



Chapter Meeting Minutes January 16, 2021

Call to Order/Greeting: The Basileus, Soror Cherise Story, greeted the chapter and called the January 16, 2021 virtual meeting of the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated to order at 11:00 a.m. There were **566** sorors who joined by laptop, desktop, tablet or telephone.

Basileus Story announced it was the first business meeting of the 2021 year and looked forward to a year of service with enthusiasm and promise.

Virtual Meeting Etiquette: Soror Carolene Goffney, Technology Committee Chairman, presented virtual meeting etiquette for the day:

1. The chapter meeting is being recorded.
2. Presenters are reminded to turn off the **video** function, if there is a need to step away from the meeting. All presenters are to remain muted, unless speaking during the meeting, and are reminded to mute cell phones.
3. For meeting participation, sorors should use the **Chat** feature.
4. All questions should be placed in the **Q&A** feature.
5. Use the **Raise Your Hand** icon, to speak during the meeting.
6. Sorors will use the **Raise Your Hand** feature for voting during the chapter meeting. All sorors are advised to listen to the instructions provided by Basileus Story when it is time to vote during the meeting. For those sorors attending by telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand."
7. Chapter attendance is captured automatically after logging into chapter meeting through the Zoom application. A soror who dials-in for chapter meeting by cell phone can text, or if using a landline phone should call (713) 203-7725 and leave a voice message stating her name, financial card number, and inform of her attendance. If sorors are meeting in a group (i.e., a quarantine pod), one person from the pod should send an email including the name and financial card number of each soror in the pod to AlphaKappaOmega08@gmail.com.
8. Sorors are reminded to update their respective profiles with their current email accounts on the chapter website (www.alphakappaomega.com) and on the corporate website (www.aka1908.com). All Zoom invitations are sent from the corporate email list.

Adoption of the Rules & Parliamentarian Tip: Soror Veronica Johnson, Parliamentarian, presented virtual rules to accommodate a virtual chapter meeting. The virtual rules coincide with the special rules of order related to debate that were adopted December 17, 2005 to govern all chapter meetings. Soror Johnson also provided the *January 2021 Parliamentary TIP on executive session*.

Approval of Agenda: Basileus Story announced agenda packets were uploaded to the Members Only section of the chapter website for review. Basileus Story announced two revisions: Soror Felicia Wright will present her first executive committee report and Soror Laura Allen will present a Martin Luther King Day of Service report, immediately following the Membership Committee report.

Basileus Story presented the meeting agenda, with the announced revisions, for approval.

Action: Basileus Story questioned if there was any objection to adoption of the meeting agenda, with the announced revisions, and if so, to inform by a showing of raised hands. **Discussion:** None heard. Agenda, with the announced revisions, was adopted by general consensus,

Meditation & Prayer: Soror Charlyn Kyles, Chaplain, gave the meditation, reminded sorors to reflect on the theme for the month of January, *All of Our Hope Is in Him*.

Introduction of 2021 Executive Committee: Basileus Story introduced each member of the 2021 Executive Committee of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter via a video presentation coordinated by Soror Jo Carolyn Goode.

Introduction of 2021 Committees: The list of sorors appointed as chairman and co-chairman of standing and all other committees was included in the January 2021 agenda packet and uploaded to the chapter's website.

The formation of two, new committees were formed:

- **The Diamond, Pearl, Golden and Special Needs Committee**, chaired by Soror Anitra Provost
- **The Step and Stroll Committee**, chaired by Soror Courtney T. Brown

Basileus Story thanked all committee chairmen and co-chairmen for accepting or continuing to be a part of the chapter's great leadership team.

