



Fayetteville Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
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Chapter Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2022
ZOOM Virtual Meeting Platform

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the chapter meeting was held via the virtual meeting application of ZOOM.

- A. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by President Soror Debra Figgins.
- B. Ritualistic Opening** was conducted per protocol.
- C. Quorum** was affirmed by Soror Jackie Sherrod, Sargent-at- Arms.
- D. Adoption of Agenda:** A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Soror Sylvia McPherson. The following corrections were noted: none. The second was given by Soror Katrina Carrasquillo. With no discussion, corrections or objections noted, the motion carried.
- E. Adoption of Previous Chapter/Executive Board Meeting Minutes:** A motion to adopt the previous Chapter/Executive Board meeting minutes was made by Soror Sylvia McPherson. The second was given by Soror Paula Frank. With no discussions, corrections or objections noted, the motion carried.
- F. Introduction of New and Visiting Sorors:** Soror Amanda Williams. There was one new/visiting Soror present: Soror Garlinda Price, Spring '91, Delta Xi. Also, January birthday Sorors were acknowledged.
- G. Financial Secretary's Report:** Soror Toni Moore reminded Sorors that 2022-2023 dues are being accepted via mail or PayPal. Dues for regular members are \$345 and dues for Golden Life and Diamond Life members are \$155. Reinstatement fees will not be waived this year. Soror Moore confirmed receipts for the month of December. The report was for information only.
- H. Treasurer's Report:** Soror Rayshonia Manuel reported the financial status of the chapter for the period of December 1 – December 31, 2021. The report was for information only but will be posted on the Chapter's website. A flat rate is being established for dues paid via PayPal to cover all service charges. Sorors are asked to complete the financial form and submit with PayPal and mailed payments
- I. Reflections:** "Peace at Last," Soror Gwen Brown.
- J. Pearls of Protocol:** Soror Toni Moore reported on updates and changes to the new Ritual, pp. iii – 22.
 - a.** Page iii of the new Ritual is now the Message from the National President and CEO. This was previously the National Presidents message. The Foreword has been deleted.

- b. The incorporation of the Founders, with the Founders picture and a listing of each National President by term.
- c. The History of the Delta Ritual now recognizes the contribution of all Past National Presidents and Committees that assist in keeping the Ritual relevant and accessible.
- d. Table of Contents numbering conventions is the same, however page numbers have changed.
- e. Chapter Meeting Opening Ceremony properties can now be found on page 247 appendix C. No other change to this ceremony.
- f. No changes to the Chapter Meeting Closing Ceremony.
- g. Regional Conference Opening Ceremony properties can now be found on page 247 of appendix C. No other changes to this ceremony.
- h. No changes to the Regional Conference Closing Ceremony.

K. Correspondence: Soror Sheree Davis reported that “Thank You” cards were received from Sorors Antoinette Howard and Wendy McAdams-Flores.

L. Committee Reports: (Updates only)

Five-Point Programmatic Thrust

1. **Economic Development:** Soror Keshia Allen asked if Sorors attending Heart and Soul, January 13th for the Founders Day dinner would bring white washcloths and towels for donation to Operation in As Much. Soror Allen will coordinate pick-up and delivery.
 - a. On February 4, 2022, Sorors are invited to serve breakfast at 7am at Operation In As Much. Only 4-7 volunteers are needed. Please let Soror Allen know if you are interested.
 - b. On February 19, 2022, Soror Garlinda Price will present a Homebuyer’s Seminar at 11:00am
 - c. Grant monies awarded the Economic Committee from the Dfree Initiative have not been received. Madame President will follow-up.
- a. **Foster Care:** No updates
- b. **Adopt-A-Site:** No updates
2. **Educational Development:**
 - a. **Arts and Letters:** Soror Miranda Monroe reported.
 - a. The second Red Velvet Book Club selection will be “**The Wedding Gift,**” by Marlen Suyapa Bodden on January 20th at 6:30-8:30pm via Zoom. Soror Evelyn Shaw will lead the discussion. Door prizes will be presented. Register by January 16th. Link will be sent via FAC Announcements. Open to the public.
 - b. The launch party scheduled for today at the Cape Fear Regional Theater has been cancelled.
 - b. **Delta Academy:** Soror Amanda Monroe reported for Soror Awilda Graham. No update
 - c. **Delta GEMS:** Soror Patti Jordan. No update
 - d. **EMBODI:** Soror Salena Staten. No update

