

## ALPHA SIGMA CHAPTER OF DELTA KAPPA GAMMA INDIANA

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Saturday, February 15, 2020

Members of the Alpha Sigma chapter gathered in the home of Lauren Akers for their business meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 15, 2020. President Sharon Richie, Vice-President Sylvia Dumas, Recording Secretary Jody Arndt, Corresponding Secretary Sheila Akers, and Parliamentarian Sharon Henderson were present. Additional members in attendance included Lauren Akers, Nila Beauchamp, Donna Kida, Cheryl Orkis, and Roberta Salyer.

President Sharon Richie called the meeting to order. Attendance was recorded. The ten members present responded to the question, "What is your favorite foreign phrase?"

Following roll call, Cheryl Orkis distributed to each member a bag containing a piece of candy, a quarter and this inspirational quote from Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Jody Arndt shared the following media review submitted by Jo Ann Gappa:

*Clearance Hunter: Home Decor on a Budget* ([www.theclearancehunter.com](http://www.theclearancehunter.com))

Aubrey [Swan] runs this home decor and interior design blog for those on a budget. Her style is similar to that of Joanna Gaines.

Sheila Akers made a motion to approve both the business and the executive meeting minutes from November; Sylvia Dumas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President Richie read the treasurer's report in Kathy Ward's absence. There is a checking account balance of \$4,545.41.

Kathy noted that \$165 was sent to UNICEF: Schools for Africa in November.

In December the chapter held a bake sale at Mark Bailey's Discount Center to raise money for scholarships; \$1,717.10 was collected. This amount includes a \$500 donation towards our grant-in-aid from Sharon Henderson's friend Sandy Groet.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Educational Excellence** - Vice President Sylvia Dumas announced that the next chapter meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16 at 4:00 p.m. CST in the St. Peter Fellowship Hall. The installation of officers and a recommitment ceremony will be held.

**Scholarship** - President Richie reported that Sue Norwich met with or contacted all of the school counselors in our area. One grant-in-aid application has already been submitted by an Oregon Davis high school senior.

**Membership** - Sherry Lippelt sent a reminder for members to submit their New Member Prospect Cards to her. Jody added that the cards may also be submitted electronically via the chapter website. Nila Beauchamp submitted a prospect card during the meeting for Candice (Tatgenhorst) Schilz and Sharon Richie plans to complete a card requesting that Theresa Parish be considered for membership as well. The chapter will vote in April and induct new members in September.

**Legislation** - Sheila Akers reported that State Representative Sheila Klinker who serves on the House Education Committee recently spoke at an ELL convention. She shared information regarding the following items:

- ILEARN 'Hold Harmless' School/Teacher Accountability Legislation
- Teacher Pay and School Funding
- Pre-K Classes
- School Resource Officers
- Professional Growth Points Earned by Volunteering Summer Hours
- Trauma Response Instruction for Teachers
- Graduation Rate Calculations

Sharon Henderson added that the Indiana Senate is also looking at bills regarding online medical assistance for the elderly and widening technology access in rural areas.

**International Projects** - Confirmation from UNICEF that this amount was received would be appreciated; perhaps Kathy Ward could make this inquiry.

**Remembrances** - In November, Cheryl Orkis asked that the chapter consider eliminating the Remembrance Committee in the next biennium. Sharon Henderson noted that this should be made in the form of a motion to amend the Alpha Sigma Chapter Rules.

A motion was presented to amend the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Indiana State Organization, Alpha Sigma Chapter Rules by DELETING "Remembrances" and any description of such from the committees described in Article VIII, Section A and Section B.

The Rules would then read:

#### ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

Section A. Standing committee shall include:

Society Business: Communications, Finance, Membership, Nominations and Rules  
Society Mission and Purposes: Educational Excellence, International Projects,  
Remembrances and Scholarship

Section B. Committee responsibilities

1. Society Business

a. Communications

- i. prepare four (4) issues of the chapter newsletter per year;
- ii. submit copy to the chapter president for approval;