Basileus Message: Basileus Story stated sorority booklet updates included in the Fall mailing have been distributed to the appropriate Alpha Kappa Omega chapter committee chairmen. Additionally, the chapter is in receipt of a letter from Supreme Tamiouchos and International Finance Committee Chairman, Soror Gayle Miles Scott, requesting all chapter basilei to share the external audit of the sorority's financial statements with respective chapter members. The certified public accounting firm, Ragland, Arnold, Buchanan, Morris & Associates, LLC, audited the financial statements of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, as of December 31, 2019. The sorority received an unmodified opinion, i.e., the highest opinion that can be issued by a certified public accounting firm. The opinion affirms the financial statements of the sorority are presented fairly, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. The full letter, financial statements and the Independent Auditors' Report were included in the January 2021 agenda packet, for review.

Update on Challenged Sorors:

Basileus Story asked for prayer for Soror Camilla Jackson, who had surgery during the week, and continued prayers for sorors who are silently experiencing challenges.

Introduction of Service Project: Soror Clara Cooper, Chairman of Target 5 – Global Impact, presented the January 2021 service project: ***Sewing into the Future of Little Girls and Boys***. In support of the sorority's international initiative, Alpha Kappa Omega chapter sorors will continue to make dresses through the Pillowcase Dress Project. Beginning January 2021, sorors can construct dresses in the comfort of their respective homes. The Global Impact Committee has created kits with supplies to make three to five dresses; the kits can be delivered to sorors' homes, beginning Monday, January 18, 2021. The chapter's goal is to make one hundred (100) dresses for the 2021 South Central Regional Conference. To request the full dressmaking kits or the template for the dresses, contact the Global Impact Committee at the following new email address: akomega.global.impact@gmail.com.

OFFICER & STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Please reference the chapter website for Officer Reports.

Approval of the Minutes: Basileus Story reported the December 19, 2020 chapter meeting minutes were recorded by Soror Susan Bynam, Grammateus, and were uploaded to the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter website for review.

Action: Soror Susan Bynam, Grammateus, reported no corrections to the minutes received to date and requested sorors to virtually provide any objection to adoption of the minutes as presented, by raising their hands or sending a text message. **Discussion:** None heard. Hearing no objections, the chapter minutes were adopted as presented by general consensus.

Correspondence: Soror Mary Smith Johnson, Epistoleus, highlighted correspondence printed in the monthly report. No additional correspondence was received by January chapter meeting date.

Pecunious Grammateus Report: Soror Rayya Carrington, Pecunious Grammateus, presented the Financial Summary Report for the reporting period of December 31, 2020. Soror Carrington provided the following December 2020 highlights: \$12,031.00 collected by the pecunious grammateus. Anti-pecunious grammateus collected \$3,010.00. Total year-to-date for 2020, the pecunious grammateus and anti-pecunious grammateus collected \$176,706.31. This report will be referred to the Audit Committee for review.

Tamiouchos Report: Soror Monica Baynard, Tamiouchos, provided financial highlights and updates for month-to-date and year-to-date totals for December 2020, including highlights on the Zoom screen for sorors who were unable to download the agenda packet.

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INCOME AND EXPENSES AT-A-GLANCE for December 2020		
	December	Year-To-Date
Total Income	\$ 1,266.94	\$316,560.18
Expenses	\$ 23,350.54	\$185,414.75
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (22,083.60)	\$131,145.43
Balance Sheet		
Total Assets	\$ 494,021.94	
Total Liabilities	\$ 59,655.17	
Total Equity	\$ 434,366.77	
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 468,464.59	
Monthly Bank Reconciliations		
Total Adjusted Bank Balance	\$ 459,982.01	
Outstanding Transactions		
Outstanding Checks	\$ 20,703.16	
Grant and Self-Sustaining	\$ 263.52	

Soror Baynard provided the following expense highlights and additional updates:

