



Fayetteville Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

P.O. Box 403

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Chapter Meeting Minutes

10:00 am

April 11, 2020

ZOOM Virtual Meeting Platform

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the North Carolina Governor's 'Stay at Home' mandate, the chapter meeting was held via the virtual meeting application of ZOOM.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 10:16 am by President Debra Figgins. Soror Figgins yielded to Soror Brittany McLaurin, chair of the communication committee. Soror McLaurin read the Delta Internet Guidelines (DIG) required statement concerning use of the virtual platform.
- II. Madam President asked if a quorum was present. Soror Jackie Sherrod, Sargent-at- Arms, responded that a quorum was present.
- III. Madam President called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Soror Pat Heath moved to adopt the agenda. The second was given by Soror Eva Williams. During the discussion, Madam President made the following corrections and additions: item VII- Reflections will be deleted. A Morning Meditation by Soror Wendy McAdams Flores will be inserted as item V behind the Adoption of Previous Chapter/Executive Board Meeting Minutes. The agenda will be adjusted accordingly beyond that. The motion carried via an open microphone vote with the stated adjustments. Some Sorors voted yes via microphone and others voted yes via the chat option.
- IV. Madam President called for a motion to accept the Previous Chapter/Executive Board Meeting Minutes. Soror Myra Holloway moved to adopt the previous minutes with the second given by Soror Melanie Shorter. During the discussion it was determined that due to its length, the report from the 31st Delta Days at the Nation's Capital, submitted by Soror Meta Coaxum, would be posted on the Chapter Website in the Members Only section for Sorors to review. Madam President called for the vote. The motion carried via a 'yes' vote in chat/response box. It was suggested that moving forward that the vote be taken by asking for 'NAY' votes for better clarity. Madam President agreed to the suggestion.
- V. Soror Wendy McAdams-Flores, Chapter Chaplin, gave the Morning Meditation
- VI. **Financial Secretary's Report-** Soror Toni Moore: reported for information only. The report included receipts for the month of March 2020 from the Wells Fargo and First Horizon banks.
- VII. **Treasurer's Report:** Soror Jerial Bogan gave the report of Revenue and Expenses for the period of March 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 from the Wells Fargo and First Horizon bank accounts. The report was for information only.

- VIII. Pearls of Protocol:** Soror Nadine Miller-Bernard gave the following report: **RESPONSIBILITY OF A VISITING SOROR**—Chapters should verify membership of visiting Sorors. A visitor is required to show proof of membership at the first meeting she attends. Without proper verification or letter of verification (membership card, membership certificate or letter of verification), a visitor should not be admitted. The only exception is when a member of the chapter can attest to the veracity of the visitor's claim of membership. Such attestation must be based on knowledge of the visitor's initiation or past activities with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. When the verification has been accepted by the chapter president and the Sergeant-At-Arms, the visiting Soror may be admitted to the chapter meeting. Reference-Protocol and Traditions Manual, revised 2011, pg. 18.
- IX. Correspondences:** Soror Sheree Davis, corresponding secretary, stated that there were no new correspondences.
- X. Committee Reports**

i. Five-Point Programmatic Thrust

1. Educational Development: Soror Miranda Monroe

Soror Monroe, reporting for the Jabberwock committee, stated that the committee is working on a new date, time and place for the now postponed event.

a. Arts & Letters: Soror Janice Robinson: Soror Robinson reported that the Sisterly Book Exchange was enjoyed by all who participated at the March chapter meeting. The postponed events for the remainder of the year were reported during the Executive Board Meeting. The National Arts and Letters Committee has announced that there will be a virtual Delta Red Carpet event entitled 'John Lewis: Good Trouble'. The date and time is still To Be Determined.

b. Jabberwock: * as reported above**

2. Political Awareness and Involvement: Soror Meta Weaver Coaxum

Soror Coaxum made the following report:

NC State Board of Elections made recommendations for amending requirements for administration of elections for 2020 November due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on our elections. Here are just a few of the recommendations, to view the entire document, visit ncsbe.gov press release dated 3/26/2020.

