motion was seconded by Bill Chunowitz.

The minutes were approved as amended.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

In accordance with Senate Bill 361 and guidance from the California Department of Public Health on gatherings, remote public participation is allowed and will be accepted in person, by email to [codfoundation@collegeofthedesert.edu](mailto:codfoundation@collegeofthedesert.edu) and read into the record during public comment or by using the raise your hand function by joining the Zoom link. All requests should be directed to the Foundation by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

There were no public comments.

### **5. REPORT ITEMS**

#### 5.1 Administrative Comments

##### 5.1.1 Rod Garcia, COD Vice President, Academic Services

- Reported that the Board of Trustees approved the building of the Schnitzer Art Museum. The project will cost approximately \$30M. Mr. Schnitzer will be leasing at market value.
- Board issued \$200M in bonds last month. Roughly \$1M in sales went to local residents.
- The City of Palm Desert has taken over management of the library from the County, and they have signed a 5-year lease with the College. The City's goal is to build a new library at a different location at the end of this lease, so the College will take back the building at that time.

##### 5.1.2 Laura Hope, COD Interim Superintendent/President

- She shared the appreciation expressed by the visiting Japanese Hospitality students for the backpacks given to them by our Academic Angels. We will be sending two students and one faculty to Japan next week as part of this same Hospitality exchange program.
- Roadrunner Express ribbon cutting was last week.
- We've recently received two grants: one will be used to focus on education programs in connection with UCR; the other will focus on healthcare in coordination with Cal State San Bernardino. The healthcare grant has the capacity to increase our Nursing program by approximately 100 students. The College is looking for space now for that expansion.
- The Board of Trustees has hired construction management companies for Roadrunner Motors and for the Palm Springs expansion.
- Barbara Foster Monachino has been appointed to the Citizens Bond Oversight committee.

##### 5.1.3 Diane Rubin, Board Chair

- Clay Walker has been signed as entertainer at Stepping Out.
- First edition of the RoundUp newsletter went out earlier this month. Congratulations to Marge Dodge and Rob Moon for their work on the newsletter.
- Talked about the need to attract prominent, recognizable names to our Board membership.

##### 5.1.4 Catherine Abbott, Foundation Executive Director

- Created list of speaking points about the art museum and will distribute those after this meeting.
- Kirstien Renna has accepted offer as Financial Officer for the Foundation.
- Our former STEM/NASA student, Grecia Gutierrez (currently a UCSD student) has accepted a summer internship with Blue Origin.
- Bob and Connie Lurie have given a \$150,000 challenge grant to help support the Roadrunner Essentials program. This grant will be made over three years at \$50,000 each year.
- We have been invited to submit a grant proposal to the Donald and Coeta Barker Foundation for \$125,000 per year for the next three years, also supporting the Roadrunner Essentials program.
- Cathy and Liz Chambers will attend memorial services for Jane Lykken Hoff tomorrow representing the College. She has left a portion of her estate to the COD Nursing program, and we will learn more about that tomorrow.
- Announced the passing of former Board member, JoAnne McGrath.

#### 5.2 Directors' Reports (Reports may be submitted by emailing the Foundation at [codfoundation@collegeofthedesert.edu](mailto:codfoundation@collegeofthedesert.edu))

##### 5.2.1 Rob Moon, Director of Resource Development and Stewardship

- President's Circle event, Pizza and Putting, will be held 11:00am-2:00pm Sunday, March 3 at Shadow Mountain Resort in Palm Desert.
  - We are in the planning stages for the first President's Circle event for next year, a showing of "Invisible Valley" at the Palm Springs Cultural Center. He, Jane, and Tom are working with Mary Pohl, a producer of the film, and the Cultural Center to schedule the showing in November.
  - Discussed planned changes to the structure of the President's Circle committee; moving from standing committee to ad hoc.
  - Talked about the redesign of the benefits brochure for the President's Circle membership.
  - Reviewed status of membership renewals
- 5.2.2 Marge Dodge, Director of Recognition and Outreach
- Backpacks were delivered last week to the Japanese exchange students in the Hospitality program.
  - Academic Angels mixer will be held March 6 at the Yard House in Rancho Mirage.
  - Spring Into Summer luncheon will be held March 18 at Desert Horizons Country Club in Indian Wells. Bert Bitanga will do a presentation focusing on the Tiny House program.
- 5.2.3 Jane Saltonstall, Director of Programs/Campus Connections
- Campus Grants committee will meet on Monday to decide on allotments.
  - New Board member candidates will be voted on today during the full Board meeting.
  - A new slate of officers will be presented at the March Board meeting.
- 5.2.4 Jake Wuest, Treasurer
- The Finance committee did not meet this past month, so he has no update for the committee.
- 5.2.5 Chris Anderson, Chair Legacy Leaders
- The Legacy Leaders will be meeting for brunch and a short program at noon on Sunday, May 5 at the McCallum Theater prior to the "Guys and Dolls" matinee show. All Board members are invited to attend. Two new Legacy Leaders members will be recognized at that time. More information to come.
- 5.2.6 Barbara Fromm, Secretary
- She is working with Cathy Abbott to revitalize the internship program.

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 6.1 Update on New Format of President's Circle

Rob Moon discussed the planned format changes for the President's Circle. This entails changing the structure to an ad hoc committee that would meet a proposed three times per year, and whose purpose would be to increase the membership of the President's Circle.

### 6.2 Board Member Recruitment

Diane Rubin reiterated the need to add new Board members this next year for a total of 26-27 members. She encouraged all members to pass along suggested names to Jane, Cathy, or her.

### 6.3 New Events Committee

Diane would like for us to organize a fundraiser in addition to Stepping Out. She and Cathy are considering an event to recognize alumni, educator, etc. with a President's Award. This is in the very early stages of brainstorming, and suggestions are encouraged.

### 6.4 Ad Hoc Investment Committee

This is an offshoot of the Finance Committee; it will be led by Joan Lamb and include Tom Minder and Dale Landon, in addition to Jake Wuest. The ad hoc committee will be evaluating the investments managed by First Republic, Cerity, and Merrill Lynch. The ad hoc committee will be looking at the investment policies used by each of the managers, as well as the investments themselves. Diane reminded the group that there are certain laws that non-profits must abide by, and that the policies will be set by the full Board, not the ad hoc committee.

### 6.5 Upcoming Events

6.5.1 State of the College 5:00-7:00pm Thursday, February 29 at Toyota of the Desert in Cathedral City

6.5.2 Pizza & Putting Par-Tee 11:00am-2:00pm Sunday, March 3 at Shadow Mountain Resort in Palm Desert

6.5.3 The Springs Woman Presentation 11:30am Thursday, March 14 at the Springs Country Club in Rancho Mirage

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Next Meeting: March 27, 2024, 1:30 - 2:45 PM

7.2 Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:47pm