- **Building Your Economic Legacy:** \$1,900
- **Technology:** Quite a few line items are included in the report, primarily related to the chapter website and materials needed for the technology team, which were approved by the chapter and finance committee as updates: \$2,129.25; YTD, \$2,257.23 (primarily related to the ID printer/laptop and telephone voting)
- **Website Hosting Fees:** None for December 2020; YTD, \$522.20
- **Website Updates:** \$12,684 (December 2020 and YTD), i.e., cost for chapter website
- **E-Automation:** \$511.28 (December 2020); YTD, \$1,734.30 (includes \$200 for ID printer/laptop software)
- **Technology Hardware:** \$660.33 (December 2020 and YTD), i.e., for the laptop for the anti-tamiouchos
- **Courtesy:** \$932.80 (December 2020); YTD, \$10,565.24. A set of courtesy expenses was received after the December 2020 chapter meeting, bringing the Courtesy Committee over budget by \$438.00 for the year. Since the expense amount was less than \$500, the amount was not taken to the finance committee
- **Committee Meeting Room Rental:** Credit of \$3,300, due to The Power Center not charging for the committee meeting rooms, resulting in the expense coming off the balance sheet
- **Scrapbook:** \$904.71 (December 2020); YTD, \$1278.72
- **Accrued expenses,** received by the chapter on 12/31/20, however the chapter was unable to get checks cut and signed by the end of the year
- **Contributions:** \$2,800 (December 2020); YTD, \$3,434.69, primarily comprised of the \$2,500 contribution to the Houston Food Bank that was approved by the chapter in November 2020
- **Boule Invitational Expenses:** \$372 (December 2020 and YTD), i.e., reimbursement to Soror Elnora Flewellen that was approved by the chapter in November 2020
- **Electronic Voting Expense:** \$118.08 (December 2020 and YTD). This line item is over budget, as there was no previous budget for this line item. This expense is the \$700 annual charge for the chapter's virtual remote, Simply Voting system, which the expense will be allocated over twelve months. Each month, the report will identify a \$59.00 charge. The \$118 charge is for two months, i.e., for November and December 2020)

Outstanding checks that were over three years old were highlighted and will be evaluated for escheatment to the state of Texas.

The Outstanding Check Resolution form was included in the agenda packet. To resolve outstanding checks, sorors are encouraged to complete and seek any assistance from the chapter's new tamiouchos, Soror Keri Myers.

Soror Baynard's report will be referred to the Audit Committee for review.

Executive Committee: Soror Felicia Wright, Anti-Grammateus, presented an oral report of the executive committee. The Executive Committee of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter met virtually via Zoom on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7 p.m. There were **31** executive committee members, committee chairmen and other members present. There were no recommendations to bring forward from the executive committee for the month of January.

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EXCELLENCE IN PROGRAMMING REPORTS

Please reference the chapter website for Programming Reports.

Target 2: Women's Healthcare and Wellness: Soror Cheryl Duncan, Target 2 Women's Healthcare and Wellness Committee Chairman, reported the committee held a tele-conference meeting on January 6, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. There were 32 members in attendance.

Forthcoming initiatives:

- **Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter, *Pink Goes Red Impact Day, Friday, February 5, 2021, 7 p.m., via Zoom.*** Two great speakers will be Soror Lena Smith, who will present, ***Heart/Healthy: Fitness and Nutrition*** and Dr. Rhonda Jordan, our sorority sister, who will discuss living with heart disease.
- **HMAC *Pink Goes Red Impact Day*, Saturday, February 6, 2021, virtually, with chapter videos starting at 9 a.m. on the HMAC Facebook page.**
- ***Pink Vaccine Campaign:*** Sorors are encouraged to post photos receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and submit to: pitch2play@gmail.com. Additionally, short educational videos featuring medical professionals will be posted on the committee's Instagram and Facebook social media pages to educate the public about the myths of the vaccine.

Committee Reports

Please reference the chapter website for Committee Reports.

Membership Committee: Soror Edwina Johnson, Membership Committee Chairman, reported the committee met on January 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., via tele-conference. There were 73 sorors in attendance to plan and discuss 2021 membership committee initiatives. Soror Johnson noted corrections had been made to names noted in the previously submitted report and the latest report would be uploaded to the chapter's website.

