



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter ♦ Houston, Texas

MINUTES ♦ SEPTEMBER 15, 2012

The Basileus, Soror Tamara J. Cubit, called the September 15, 2012, regular meeting of the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, to order at 11:01am, at The Power Center, 12401 South Post Oak Road, Houston, Texas 77045.

Adoption of Rules: Soror Veronica Johnson presented the rules governing all chapter meetings. A motion was made to adopt the rules; the motion carried. Soror Johnson provided the parliamentary and protocol tips.

Meditation/Prayer: Soror Margie Taylor provided a meditation and prayer.

Approval of Agenda: Soror Cubit moved for approval of the agenda, with the following corrections: Soror Angela Williams will present the Nominating Committee report. The motion carried.

Update on "Challenged" Sorors: Soror Cubit asked the body to continue to pray for the following "challenged: sorors: Soror Anita Wallace and Soror Polly Turner had procedures and are at home; Soror Maurie Carpenter and Soror Janice Wade were hospitalized; Soror Fannie Hawkins lost her brother and all other sorors who lost family members over the summer. Soror Cubit asked the body to continue to call, send cards and emails to our sick and shut-in. Soror Cheryl Mitchell had a birthday card for sorors to sign for Soror Mary Collins.

Hostess Committee/Service Project: Soror Helen Eagleton recognized members of the September Hostess Committee. Soror Catherine Blackwell-Gore introduced the service project; donating \$5.00 and participating in the "Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure".

Introduction of Visiting Sorors: Soror Cheryl Mitchell recognized the chapter's distinguished sorors, and welcomed all visiting, transferring and reactivating sorors.

OFFICER REPORTS

Approval of Minutes: Soror Karen Aubrey moved for approval of the Saturday, June 16, 2012, meeting minutes. The motion carried; the minutes were approved.

Finance: Soror Paulette Frederick presented the following reports, for the period ending August 31, 2012: *Comparison of Budget to Actual; Statement of Financial Position; Monthly Bank Reconciliation; and, Outstanding Checks.* To date, there are 540 financial members and no forecasted budget overruns. As we near the end of the year, the treasurer requested that all sorors present reimbursement requests in a timely manner. In August of this year, \$1,395 was bequeathed from Soror Yvonne McCree for the establishment of a scholarship fund. A motion was made to refer the above referenced reports for audit; the motion carried.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION -- ASSETS

Chapter Operations	93,790.13	Savings	20,196.85
Grants and Self-Sustaining	19,834.18	Receivables	1,167.00

Housing	65,256.85	TOTAL ASSETS	\$200,245.01
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Correspondence: Soror LaDonna Harris presented the Correspondence report. The chapter received “thank you” cards from: Sorors Silena Morris and Brenda Morris Davis, Karen, Karrah, Michalyn and Le’Andra Demaris, Faye Gray, Charlene James, Alfreda Henry, Glorena Moody, Lana Reece, Pat Roberts, Sandra Tolliver, the family of Yvonne McCree, Riverside United Methodist Church for the gift in memory of Henry Anglin for the Henry Anglin Endowed Scholarship Fund and To Raise a Child, Inc. (TRAC). A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations; the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive: Soror Karen Aubrey presented the report of the Executive Committee, which met at the Power Center, September 12, 2012, 6:30pm with 19 committee members present. The committee submitted the following recommendation: (1) that the chapter ratifies the purchase of a full page ad in the amount of \$150.00 for the souvenir journal for the Blue Triangle Community Center’s Living Legends annual fundraising event. A motion was made to accept the report, the motion carried.

Boule (2012 Delegate Report): Soror Marianne Walker presented the report of the 2012 Boule conference held in San Francisco, California. This is an election year and voting took place on Tuesday of the conference. Soror Susan Marsh of the North Atlantic Region ran unopposed for Supreme Grammatues. Soror Delores McKinley of the South Atlantic region ran unopposed for Supreme Tamiouchos. Soror Shaliah Thierry of the University of Tulsa was elected Second Supreme Anti-Basileus. Soror Tori Jackson of University of Texas at San Antonio and Soror Jasmine Motley of the University of Virginia were elected Undergraduate Members at Large. The proposed by-law amendment to increase life membership failed. The proposed by-law amendment regarding qualifications for Regional Directors passed. Conference registration count was 8,212.

