



**Minutes of the
Alumni Council Meeting
Thursday, October 16, 2025
6:00pm – 7:30pm
In-person/virtual Meeting**

Attendees: Alumni Council					
Tyler Knight	X	Oliver Cuevas-Salinas		Daniela Garcia	
Tien Nguyen	X	Olga Rojas Pacheco	X	Stevie St Tulus	X
Areli Sanjuan Lopez	X	Gabriela Caballero	X	Jhoanna Alarcon	X
Janet Del Valle	X	Lindsay Lydon			

Attendees: Staff / Board					
Danielle Viens-Payne	X	Nancy Mireles	X		

Welcome

Tien and Tyler opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees at 6:00 PM. The group participated in introductions, including both in-person and Zoom attendees. The new Chief Development Officer Nancy Mireles was introduced; she shared a brief background and overview of her role.

Council Objectives

Tien reviewed the **three Alumni Council Pillars**: Service, Engagement, and Philanthropy.

1. Service:

- December 22nd, 2-4pm, at Champions office – Social for high school seniors and college students. Alumni Council are invited to participate. **Interested members include Stevie, Gabriela, Tyler, and Areli. Please let Danielle know if you’d like to join.** We will provide reminders closer to the event.
- November 11 and November 15 – Community FAFSA help days hosted by CFL. Please spread the word to students who may need help. (See flyer attached.)

2. Engagement

- December Alumni Social – Council prefers December 18 for a social date. Would like to reserve The Cove at Paradise Coast. Council would like to provide some food and drink this time for alum who attend. Looking at \$15 prepaid food ticket and one \$13 drink ticket

(alcoholic and non-alcoholic, any cocktail/beer/wine etc.). Expecting 50-60 people attending including Council, CFL staff and Board members. Would like to cap spending at \$2,000. **Some Council members are interested in sponsoring this event. Please email Danielle by November 1 if you are interested** in sponsoring and what amount you are considering. Danielle will contact Paradise Coast to inquire about reserving The Cove on December 18. **Gabriela, Janet, and Stevie will work on networking games and prizes. Gabriela will put together a draft program and written promotion of the event for an email to alumni. Gabriela will create by November 2nd a Google spreadsheet to share with Council members to manage event preparation and execution. Council will let Danielle know what supplies and materials they may need.**

- Alumni Network – Council had a discussion on engaging alumni and continuing to build the CFL Alumni Network. Council would like to see an alumni social media page (Instagram, Facebook) and an alumni LinkedIn page. Council would help provide content to CFL team for social media posts. As we build the alumni network, we want options for alums to interact with one another. Council has started by hosting socials. They would like to create an alumni LinkedIn page first and see how the interactions go before creating others. Second would be Instagram, and third would be Facebook. Then the Council would like to figure out how to better engage and incorporate alumni living/studying outside of Naples.

3. Philanthropy

- November 20th, 11:00-11:45am, at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples – Luminary Circle Luncheon “Meet the Programs” event. Champions would like to have a couple of our Alumni Council members at this portion of the event to mingle with our major donors and key stakeholders. Interested members include Stevie, Gabriela. Please confirm with Danielle by November 1st that you can attend.
- Stewardship notes – Alumni Council members and Board members will come together to write handwritten thank you notes to first time donors and donors who give at least \$5,000. This will be an evening event. Date TBD (estimated late October/early November). The entire Council is interested in this event. Danielle will secure a date and time and will notify the Council.
- NCF's Meet the Kids Day – camera craft project. Each year, NCF has a different theme for the Naples Winter Wine Festival and Meet the Kids Day. This year's theme for the festival is “Picture This” and

the theme for Meet the Kids Day is "Through My Lens, The Heart of it All". NCF has requested that we assist them in an arts & crafts project creating and decorating fake cameras that donors will use during the Meet the Kids Day to collect hearts with heartfelt messages on them. The date for us to work on this project is looking like November 3rd in the evening. Interested members include Janet, Gabriela, Stevie, and Areli. Danielle will confirm the date and time and notify the Council.

Closing Remarks & Adjournment

Danielle will create an Alumni Council section in the website portal so the Council can log in and see all documents, meeting information, etc. in one place. The next Council meeting was determined to be held Thursday, November 13th at 6:00pm. Tien thanked everyone for their participation. The meeting concluded at approximately 7:30 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Danielle Viens-Payne