Forthcoming initiatives:

- ***Virtual Mardi Gras Party*, a collaboration with the Sisterly Relations Committee and the HBCU Committee.** Sorors are requested to wear HBCU colors (to represent your respective HBCU) and/or Mardi Gras mask. Alternatively, sorors can also wear pink and green colors to the virtual event. Activities will be presented by all three participating committees. Event will be held at the end of February or beginning of March, 2021.
- ***Virtual Chapter Retreat, Save the Date: August 14, 2021.*** Details coming soon.

Regarding Membership Intake Process (MIP): A letter dated December 31, 2020 from Supreme Basileus Glenda Glover stated that graduate chapters were approved to resume conducting MIP activities. Chapters that have not begun the process are encouraged to conduct MIP, but are not required to do so in 2021. The decision is at the discretion of the chapter, by chapter vote. The letter from Madam Supreme requested the announcement about resuming MIP activities be made at the chapter's respective January 2021 chapter meeting. Chairman Johnson reported the Membership Committee voted to host MIP in Fall 2020 on March 11, 2020, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the membership committee vote was not brought to the chapter at that time, due to COVID-19 and the postponement by the Supreme Basileus.

Recommendation from the Membership Committee: Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter conduct MIP in Fall 2021.

Action: Basileus Story restated the recommendation to the chapter and called for the vote.

- Basileus Story requested all sorors to vote using the ***raise your hand*** feature.

- **In Favor:** 250 votes
- **Opposed:** 55 votes

Basileus Story announced the recommendation passed to host MIP in Fall 2021.

Basileus Story called for any objection to the remainder of the Membership Committee report, by a showing of ***raised hands***.

Hands Raised:

- **Soror Angela Williams:** Soror Williams is in favor of MIP, but not for Fall 2021.

Rationale: The large size of our chapter and the amount of work involved in the MIP process would not allow us to continue to keep our distancing and implement virtually. Soror Williams feels that Spring 2022 may prove more accessible for our chapter than in 2021, but noted she was not allowed to give her statement before the chapter vote. (Basileus Story extended her apologies for not acknowledging Soror Williams' statement before the vote)

- **Soror Elnora Flewellen:** Soror Flewellen agreed with Soror Williams' statement that Fall 2021 is too soon to host MIP and encouraged the chapter to consider changing the date of MIP. ***Rationale:*** Our current COVID-19 situation is serious and too dangerous and feels the chapter should focus on reclaiming sorors who are not currently active.

- **Soror Betty Merritte-Williams:** Soror Merritte-Williams agreed with Soror Angela Williams' statement.

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Rationale: Other considerations should've been given to allow chapter members to speak before the vote was given. Soror Meritte-Williams feels the vote was tainted because chapter members were not afforded to speak before the vote.