Connection: Soror Faye Phillips presented the report. The committee conducted voter registration drives in the month of May at the University of Houston – Downtown (18), Madison High School (32), Houston Academy for International Studies (38), Westbury High School (125). In June, the committee partnered with the League of Women Voters at the Houston Naturalization Ceremony to register 1,790 voters. In August during the HISD Back to School Drive, 254 new voters were registered. Year-to-date, the committee has registered 2,257 voters with an initial goal of 500. The committee will host a political forum, following today’s chapter meeting and AKA yard signs are on sale for \$5.00. The committee will partner with Gamma Psi and Omicron Gamma to conduct a Super Sunday Voter Registration Drive at Frenchy’s Chicken on Scott Street. The committee will partner with EYL at Attucks Middle School to host a mock election. On “Super Tuesday” in November the committee will work the phone bank at SHAPE Community Center. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried.

Finance: Soror Paulette Frederick presented the report. Soror Frederick presented the recommendations from the Finance committee for the 2013 chapter budget. The chapter dues will increase to \$310 to include the updated by-laws and constitution documents. Members will vote on this budget during the November 2012 chapter meeting. The basileus recognized members the Finance committee.

Joint Chapter Meeting: Soror Jo-Carolyn Goode presented the report. Joint Chapter will be held on Saturday, October 20, 2012 from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the Power Center. The theme is “Let’s Move...AKA Style”. The chapters are partnering with Free the Girls, a non-profit organization that helps women who are victims of sex-trafficking. Members are asked to bring bras of all types and sizes to donate. The committee is requesting an additional \$500 dollars to add to the event budget. A

motion was made to accept the report with the following recommendation; that the additional \$500 dollars be taken from the chapter "carry-over". The motion carried.

Life-Long Learning: Soror Dorothy Gabriel presented the report. The Life-Long Learning program partnered with Charlotte Bryant's Summer Academic Camp at the Blue Triangle Multi-Cultural Center, June 4-8, 2012. The program targeted boys and girls ages 4-12 years old. The theme of this year's program was Antarctica. The students were given books, t-shirts, toys and certificates of attendance. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried.

Membership: Soror Lillian Bourgeois presented the report. Soror Bourgeois thanked sorors that participated in the Legacy Parade held during the June chapter meeting. Soror Bourgeois presented highlights for the Chapter Retreat held Saturday, August 4, 2012 at the Houston Community College – Central Campus. Eighty-Five sorors attended this event. Soror Eugenia Cain will provide a stamps for chapter passports. There was also a Chapter Gathering held Friday, August 3, 2012 at Boudreaux's Cajun Kitchen. The committee will have a Mentoring subcommittee to assist new sorors transitioning into Alpha Kappa Omega chapter. This sub-committee will be chaired by Soror Bonita Morgan. Please contact her if you would like to participate as a mentor. Cluster groups will be returning to the chapter. Sorors Demetria Williams and Karen Harvey will chair this sub-committee. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried.

Nominating: Soror Angela Williams presented the report. Soror Williams thanked all sorors that submitted names to be placed on the ballot for a chapter office. Soror Williams presented the 2012 election guidelines. Only those members that meet the qualifications as defined in the Alpha Kappa Omega Bylaws; revised January 2010 are eligible to run for an office. All candidates must adhere to the Electronic Promotional Campaign Documentation as stated in the election guidelines. Campaign documentation must be submitted to the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Bianca Anderson, for review by Wednesday, October 17, 2012. Candidates will be notified by the committee if their material is approved. Members of the committee along with chapter officers will host a "So You Want to Run for Office" workshop on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 from 6:30pm–8:00pm, at the Power Center for sorors interested in obtaining information regarding chapter offices. Soror Williams advised that the preliminary chapter ballot of officers was in the packet. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried.

