



**Foundation Academic Angels Committee Meeting  
Minutes for Tuesday, December 7, 2021  
2:00PM**

**Meeting Participants**

**Committee Members Present**

Marge Dodge (Chair) and Norma Castaneda

**Non-Voting Committee Members Present**

Nancy Harris

**Committee Members NOT Present**

Cynthia Cottrell, Peggy Jacobs and Linda Weakley

**Guest(s)**

Gailya Brown and Matt Durkan

**Recorder**

Eve-Marie Dehondt

**Meeting Minutes**

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

**1.1 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 7, 2021 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 7, 2021 with any addition, correction or deletions.**

**2.1 Conclusion**

Marge Dodge 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 November 9, 2021.

The minutes were approved as presented.

**4. Comments from the Public**

**4.1 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. There is a time limit of three (3) minutes per person. All comments must be submitted or brought forward prior to the end of the public comments section. Persons with disabilities may make a written request for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the Committee meeting. All requests should be directed to the Foundation in advance.

There were no comments received from the public.

**5. Action & Discussion Items**

**5.1 Debrief of the November 18 Welcome Back Member Tea Event**

The Welcome Back Member Tea that took place on November 18, 2021 from 3PM to 5PM at Barbara Fromm’s house in Indian Ridge was a success. The format worked well and the attendees provided positive feedback. One suggestion was that attendees could have been provided with more information on the Learning to Lead

Program from Susie Henry, the Executive Director for the Leadership Coachella Valley. The Committee was not informed that she would be participating and they agreed to invite her again for their next event.

The Committee agreed to have the next Welcome Back Tea event in October 2022.

5.1 Follow-up Items	5.1 Task of	5.1 Due by
The Committee agreed to have the next Welcome Back Tea event in October 2022.		Mid-2022

### 5.2 Membership and Renewal Email Blast Update

Marge Dodge provided an update on the renewal of the Academic Memberships letters. She drafted two letters: one for the renewing members and one for new members. The letter for the renewing member will be sent by December 15 to the current and expired Academic Angels members. The letter for new members will be sent to the President’s Circle members, the Board Members and perspective members, who are not already Academic Angels Members.

The Committee agreed that any member who joined or renewed after July 2021 will not be sent a letter, and will have their expiration date automatically bumped to December 2022.

Matt Durkan will review the letter and send any edits to Marge. The Committee agreed to bold the date of the February 16 Event.

5.2 Follow-up Items	5.2 Task of	5.2 Due by
The letter for the renewing member will be sent by December 15 to the current and expired Academic Angels members. The letter for new members will be sent to the President’s Circle members, the Board Members and perspective members, who are not already Academic Angels Members. The Feb 16 event will be bolded.	Foundation Staff	December 15, 2021

### 5.3 Calling All Angels Newsletter – Issue #3

Marge Dodge presented the final draft of the Calling All Angels Newsletter – Issue #3 scheduled which was be published on December 7, 2021. The Newsletter covered information about the recent events, the \$18 million gift from Mackenzie Scott and other stories. It also mentioned the February 16 Luncheon. It was sent to all current, lifetime and lapsed Academic Angels, Board members, and PC members that are not Academic Angels.

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

## 5.4 Learning to Lead Program Update

Matt Durkan indicated that two of the Learning to Lead students attended the Academic Angels event on November 18 and the PC Event on November 11. They were sent gift cards to thank them for their presentation at these events.

Matt Durkan will send the schedule of the monthly training sessions from the Learning to Lead program, and Marge Dodge invited the Committee members to attend some of the sessions to understand the program better. The next session is scheduled on Friday, December 10 and the topic will be government judicial process and public safety.

5.4 Follow-up Items	5.4 Task of	5.4 Due by
Matt Durkan will send the schedule of the monthly training sessions from the Learning to Lead program	Matt Durkan	December 2021

## 5.5 Wednesday, February 16, 2022

The Committee discussed the fundraising luncheon on February 16, 2022 scheduled at the Big Horn Country Club. Peggy Jacobs put Marge Dodge in contact with Jared, the catering manager there and she will work with him regarding the budget. He proposed an all-inclusive 2-course luncheon for \$60, instead of doing a \$50 that would not include gratuities and taxes. The menu should consist of an entrée, salad and a great dessert for \$125 per person. Part of the revenue will be used to fund a Learning to Lead Scholarship.

Matt Durkan will check the budget availability for this event and get back to the Committee.

Norma Castaneda offered to work with the Big Horn CFO and Catering Manager to see what can be done in terms of wine and champagne offering/serving and see if we could bring the leftover wine from the Welcome back Tea Event.

Marge Dodge brought the idea to contact the Theater Department who just performed a Virtual Love Play and ask a few of the students to perform a 5 minutes condensed section of one of the plays from the "You make my frame Shake" at the luncheon.

The Committee discussed the fundraising options and a possible live auction with possible items to auction off, such as a dinner with a chef, or a meal at the Cork Tree, or cooking lessons, etc. Another option would be to ask people to directly raise money for scholarships for the Learning to Lead Program, or to support what is needed for that particular program such as textbooks, etc.

They agreed to have a student at each table that could speak about the Learning to Lead program and encourage donors to help fund the program. The fund raised could also be used as honorarium in addition to the scholarship, to cover the additional cost of attending the training sessions for the students. The donors could regroup to sponsor a student together. The Committee discussed using paddles or having the donors make a plea using pledge cards. Each attendee could be encouraged to make a \$100 donation at the minimum.

The Committee agreed to invite Shawn Abramowitz and leaders from the Leadership Coachella Valley at the meeting to present the program.

In the pre-work, the Committee agreed to highlight the fact it is a fundraiser and that the goal will be to raise money for the Learning to lead program. They suggested planting a couple of donors.

Paddles or programs could have a number to be connected with the donors' names for the Foundation to be able to bill them correctly for the pledges. The Committee discussed having squares on the phone to swipe credit cards. Eve-Marie Dehondt will check with Kirstien Renna to see if this is possible as per the payment process regulations for the Foundation.

Invitations for that event will go out on January 7<sup>th</sup> via email. There will be no save the date as the event will be listed on the Newsletter and the renewal letters. The invitation will state that that there is limited capacity, to make it exclusive.

<b>5.5 Follow-up Items</b>	<b>5.5 Task of</b>	<b>5.5 Due by</b>
Matt Durkan will check the budget availability for this event and get back to the Committee.	Matt Durkan	December 2021
Follow-up with the catering manager on the menu price/options/wine and champagne options	Marge Dodge/Norma Castaneda to contact them on the wine/champagne	December 2021
Contact the Theater Department to see if we could get a few students to perform a 5 minutes condensed section of one of the plays from the "You make my frame Shake" at the luncheon.	Catherine Abbott	January 2022
Invitations for that event will go out the first week or January via email. Invitation should	Marge Dodge to draft / Foundation Staff to email	January 7, 2022

highlight the fundraising event and the fact that the capacity will be limited.		
Invite the leaders from Leadership Coachella Valley and students to the event.	Matt Durkan	December 2021
Eve-Marie Dehondt will check with Kirstien Renna to see if this is possible as per the payment process regulations for the Foundation.	Eve-Marie Dehondt	December 2021

## **6. Other discussions**

There was no other discussion.

## **7. Adjournment**

The Committee Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:03PM.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – 2PM**