- **Soror LaShonda Willis:** Soror Willis requested a repeat of the vote results, i.e., 250 votes in favor; 55 votes in opposition.
- **Soror Patricia Roberts:** Soror Roberts questioned what is the parliamentary procedure for having *no discussion* before the vote. Soror Roberts stated she was in favor of having MIP, but also had safety concerns for our membership and all participants due to COVID-19. Soror Roberts inquired if the chapter would consider hosting MIP in 2022, to allow chapter members and prospective candidates to get the vaccine, where everyone would be in a safer environment.
 - **Basileus Story requested Parliamentarian Veronica Johnson to comment:** Soror Johnson commented there were parliamentary items that members could have exercised, but noted the vote had already been taken and presented.
- **Soror Lydia Brew:** Soror Brew recommended a motion be made to recall the vote and the chapter vote again.
- **Soror Edwina Johnson:** Soror Johnson stated the reason the chapter voted because chapters were encouraged by Madam Supreme to host MIPs. Further, Soror Johnson stated the committee wanted to wait to host MIP in Fall 2021 (which could be even in December 2021), for by then, the vaccine would've been made readily available and chapter members and participants would likely have gotten the vaccine by that time. Our chapter can take a look at how other chapters move forward with MIP, to see how the process is working. Soror Johnson commented she was told that much of the process would be virtual and there would be training for chapter members to attend in the future. More details for hosting MIP are forthcoming. Per Soror Johnson, the vote to conduct MIP in Fall 2021 was held because Madam Supreme is encouraging chapters to host MIP. Although the chapter has voted, the committee intends to be very cautious, moving forward, for the safety of everyone involved in the process.
- **Soror Cara Brown Daniels:** Soror Daniels shared she also has concerns, however trusts that our sorority sisters will do whatever is proper and befitting for the health and safety of everyone, as we proceed with the MIP process.
- **Soror Diana Johnson:** Soror Johnson commented she is in favor of the chapter hosting MIP, but noted when adding both the numbers in favor and in opposition to MIP, the total number is still low, according to our membership roster. Soror Johnson commented that although she trusts our chapter, our chapter's leadership and our chapter's health team to make sure that we are all safe during COVID-19, our numbers matter and are facts.
- **Soror Cheryl Mitchell:** Soror Mitchell commented if the chapter has to follow the county guidelines regarding attendance limitation at gatherings in one location, it's possible our chapter won't be able to host the rituals of MIP, and thus, unable to do what we want anyway.
 - Basileus Story responded that MIP training on the process would be held next week and the guidelines will be received at that time. However, our guidelines of our local government agencies must be adhered to, regardless.
- **Soror Mary Smith Johnson:** Soror Johnson pointed out that several chapter members asked about Soror Lydia Brew's motion in the chat feature.
 - Basileus Story commented she didn't understand Soror Brew had made a motion and requested Soror Brew to repeat her motion.
 - Soror Lydia Brew moved that the chapter move to vote again today regarding the chapter hosting MIP in the Fall 2021.
 - Soror Annie Brew commented that Soror Lydia Brew's motion was lost, for lack of a second.
- **Soror Monica Baynard:** Soror Baynard concurred with Soror Diana Johnson regarding low turnout in numbers from the vote in favor of MIP, considering the size of our chapter, i.e., over 800 members in the chapter; 496 sorors present at the January 16 chapter meeting; but, only 250 people voted in favor of MIP. In the interest of fairness, Soror Baynard suggested that we restate Soror Lydia Brew's motion, in anticipation of securing a second on the motion.
- **Soror Yolanda Murdock:** Per Soror Murdock, since the chapter has agreed to have MIP, we can vote as a chapter to have a set number for participation, to ensure MIP works and is safe. In turn, Soror Cherise can take the chapter's preferred options for hosting MIP to the regional director for approval, to ensure we have a cohesive, inclusive process. Any sorors interested in attending the MIP training, should notify Soror Murdock. Per Soror Murdock, Madam Supreme is encouraging chapters to host MIP, however safety is Madam Supreme's first priority.
- **Soror Delores Smith** moved we rescind the previous motion and take a re-vote. Seconded by Soror Monica Baynard. *(At the request of Basileus Story, Parliamentarian Veronica Johnson confirmed Soror Smith's motion and the second received were proper and in order).*

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Action: Basileus Story called for any discussion.

Questions:

- Soror Courtney White asked if candidates will be required to sign a waiver stating they will not sue, in the event they get sick.
- Soror Thedrial Jackson asked if the chapter able to get details from the graduate advisors who have had MIP, lessons learned, etc.
 - Per Basileus Story, there are two different booklets being produced relative to the graduate and undergraduate MIPs, respectively. Updates will be provided at the training being held on next week.
 - Basileus Story does not have any information on waivers or any documentation on what the MIP process will be at this time.
- Soror La Donna Harris' hand was acknowledged, in which she commented her hand had been raised concerning the chat regarding Soror Lydia's motion.

Basileus Story called for any further discussion on the motion to rescind the previous vote.

● Soror Janice Samuels-Waites commented she supported the parliamentary processes, the chapter and respects the national guidelines of our sorority, however COVID data supports that it's not the trust of our chapter or sorority that is in question, but rather we cannot control the behavior of our community. Soror Waites suggested:

- (a) The chapter establish a sub-committee comprised of healthcare professionals to keep the chapter apprised of important information that can impact our ability to control the safety of our MIP participants, including sorors and candidates or our inability to protect them because this is not all within our control.
- (b) If a decision is not made today, Soror Waites suggested a sub-committee be formed, with the anticipation of making better decisions to protect the MIP process.