- e. **Jabberwock:** Soror Lynette McMillan reported that the program goals to have the Jabberwock pageant are not being met. The committee met and requests that the Chapter agree to postpone the pageant from 2022 until 2023. Soror McMillan would also like the Chapter to financially accommodate the three seniors who will not be able to participate now, and will not be able to participate in 2023. Soror Lila Washington, Parliamentarian, recommended that the committee reconvene and determine the specific compensation for the senior participants, if any, what will become of the monies already collected. These points, in addition to what has occurred, or not occurred, to have the pageant discontinued are to be shared with the E-board and Chapter in a letter. Soror Effie Willis, chair Scholarship committee, asked if the scholarship awards would have to be changed, as they are supposed to be awarded in years opposite Jabberwock. She was advised to continue scholarship schedule as is. A poll was launched for Sorors to agree or disagree with the postponement of Jabberwock until 2023.
 - a. **Agree with postponement of Jabberwock = 98%**
 - b. **Disagree with postponement of Jabberwock = 2%**
- f. **Princess:** No update
- 3. **International Awareness and Involvement:** Soror Virginia Ware. No update
- 4. **Physical and Mental Health:** Soror Renee Ellis. No update.
- a. **Healthy lifestyles:** Soror Darnette Hall. No update.
- 5. **Political Awareness and Involvement/Social Action:** Soror Meta Coaxum reported that the committee met 1/4/22 via Zoom at 6:30pm:
 - a The “Vote No to the Vote Yes Fayetteville” campaign video was reviewed. One of the participants, Mario Benevante, a candidate for City Council, will not be included as to not give the appearance of any endorsement, even though the disclaimer indicates that those presented cannot use the video for any campaign activities nor as an endorsement. The next committee meeting will be 2/1/2022 at 6:30 PM via Zoom.
 - b The “Votechella: Are You 2022 Ready?” subcommittee met 1/5/2022 at 6:30 PM via Zoom to continue with logistic planning for the event to be held on March 18, 2022, at FSU’s Student Union. The next subcommittee meeting will be February 2, 2022, at 6:30 PM via Zoom.

ii. **Program Planning and Development:** Soror Sharon McNair reminded committee chairs that evaluation forms will be forthcoming.

iii. **Internal Committees:**

1. **Communications/IT/GwG:** Soror Erin White reported that the committees met to finalize workshop dates for January – April 2022.

i January 29, 2022 – Digital Citizenship workshop. Target audience Delta Dears, but open to all. Will cover basic

skills in creating accounts, using Zoom and social media. Registration will be in Announcements. Sorors must have a Google account.

ii February 19, 2022, time to be announced, March 26, 2022, and April 23, 2022, from 10a-12p, second, third, and fourth webinars will be held. The Regional goal is to train 20,000 people on Google applications.

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2. Delta Emergency Response Team: Soror Teresa Wright shared a presentation on the Omicron variant, CDC recommendation to shorten quarantine/isolation times for COVID exposure, and continued PPE safety. A discussion followed concerning masks, length of viability of coronavirus on surfaces, and cleaning effectiveness. Soror Wright will provide more information via FAC Announcements on surface life of the virus. Soror Degraphenreid shared a link for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) who want to distribute 13 million adult N95 masks to the public. Madame President also asked if the Delta Emergency Response Team would partner with the Healthy Lifestyles committee to order masks for the Chapter. Soror Wright will lead this effort.

3. Finance: Soror Rayshonia Manuel reiterated to Sorors to ensure they use the correct PayPal account when sending payments. If paying for more than one thing, please use separate checks. A form for dues will be sent to Madame President for distribution to Sorors. A flat rate will be issued for PayPal dues payments. More information concerning the shift in the Sorority Year from July 1 to January 1 will be sent from Grand Chapter mid-2023. Sorority sponsored events that include public or non-financial Sorors will require an insurance waiver.

4. Fundraising: Soror Judith Waddell thanked Sorors for supporting the Building Pyramid Brick by Brick. A presentation was shown of the Sorors/bricks purchased at the different levels thus far. Donations will be accepted until June 2022. Incremental payments of \$25 can be sent. Soror Bogan explained how the monies raised through fundraising are used by committees for programs.

5. Hospitality: Soror Barbara Nubin reported that Soror Ernestine Wall's husband passed. Arrangements are incomplete at this time. The next Hospitality meeting will be January 20th at 8:30pm.