Southeast Texas Cluster Retreat: Soror Edwina Johnson, chairman and Soror Anitra Provost, co-chairman presented the report. Soror Johnson presented the Southeast Texas Cluster Retreat Steering Committee chairmen and co-chairmen. Soror Johnson encouraged sorors to participate on a sub-committee. Soror Provost presented the attire for the retreat; black regional blazer, pink blouse, pearls, black bottoms (skirt or pants). Sorors needing to purchase a blazer may do so by contacting Divine 9 Apparel – contact number 214-392-7224. The cost of the blazer is \$107 which includes tax. Registration cost is \$75. You may register on-line at the South Central Region website. The chapter will do a group registration. Please see Soror Lisa Brooks for additional information. Cluster Retreat will be held at the Hilton Hobby Hotel – 8181 Airport Blvd (near 45S) – the room rate is \$89.00. The retreat will start at 7:30am and Alpha Kappa Omega chapter is the host chapter.

Timeless History: Soror Jo-Carolyn Goode presented the report. The Supreme Basileus, Carolyn House Stewart has mandated that each graduate and undergraduate chapter write their chapter history to submit to the national office. The basileus of each chapter will appoint an author team and editing team to complete this project. Final drafts are due December 1, 2012 and will be unveiled at each Regional Conference in 2014.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS

Emerging Young Leaders (“EYL”): Soror Margie Taylor presented the report. Ninety young ladies at Attucks Middle School have expressed interest and been given registration packets to join EYL. Sorors from Gamma Psi and Omicron Gamma will partner to present workshops at the EYL parent meeting scheduled for Saturday, September 22, 2012. EYL will also partner with the Connection committee to conduct a mock election in October 2012. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried.

Global Poverty: Soror Clara Cooper presented the report. September is National Hunger Action Month. The chapter will volunteer at the Houston Food Bank and assist in processing of over 60,000 pounds of food by stuffing boxes for distribution. The project is scheduled for Thursday, September 20, 2012 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the Houston Food Bank. To participate, sorors should register on-line with the Houston Food Bank. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried. Soror Cubit recognized Soror Cooper and Soror Stephanie Meads for their leadership. The committee received an award at the 2014 Boule for the best Global Poverty Initiative in the sorority.

Health: Soror Catherine Blackwell-Gore presented the report. The committee will partner with Codwell Elementary school for the chapter’s Asthma Awareness Initiative, to be held Thursday, October 4, 2012 from 6:00pm to 6:30pm. Sorors were encouraged to volunteer. There are two additional dates to participate in this initiative scheduled for October 25, 2012 and November 8, 2012 from 6:00pm to 6:30pm at Codwell Elementary. The chapter will participate in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, scheduled for Saturday, October 6, 2012. Sorors will meet at Sam Houston Park at 7:30am at the corner of Lamar and Bagby. You may register on line using the chapter name alphakappaomega. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried.

Social Justice & Human Rights: Social Justice and Human Rights: Soror Sahira Abdool, chairman and Soror Nicole Montgomery, co-chairman presented the report. Soror Montgomery presented the wrap-up for the Scrapbook Outreach project. In partnership with Change Happens, the sorors participated in this event with children of incarcerated parents. The chapter donated 25 backpacks filled with school supplies. The chapter was joined by Gamma Psi, Omicron Gamma, Alpha Phi Alpha, Omega Psi Phi, and Phi Beta Sigma. Soror Abdool announced that September is National Human Trafficking month. Houston has recently been identified as one of the fastest growing cities in the country for human trafficking. The committee will present a forum, The Fight Against Human Trafficking, scheduled for Saturday, September 29, 2012 at the Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law – Auditorium. The program will begin at 9:00am. Speakers will include Texas State Representative, Senfronia Thompson and Kendra Penry, Executive Director of Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition. Demond Fernandez of ABC-13 will serve as moderator. A motion was made to accept the report, with no recommendations, the motion carried.

GRADUATE ADVISOR REPORTS

Gamma Psi Chapter: Soror Jo-Carolyn Goode presented the report. The sorors of Gamma Psi have returned from the summer break and resumed their activities.