- Expand options for absentee requests. We recommend allowing a voter to submit an absentee ballot request form by fax and email. We also recommend a limit to allow county boards of elections to pre-fill a voter's information on an absentee request form.
- Establish an online portal for absentee requests. The State Board expects a large increase in the number of voters who choose to vote absentee by mail this year, and creating an online portal for absentee voting would make it easier for voters to request an absentee ballot from home.
- Reduce or eliminate the witness requirement. In light of social distancing requirements to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we recommend reducing the witness requirement for the certification on absentee container-return envelopes.

- Make Election Day a holiday. Designating Election Day as a State holiday would expand the potential pool of poll workers to students, teachers, and younger individuals. It would also encourage state and county employees to work the polls.
- **One-Stop.** Consider whether changes to one-stop requirements, such as site and hour requirements, may be needed in light of the uncertainty regarding containment of the COVID-19 pandemic by the early voting period in October 2020.
- County boards of elections need flexibility to determine hours because they are affected differently by, and respond differently to, the COVID-19 pandemic.

The General Assembly will convene 29 April 2020. The recommendations from the State Board of Elections will have to be enacted by the General Assembly due to changes in the state statutes during this crisis.

1. Press release dated 3/30/2020. The State Board of Elections and N. C. Division of Motor Vehicles have launched a service to allow NCDMV customers to register to vote or update existing voter registration information online. This will be a free service, a standalone service that does not require the user to complete a NCDMV transaction, such as a license renewal or duplicate, at the same time. This service is being offered at this time when many county boards of elections have limited access or are closed to the public, and while residents are being asked to stay home because of the spread of COVID-19.
2. Eligible NC residents who are not NCDMV customers must still fill out a paper voter registration form and return it to their county board of elections to register to vote or make changes to their voter registration.

3. Program Planning and Development: Soror Miranda Monroe: NO UPDATE

ii. Internal Committees

1. **Communications/Public Relations :** Soror Brittany McLaurin: NO UPDATE
2. **Finance:** Soror Jerial Bogan: Soror Bogan discussed the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 Sorority year. The budget is based on a projected membership of 200. A question about the omission of Delta Days at the Nation's Capital was raised by Soror Amanda Williams. Verification of the chapter's vote to include the Delta Days in the budget every year was submitted by Soror Meta Coaxum (April Chapter Minutes 2019 page 3). Soror Bogan said the committee would adjust the budget to include Delta Days at the Nation's Capital. Soror Willie Johnson reminded Soror Bogan that according to the Policy and

Procedure document, the budget must be based on actual membership at the time the budget is formed. Soror Bogan stated that at the May meeting, when the vote to approve the budget is taken, the budget will reflect actual membership as of April 2020 at that time. Soror Bogan also stated that the Reserve funds include ALL UNUSED/BUDGETED funds, not just the funds left from the previous year (This includes the donation tree funds generated during a NON Jabberwock year)

- 3. **Hospitality:** Soror Wendy McAdams-Flores: NO UPDATES
- 4. **Membership:** Soror Awilda Graham: NO UPDATES
- 5. **Pan Hellenic Council:** Soror Sylvia McPherson: Soror McPherson reported:

Because the current school feeding will not take place during Spring Break, April 15-17, 2020, the Pan was approached to become a sponsor to feed on April 17, 2020. Sammio's provided meals about a month ago. When Cumberland County Schools (CCS) asked them to do it again, Sammio's said they would, but they would not be able to foot that bill. The cost is \$1500.00 for 600 meals. That is when CCS Child Nutrition Services (Mrs. Osborne) approached our local NPHC President about becoming a sponsor. They needed to know ASAP; otherwise, they would seek sponsorship from other organizations such as Fayetteville Police Department, Fayetteville Fire Department, Masons, Eastern Stars, etc.

