

COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS FOUNDATION
26455 Rockwell Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91355

College of the Canyons Board of Directors

Meeting - Minutes

September 30, 2025 5:30 PM

UCEN 107

Members Present: Gary Horton (Foundation Chair), Shawna Mann (Foundation CEO), Scott Schauer (Foundation Vice Chair), Monica Lee Copeland (Foundation Secretary), Jasmine Ruys (Acting Interim President), Jason Hinkle (Foundation Treasurer), Dawn Abasta, Thea Alvarado, Joyce Carson, Tom Dierckman, Shawn Fonder, Bruce Fortine, Tamara Gurney, William Harwood, AJ Jaquez, Taylor Kellstrom, Jenny Ketchepaw, Jill Mellady, T. Meyer, Randy Moberg, Jeremy Patrich

Members Absent: Lisa Burke, Steve Corn, Brian Koegle, Jesse McClure, Leticia Meza-Guerrero, George Reyes, Doreen Shine, Joyce Shulman, Matthew Sreden, Paul Wickline

Foundation Staff Present: Melayn Poladian (Foundation Relations Coordinator III), Dylan Mahoney (Events and Marketing Coordinator), Desiree Dodd (Director of Development and Engagement)

District Staff

Present: Darlene Trevino

Affiliated

Guests Present: Malik Jackson, Cindy Stephens

Other

Attendees:

1. PRELIMINARY FUNCTIONS

1.1 Call to Order/Establishment of a Quorum **Gary Horton**

Noting that a quorum was present, Gary Horton called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

1.2 Approval of Meeting Agenda **Gary Horton**

Gary Horton requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda with an amendment, removing item 3.1.

Motion to Approve:

Taylor Kellstrom

Second:

Joyce Carson

Vote - Passed

20 Yes

0 No

0 Abstention

1.3 Approval of Meeting Minutes: August 26th, 2025 **Gary Horton**

Gary Horton requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Foundation Board meeting on August 26th, 2025

Motion to Approve:

Taylor Kellstrom

Second:

Joyce Carson

Voting – Passed

20 Yes

0 No

1.4 Welcome to Acting Superintendent President Jasmine Ruys **Shawna Mann**

Shawna Mann introduced Acting Superintendent President Jasmine Ruys, who shared brief remarks and expressed her excitement to work with the Foundation.

1.5 Welcome to Slated Board Members **Monica Lee Copeland**

Monica Lee Copeland introduced slated board members Malik Jackson and Cindy Stephens.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

2.1 Comments by Members of the Audience NOT on the Agenda **Gary Horton**

There were no comments made by members of the audience not on the agenda.

3. GUEST SPEAKER

3.1 ~~Jose Cruz~~ **~~Desiree Dodd~~**

4. INFORMATION AND ITEMS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4.1 Year End Financial Statements for FY2024-2025 **Lisa Burke**

Jason Hinkle presented the year-end financial statements for the 2024-2025 fiscal year in Lisa Burke's absence. He noted that the organization exceeded net revenue expectations in Fund 81 without requiring the planned \$30,000 interest sweep from Fund 82. Strategic savings in salaries, benefits, and development fundraising contributed to a balanced budget and stronger-than-projected financial performance. In Special Events, the Golf Tournament surpassed goals, generating \$44,000—\$4,000 above budget—while Silver Spur outperformed expectations by an additional \$16,000. Overall, the Foundation's financial performance exceeded projections across its operating budget for the fiscal year, reflecting strong fiscal management and successful event execution. He also shared that Foundation has a fund balance of \$319,040.

4.2 Fundraising Report as of 09/26/2025 **Monica Lee Copeland**

Monica Lee Copeland provided an update on Foundation fundraising. As of September 2025, the Foundation has raised over \$1,270,000, which accounts for 62% of the FY2025-2026 goal. She provided further explanation regarding the structure of the fundraising reports. Monica Lee also shared upcoming fundraising initiatives, including the launch of the fall annual campaign appeal, a planned Board retreat, and Foundation Signature Receptions (both the Star Party and Scholarly Presentation Receptions).

5. APPROVAL

5.1 Board Member Nominations **Monica Lee Copeland**

Monica Lee Copeland nominated two individuals to become Board Directors. The first is well-known at the College – Cindy Stephens, a retired faculty member of 24 years. Cindy brings a wealth of experience as a Program Director in the education and non-profit spaces.

Motion to Approve:

Jeremy Patrich

Second:

Joyce Carson

Vote – Passed

20 Yes

0 No

0 Abstention

The second proposed Director is Malik Jackson, a retired NFL Pro-Bowler and Super Bowl Champion and current CEO of The Care League. Malik is a member of VICA, a proud father, and a philanthropist.

Motion to Approve:

Taylor Kellstrom

Second:

Jenny Ketchepaw

Vote – Passed

20 Yes

0 No

0 Abstention

5.2 Bylaws Changes based on Strategic Plan**Monica Lee****Copeland**

Monica Lee Copeland presented proposed changes to section 4.11 of the Foundation's Bylaws. She noted the proposed bylaw change was altered so that Directors installed prior to July 1 2025, who are in good standing, may continue to fulfill their annual commitment at a reduced amount of \$1,500 via 'give' or 'get' until June of 2027. Furthermore, at the discretion of the Executive Director and CDO, the Foundation may confidentially offer a reduced annual giving threshold of \$1,500 to Directors who are in good standing with respect to participation and giving.

Gary Horton requested a motion to approve changes to section 4.11 of the Foundation's Bylaws. Jenny Ketchepaw made the motion, which was seconded by Joyce Carson. The changes then went to the Board for discussion.

Board members shared both support and concern regarding the increase in Board Member dues and changes to policy regarding accepted contributions. Tom Dierckman requested that the bylaw be approved with an amendment adding the Foundation Board Chairman to the list of individuals involved in the process of offering a reduced annual giving threshold to select Directors.

Gary Horton requested a motion to approve the changes to the Foundation's Bylaws with the amendment above.

Motion to Approve:

Tom Dierckman

Second:

Randy Moberg

Vote – Passed

13 Yes

4 No

3 Abstention

6. REPORTS**6.1 Committee Reports**

- Overview
- Development & Nominating
- President's Circle
- Canyons Circle
- Young Professionals
- Golf
- Silver Spur
- Emeritus
- Ambassadors

Monica Lee**Copeland/Desiree****Dodd/ Dylan****Mahoney**

- Patrons of the Arts

Monica Lee provided updates to various committees, including the recreation of a robust Development and Nominating committee and Emeritus Committee. Three new core committees include the President's Circle Committee, Canyons Circle Committee, and Cougar's Circle Committee; these will be focused on augmenting the Foundation's fundraising efforts.

The Golf Committee is performing well, having raised roughly \$120,000 – exceeding the prior year's gross by \$40,000 with a month of fundraising to go. Special recognition was given to Committee Chairs Shawn Fonder and T. Meyer, as well as Gary Horton, for their support.

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Adjournment – Next Full Board Meeting November 18, 2025

Gary Horton

Gary Horton adjourned the meeting at 6:32 PM.