Omicron Gamma Chapter: The report was in the packet.

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business: Soror Tamara Cubit shared that she was informed that the chapter will receive a refund from the Regional Conference. She will bring forth additional information and a recommendation from the Executive Committee at the November chapter meeting. Sorors that have not paid the assessment are still required to do so to be fully financial. During the 2012 Boule, the body ratified to change the venue of the 68th Boule, to the South Central Region and be hosted by the Southeast Texas Cluster in 2018. The First Supreme Anti-Basileus, Soror Dorothy Wilson Buchanan has sent correspondence to all basilei of the Southeast Texas Cluster as a point of information. There will be an informational session held during the 2013 South Central Regional Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Planning for the 68th Boule will commence in early 2015.

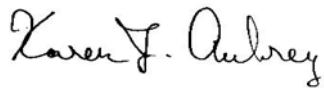
Birthday Recognitions: Soror Helen Eagleton recognized all sorors with birthdays in the month of August then September. Sorors sang happy birthday and each soror was presented with a small, token gift.

Announcements: Soror LaDonna Harris announced that The Ivy Educational and Charitable Foundation of Houston will have its Annual Scholarship and Fashion Show Luncheon on Sunday, April 21, 2013 at the Hilton Americas Hotel. The theme: Diary of a Fashionista.

Sorority Hymn and Pledge: The chapter did not sing the hymn or recite the pledge due to the scheduled candidate forum.

Adjournment: Soror Cubit adjourned the meeting at 12:27 pm.

Submitted For Approval By:



Karen Aubrey, Anti-Grammateus



Tamara Cubit, Basileus

Please contact the Grammateus, via email at kyg08@aol.com or call 713.799.8038, by Tuesday, September 12, 2012, with any suggested corrections.

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter
Preliminary Election Ballot**

Basileus

1. LaDonna Harris
2. Marsha Penn
3. Marianne Walker
4. _____

Anti-Basileus

5. Veronica Johnson
6. Kim Topps
7. _____
8. _____

Grammateus

9. Beverly Dancer
10. Nicole Montgomery
11. _____
12. _____

Anti-Grammateus

13. Christiana Allen Crowder
14. Angela Williams
15. _____
16. _____

Epistoleus

17. Danielle Phillips
18. _____
19. _____

Tamiouchos

20. Karen Grays
21. Cherise Story
22. _____
23. _____

Pecunious Grammateus

24. Lisa Brooks
25. _____
26. _____

Anti-Pecunious Grammateus

- 27. Diana Johnson
- 28. Erica Moore
- 29. _____
- 30. _____
- 31. _____

Philacter

- 32. Charvela Fearon
- 33. Deneen Ford
- 34. _____
- 35. _____
- 36. _____

Hodegos

- 37. Sheri Cole
- 38. Thedrial Jackson
- 39. _____
- 40. _____
- 41. _____

Reporter to the Ivy Leaf

- 42. Jeania Mitchell
- 43. _____
- 44. _____
- 45. _____

Historian

- 46. Nkenge Berry-Owens
- 47. _____
- 48. _____
- 49. _____

Graduate Advisors

Gamma Psi-TSU

- 50. Jo-Carolyn Goode
- 51. _____
- 52. _____
- 53. _____

Omicron Gamma UH-D

- 54. Pamela Lazard
- 55. _____
- 56. _____
- 57. _____

Nominating Committee
(Vote for 9)

- 58. Karen Aubrey
- 59. Andrea' Bonner
- 60. Renee Bourgeois
- 61. Pamela Branch
- 62. Regina Carrington
- 63. Arlene Shelby Carter
- 64. Janice Chilton
- 65. Ardener Franshaw
- 66. Staci Taylor Fullmighter
- 67. Joyce Jacquet
- 68. Angel Johnson
- 69. Diana Johnson
- 70. Edwina Johnson
- 71. Mary Smith Johnson
- 72. Stephanie Meads
- 73. Piere Mitchell
- 74. Anitra Provost
- 75. Courtney Brown Smith
- 76. Tracy Warner
- 77. Demetria Williams
- 78. _____
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