Action:

Basileus Story called for the vote to rescind the previous vote, using the virtual **Raise Your Hand** feature:

Vote Results:

In favor: 231 votes
Opposed: 110 votes

The motion to rescind the previous vote was adopted. Further discussion regarding MIP was referred to the Membership Committee.

● Basileus Story asked if there was any objection to accepting the Mardi Gras Party and the Virtual Chapter Retreat portion of the Membership Committee report; if so, sorors were asked to raise their hands.

NOTE: Soror Thedrial Jackson commented on the MIP process.

Action: Hearing None. The remainder of the Membership Committee report was accepted.

HMAC Founders' Day: Soror Erica Smith reported the Virtual Founders' Day Committee met on December 30, 2020 to finalize plans for 2021 Founders' Day. The Founders' Day event will be held virtually on January 24, 2021.

- Theme: **Unprecedented Excellence During Unprecedented Times**
- Guest Speaker: Soror Joya T. Hayes, South Central Regional Director
- Admission: \$7.00, which funds will be used to support the sorority's national targets
- Registration and QR codes were previously sent
- Vendors will be available for sorors' shopping pleasure

MLK International Day of Service: Soror Laura Allen, Anti-Basileus of Programs, reported the chapter's MLK Day of Service would take place on Monday, January 18, 2021, via Zoom, starting at 11 a.m. The Zoom registration was posted and submitted via the chapter's e-blast. The celebration will include:

- A check in the amount of \$300, to be presented to the Star of Hope Women's Center
- Donation of new and gently used children's books to the Star of Hope (but any books will be accepted). On MLK Day, sorors are encouraged to take photos of themselves donating the books and post on social media with their name, the number of donated books and a photo of the books.
- Regarding the chapter's **MLK Day Celebration of Service:**
 - Theme: **Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: And, Still We Rise!**
 - Dr. Cherry Gooden and Soror Antre'Chelle Dorsey, guest speakers. Other activities include former MLK youth winner guest speaker, musical performance, and a creative book reading by our graduate advisors and undergraduate sorors, to name a few. Special presentation, *Take Care of Your Nerves in Order to Serve*.

Nominating Committee: Soror Jo Carolyn Goode, Nominating Committee Chairman, reported the committee met on Thursday, January 7, 2021, to prepare for the election of the 2021 South Central Regional Conference

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Delegates. All election guidelines and lists of ineligible sorors were reviewed during the meeting. The chapter is allotted twelve (12) delegates. Six delegates are automatic: basileus, anti-basilei and graduate advisors. The chapter will elect six additional delegates and six alternates. The committee adjusted the guidelines to reflect the use of the virtual voting tool, *Simply Voting*.

The process will move forward as follows:

- Sorors may nominate any financial soror to serve as a regional conference delegate, by sending the soror's name, contact information and headshot to: nomakoega@gmail.com, with the subject line, "Delegate" by January 23, 2021.
- The Nominating Committee will validate all nominated sorors' eligibility based on the 2020 financial list and the 2021 financial list as of February 1, 2021.
- All eligible nominees' names and photos will be sent to the Technology Committee to create the ballot for Simply Voting.
- Chapter members must attend the February 20, 2021 meeting in order to vote.
- Simply Voting will use the February 20, 2021 chapter attendance list to send sorors a link to vote.
- The chapter will vote for delegates on Sunday, February 21, 2021 between 10 am to 6 pm.

NOTE: The Technology Committee showed a video addendum of the introduction of the 2021 Executive Committee.

Graduate Advisor Reports

Gamma Psi Chapter, Texas Southern University: Soror VeRonique Williams, Graduate Advisor, announced Gamma Psi Chapter members were still on Winter Break. Classes will resume on January 19, 2021. All end-of-year reports were completed and submitted to the corporate office.