6. Internal Audit: Soror Brittany McLaurin. No report

M. Membership: Soror Amanda Williams reported.

a The committee collected 175 Gingerbread Houses to distribute for Christmas.

b Because of continued COVID occupancy restrictions, the out-of-town retreat voted on, will not be feasible. Alternative planning is underway.

c A Reclamation activity will be held in March. The Reclamation information card was shared with Sorors. It should be completed and submitted by January 31st to Soror Renee Corders, Soror Gwen Henderson, or Soror Patricia Moore, the sub-committee co-chairs.

d January 15th – Founders Day vendors have been paid. Contact Soror Amanda Williams or Soror Pratt-Norwood if no longer able to attend.

e Suitcases can be dropped off from 1-2:30pm today at the Order of Tents. They do not have to be new.

f The Strategic Plan drafted in 2019 recommended that a quarterly survey be completed by Sorors to gage their satisfaction with the Chapter. These are to be completed ASAP.

g Madame President questioned whether the local Founders Day activities should continue. Soror Williams said monies can be refunded to Soror who don't want to attend, or a takeout lunch provided. A protocol for temps, proof of vaccination, social distancing of table seating has been taken into consideration. Soror Crosby answered that the event should continue, implementing the protocols, and Sorors should notify the Membership committee if they wish not to attend.

N. Pan Hellenic Council: Soror Sylvia McPherson reported the "Cupid at the Cave" drawing will be Feb 5th at the Smith Rec Center.

a A Family and Friends fun day for board games is planned from March at the Retired Military Association Building on Old Elizabethtown Rd.

b On April 30th four comedians and a dance party will be held at the Crown Expo.

c The MLK parade has been rescheduled for Apr 2nd at 12 noon. Participants are asked to arrive at 10:30-10:45. Pictures will be taken at 11:00.

d The MLK breakfast is still scheduled from Jan 17th at 10am.

O. Policy and Procedure: Soror Willie Johnson reported that submissions for amendments are due by January 31, 2022. The new template transfer has begun.

P. Protocol: Soror Nadine Miller-Bernard reported that the Delta greeting to another Delta is "Soror." It is not to be combined with another title: Soror Dr., Soror Atty, Soror President, etc....

Q. Unfinished/New Business: Madame President:

a The State Founders Day meeting will be held January 21-22 in Greenville NC, hosted by Kinston Alumnae.

b Sorors are encouraged to participate in the Luggage Drive Service Project for children in foster care. NC Alumnae Chapters are asked to donate \$100 towards the project. A motion was made by Soror Judith Waddell to pay \$100. A second was given by Soror Sylvia McPherson. Motion carried.

c The Child Advocacy Center will be sponsoring an Ultimate Lip Sync competition. Sponsorship has been requested. Soror Nadine Miller-Bernard made a motion to support the center with a \$250 donation. Soror Sylvia Moore provided a second. Motion carried

d Temporary duties of the National President have been bestowed upon the National Vice President until President Hickman recovers from her illness. This information is for Sorors' knowledge only.

e Dues are being collected by PayPal or mail.

f The National Rededication Ceremony will be held 1/13/2022 at 8:30pm. An email has been sent to Soror with the link.

g Anniversary plaques will be presented at the Founders Day celebration 25- and 50-year Sorors to include, but not limited to: Sorors Teasley, Holloway, Reeves, Wright-Harris, Mapp, Jones, Bell, Coaxum, Moore, and Rouse.

R. Announcements: Soror Sheree Davis.

a The Delta Lites will sing for Founders Day. Rehearsal will be Jan 11 at 6pm at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. Any Soror who wishes to sing is welcome.

b Four Chapter Sorors are now members of the Child Advocacy Board of Directors.

c The United Service Organization of NC is seeking volunteers to help support military men and women. Please contact Soror Miller-Bernard if interested.

d Congratulations to Soror Brenda Reid Jackson on her retirement and being bestowed with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award by the Governor of NC.

e The "I Am Somebody" art exhibit, highlighting the homeless population will run Jan 3-22, 2022, at the Arts Center at 301 Hay Street. The exhibit is open to the public.

S. Adjournment: A motion was made by Soror Nadine Miller-Bernard. A second was given by Soror Vera Bell. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm.

T. Ritualistic Closing was conducted per protocol.

Respectfully Submitted by

Soror Teresa Wright

Recording Secretary