A special meeting was called Wednesday to discuss and vote on assisting CCS Schools (Child Nutrition Services) with the feeding of students on April 17. It was agreed upon by the NPHC to receive a \$100 donation from each of the 13 chapters. Our representative pledged our \$100, on behalf of our chapter, so that we are not left out of this effort by the Pan Hellenic Council.

Because this is for such a worthy cause, the GFAC NPHC would like to use this as a social action initiative to do something for the greater good of the community.

After discussion Soror Myra Holloway moved that the chapter support Soror McPherson's donation on behalf of the chapter and will refund her contribution. Soror Patti Jordan gave the second. Madam President called for the 'NAY' vote. No nays were heard so the motion carried unanimously.

- 6. **Policies and Procedures:** Soror Willie Johnson: Soror Johnson stated that a decision should be made as to whether we should move forward with a May vote on the document or should we hold the vote in the fall. After a brief discussion, Madam President made the decision to move forward with the vote at the May chapter meeting.
- 7. **Scholarship:** Soror Effie Willis: NO UPDATE

XI. Unfinished Business

Madam President:

- Regional Prayer Breakfast has been canceled
- Regional 60th Anniversary has been canceled

XII. New Business

Madam President: From the Regional Presidents Chat;

- Sorors should have received an email in reference to the Divine 9 Legislative Day scheduled for May 13, 2020. This will be a virtual event and it is free. A link to join the event is available in the email.
- Additional information will be coming from National regarding the planned National Leadership Conference planned for the fall of 2020
- Information was given regarding Chapter elections. The information does not apply to Fayetteville Alumnae since this is not an election year for our chapter
- Soror Juanita Massenburg, Regional Director, recommends that chapters include funds for virtual meetings in their budgets.
- National Scholarships and Standards Committee has funds available to chapters. They come in the form of Seed Money and Grants. Applications are on the National Website.
- Risk Management Training will be held virtually in the fall. Details will be sent to the Chapter Risk Management Coordinator. Soror Miranda Monroe is our chapter's coordinator.
- With the cancelation of the 60th Anniversary Celebration all registered Sorors will receive a refund. The amount of the refund will be determined after expenses have been calculated. Notification will be sent by email and the refund will be sent to their PayPal accounts. Registered Sorors will also receive the charm that was ordered as the celebration gift. ** Madam President noted that she has the charms and will be distributing them. Also, the banner purchased by participating chapters will be mailed to the home of the chapter President. The reimbursement of the Chapter Challenge funds has not been determined at this time.
- The National Leadership Conference location in the fall of 2020 has not been determined at this time.
- Soror Massenburg suggested that chapters have an activity to support the Frontline Workers during this pandemic. She suggested face masks. Meals to the Fire Department or Police Department were suggested from the chat room. After discussion of possibilities Soror Vivian Melvin-Salas moved that we support the Frontline Workers in some way with the specifics to be decided at a later date. Soror Jonette Quenum gave the second. The vote for 'NAY' was called, hearing none, the motion passed. Suggestions should be emailed to: facweupdates@gmail.com by the next executive board meeting on April 28, 2020.
- There has been no word on the remainder of the Founders Day gifts.

XIII. Announcements: NONE

Madam President gave closing remarks:

- Remember that the virtual meeting is the same as an in-person chapter meeting. Professional attire, appropriate and professional settings (ex. Not in the bed) and appropriate and professional profile picture should be used
- The next Executive Board meeting will be via ZOOM
- Thank you so much to Sorors Brittany McLaurin and Willie Johnson for their efforts in making this meeting possible. All the technical problems/issues will be worked on. A thank you to all who joined today for an outstanding meeting.

- Committee chairs may also use the ZOOM platform for their meetings. Please contact Sorors McLaurin and Johnson to do so.
Soror Laila Washington suggested Sorors who usually wear contacts to not wear them during this pandemic. It is another layer in protecting yourself from the COVID-19 virus.

XIV. Adjournment: Soror Willie Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting. The second was given by Soror Wendy McAdams-Flores. There were no NAY votes and the meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully Submitted by
Soror Sharon McNair
Recording Secretary