



**Foundation Academic Angels Committee Meeting
Minutes for Tuesday, December 8, 2020
2:00PM**

Meeting Participants

Committee Members Present

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

Non-Voting Committee Members Present

Cynthia Cottrell and Linda Weakley

Committee Members Not Present

Roberta Duke-Jennings and Nancy Harris

Guest(s)

Catherine Abbott, Gailya Brown, Bill Chunowitz and Matthew Durkan

Recorder

Eve-Marie Dehondt

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 2:01PM.

2. Action Items

2.1 Approval of Agenda: Foundation Academic Angels Committee Meeting of December 8, 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 December 8, 2020 with any addition, correction or deletions.

2.1 Conclusion

Christine Anderson moved to approve the agenda as presented, Jane Saltonstall seconded.

Motion carried.

2.1 Follow-up Items	2.1 Task of	2.1 Due by
None	None	None

3. Minutes

3.1 Approval of the Academic Angels Committee Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2020.

Linda Weakley asked to make a correction to a typo under 5.1.2 "Fall of 20201".

The minutes were approved as corrected.

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 December 7, 2020 at 5PM to codfoundation@collegeofthedesert.edu and read into the record during public comment.

There were no comments from the public received.

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Membership Renewal Letter Update

Marge Dodge thanked the Foundation Staff for sending the renewal letters. Thus far, 13 donors have renewed their memberships. According to the database, there are:

- 166 expired Academic Angel members
- 104 Lifetime Academic Angels members
- 26 current Academic Angels of which 13 have renewed after the eblast that was sent in November

The Committee discussed the reasons why some of the Lifetime Members left in the past and how these members could be approached now that the Foundation has a new management team. The Committee agreed that stewardship and cultivation of these donors will be necessary to gain their trust again, and that they should be notified on what is happening with the Foundation on a regular basis.

The Development Team and the Board should work on contacting these donors personally and build a trusting relationship with them. Bill Chunowitz offered to reach out to Diane Denkler, one of the Academic Angels members who did not leave in good terms, to gauge whether she would be interested in joining again, now that a new team is in place. The Committee agreed that some excuses should be provided to these members on how things were handled in the past.

Marge Dodge will update the membership renewal letter for it to be sent around December 18 to Academic Angels who have not renewed their membership yet. Christine Anderson pointed out that the new Leadership Program is very attractive to donors and should be highlighted in that letter.

5.1.1 Membership Renewal Cycle

The Committee discussed the membership renewal cycle, which is currently a rolling membership renewal. Cathy Abbott mentioned that the Foundation is considering moving the President’s Circle memberships to a static renewal based on the calendar year from December to December. This will go for approval at the next Development Committee meeting on December 17.

The Committee agreed to adopt the same static renewal for the Academic Angels’ memberships to align with the President’s Circle Memberships renewals and simplify the process.

5.1 Conclusion

Christine Anderson moved to adopt an annual static membership renewal that will go from December to December, Jane Saltonstall seconded. Motion carried.

The committee confirmed that people who will renew their membership before the end of the year 2020 will have their membership valid until December 2021.

5.1 Follow-up Items	5.1 Task of	5.1 Due by
Marge Dodge will update the membership renewal letter for it to be sent around December 18 to Academic Angels who have not renewed their membership yet and include the new Leadership Program.	Marge Doge	December 17, 2020

Bill Chunowitz will reach out to Diane Denkler and invite her back to the Academic Angels.	Bill Chunowitz	January 2021
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5.2 Thank You Event on January 14, 2021

The Committee discussed the Thank You Event scheduled on January 14, 2021, which will be hosted virtually.

Marge Dodge shared her experience as she recently attended a wine and pie auction virtual event. The Committee considered implementing some of the ideas from that event for their January event, such as sending little bottles of wine and snacks to participants ahead of time, have presentations from Cathy Abbott and Matt Durkan and have the participants wine taste and mingle at the end. The Leadership Program should be an important part of the presentation and Shawn Abramowitz from Leadership Coachella Valley could be invited to present his experience working with youth to the Academic Angels.

Dr. Kinnamon and Patti Newman were also mentioned as potential speakers for the event. The Committee discussed whether this event should be postponed due to the amount of work required to make it successful.

5.2 Conclusion

Marge Dodge indicated that Frank Goldstin recently renewed his Academic Angel’s membership and she suggested that her and Norma Castaneda should contact him to see if he could help set up the event, on a low budget.

Norma Castaneda recommended helping small businesses and organizations that are connected to the College to do any of the virtual events to help the Community during COVID.

5.2 Follow-up Items	5.2 Task of	5.2 Due by
Marge Dodge and Norma Castaneda will contact Frank Goldstin to see if he could help set up the January 14 event on a low budget.	Marge Dodge	December 2020

5.3 Youth Leadership Program Update

There was no report on Youth Leadership Program at this time.

5.3 Follow-up Items	5.3 Task of	5.3 Due by
None	None	None

5.4 Academic Angels Supporting the President’s Circle Committee Update

Cathy Abbott started discussions with the President’s Circle Committee on how they could expand their group and work with the Academic Angels. As per the recommendation of the President’s Circle Committee members, she will be reaching out to Cabrillo College’s Executive Director, as they have a successful President’s Circle and could share best practices on how to have an engaging Circle in compliance with the Brown Act.

5.4 Follow-up Items	5.4 Task of	5.4 Due by
Cathy Abbott will reach out to Cabrillo College’s Executive Director as they have a successful President’s Circle and could share best practices on how to have an engaging Circle in compliance with the Brown Act	Cathy Abbott	January 11, 2020

6. Adjournment

The Committee Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:47 PM.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 12, 2021, 2:00 PM - Zoom