- iii. distribute the newsletter; and
  - iv. send copies to the Indiana State Organization President, the Indiana State Organization Communications Committee Chairman, and to the chapter liaison appointed by the state president.
- b. Finance
  - i. prepare a budget for action by the chapter in September; and
  - ii. arrange for an annual financial review.
- c. Membership
  - i. study and make recommendations related to membership issues and challenges;
  - ii. receive and research recommendation for membership forms and
  - iii. submit qualified candidates for chapter vote; and
  - iv. submit necrology and membership reports as required.
- d. Nominations
  - i. encourage members to participate in the leadership of the chapter;
  - ii. prepare a slate of officers to be presented at a meeting prior to March in even-numbered years; and
  - iii. conduct the election.
- e. Rules
  - i. Amend these rules as required to comply with changes in the Constitution, International Standing Rules, Indiana State Organization Bylaws and Standing Rules; and
  - ii. report changes made in the next issue of the newsletter
- 2. Society Mission and Purposes
  - a. Educational Excellence
    - i. shall plan programs to fulfill the Mission and Purposes of The Society
    - ii. compile the chapter yearbook; and
    - iii. send copies of the yearbook to the Indiana State Organization President, the Indiana State Organization Educational Excellence Committee Chairman, and the chapter liaison appointed by the state president.
  - b. International Projects
    - i. shall promote the work of the International World Fellowships Committee; and
    - ii. inform the members of any state and international projects.
  - c. Remembrances
    - ~~i. send a card to any hospitalized member;~~
    - ~~ii. send a card to any member upon the death of an immediate family member; and~~
    - ~~iii. send a white rose or present a white rose as the chapter conducts the memorial service upon the death of a member.~~
  - d. Scholarship
    - i. shall encourage members to apply for state and international scholarships and Indiana State Organization mini-grant funds;
    - ii. keep members informed of the grants available from the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation; and

- iii. shall be responsible for disseminating information about the chapter grant-in-aid and determine its recipient.

Sheila will send the proposed motion regarding the rules amendment to all members. Members may submit their votes electronically or by paper ballot.

**Nominations** - On behalf of the nominations committee, Jody Arndt first presented the following partial slate of officers to the Alpha Sigma members present:

- President -
- Vice President - Lauren Akers
- Recording Secretary - Elizabeth Cohagan
- Corresponding Secretary - Sheila Akers

Once the responsibilities of each office were read aloud, President Richie asked for nominations from the floor. After no additional nominations, Jody Arndt volunteered to be President. Sheila Akers made a motion to add Jody Arndt to the slate of officers; Nila Beauchamp seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sylvia Dumas made a motion to accept the following slate of officers for the next biennium:

- President - Jo Ellen Arndt
- Vice President - Lauren Akers
- Recording Secretary - Elizabeth Cohagan
- Corresponding Secretary - Sheila Akers

Cheryl Orkis seconded the motion; the motion carried.

**President Report** - The new and gently used books collected for Project B.o.B. (Bunches of Books) will be donated to the Kids' Closet in North Judson this spring. Cheryl Orkis will contact Linda Lewandowski to schedule a delivery date.

This year's state conference will be held in Muncie at Ball State University on April 25th. Sharon Richie, Sharon Henderson, Sheila Akers, and Jody Arndt plan to attend.

The State Convention Steering Committee met on January 31st. This committee consists of Sharon Richie, committee chair; Jo Jones, state president; Carol Herzog, state executive secretary; Marcia Alexander, Council II (South Bend), Jan Sypieski, Council II (Michigan City); Deb Hunter, Council II (LaPorte), and Sheila Akers (North Judson). The meeting will meet again on March 20th.

Sharon distributed copies of the "Indiana Conference/Convention Planning Guidelines" to all in attendance. After browsing the guide, members agreed that Sharon should inform Deb Hunter that Alpha Sigma would like to cover the following general committees:

- Publicity
- Logistics

- Decorations - Chair Lauren Akers
- Printing

Sharon Henderson volunteered to be the Convention Registrar.

Jan said that the Michigan City chapter would be responsible for the Goodie Bags. All chapters will be part of the Hospitality Committee.

**Dates to Remember:**

- June 13.....CCOT Workshop North in Lebanon
- June 18.....CCOT Workshop South in Seymour
- July 7-11.....International Convention in Philadelphia
- July.....Educational Excellence Committee Meets; Chapter Field Trip

Following the business portion of the meeting, Donna Kida shared a closing thought from *Hugs for Teachers*.

**The meeting adjourned at 11:03 AM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ellen Arndt, recording secretary

Sharon Richie, president

**Today's Program - Lauren Akers: English Language Learners (ELL)**

Lauren is an ELL teacher in the Kankakee Valley School Corporation. During her slide presentation, Lauren included...

- the percentages of different classifications of immigrants in the U.S.
- several notable changes that have been made to the process of entering the U.S. since the 1900s
- how the Home Language Survey is used to help determine eligibility of ELL services in our schools
- several activities to demonstrate what it is like to be an ELL student in a general education classroom

Lauren has been a member of Alpha Sigma since 2017.

Approve June 18, 2020