- On Monday, January 18, 2021: Gamma Psi Chapter will observe the Dr. MLK, Jr. International Day of Service with sorors of Alpha Kappa Omega, Epsilon Lambda, and Omicron Gamma chapters.
- Gamma Psi Chapter will also attend the 2021 HMAC Founders' Day Celebration on January 24, 2021. Gamma Psi President Kamryn Johnson, along with all other undergraduate presidents in the Southeast Texas Cluster will present a written expression in tribute to our national founders.
- Following the 2020 graduation season, Gamma Psi Chapter had eleven (11) members to officially transfer to Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter.

Epsilon Lambda Chapter, University of Houston, Central Campus: Soror Jennifer Rachal, Graduate Advisor, reported Epsilon Lambda Chapter is bringing in the new year with excitement for a year of impactful service, even in the midst of the corona virus. Soror Rachal has met with Epsilon Lambda Basileus, Alexia Thomas, to discuss the vision of the chapter and has also been in contact with all the sorors of Epsilon Lambda Chapter to secure dues, receive transcripts and begin initial planning for the Spring 2021 semester:

- Dr. Martin Luther King Day of Service
- Celebration of 113 years of service at HMAC Founders' Day. Soror Alexia Thomas will give an undergraduate salute.
- Accolades are extended to the following chapter members for making the Dean's List:
 - Sorors Taylor Anthony, India Dorsey, Kendall Hollingsworth, Ayanna Johnson, Amari Outlaw, Miracle Powell; and Alexia Thomas.

Omicron Gamma Chapter, University of Houston Downtown: Soror Dina Williams, Graduate Advisor, announced Omicron Gamma chapter members were still on Winter Break. Classes resume on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Omicron Gamma chapter members are busy planning for the Spring 2021 semester and gearing up for MLK Day of Service, where they will serve alongside Epsilon Lambda and Gamma Psi chapters.

- Omicron Gamma Chapter members look forward to HMAC Founders' Day.
- Omicron Gamma Chapter will have a presentation during *Welcome Week* at the University of Houston
- Omicron Gamma Chapter members will continue to be virtual during the Spring 2021 semester.
- MIP Eight Day Process: There were two face-to-face meetings on Day 1 and Day 8, for rituals only. Following the rituals, everyone retired to their respective locations. it was in an *In and Out* process. Sign-in and temperature checks were required. Soror Williams highly encouraged sorors to attend the webinars being held the following Tuesday, January 19 or Thursday, January 21 in order to receive additional information regarding MIP.

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Hands Raised:

● **Soror La Donna Harris** inquired when paid sorors would receive the link to join the Founders' Day Celebration. Soror Erica Smith stated a definitive answer to Soror Harris' question would be sent out to the chapter.

Unfinished Business: None heard.

New Business: Basileus Story read the letter, dated December 31, 2020, from Madam Supreme regarding the Membership Intake Process.

Hands Raised:

● **Soror Betty Merritte-Williams** expressed her concerns about the "raise your hand" feature and sorors not being acknowledged timely or afforded an opportunity to speak. Basileus Story referred the chapter to the adoption of rules read at each chapter meeting regarding rules for debate.

Announcements: Soror Mary Smith Johnson provided the following reminders:

- MLK International Day of Service will be held on Monday, January 18, 2021 from 11 a.m. to Noon.
- Chapter data forms are available in the Members Only section of the chapter website and are due February 1, 2021.
- Sorors interested in attending the virtual Graduate Advisor Training: Save the date, May 8, 2021 and also the virtual Financial Officers Certification is May 22, 2021. More information to come.

Basileus Story acknowledged all sorors celebrating birthdays during the month of January.

Closing Prayer – Pink and Green Prayer Team: Soror Phoebe Heard provided prayer to bring the chapter meeting to a close.

Basileus Story announced The Ivy Educational and Charitable Foundation of Houston, Inc. will hold its annual meeting and installation of officers immediately following chapter meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Submitted by:



Susan Bynam
2021 Grammateus



Cherise Story
2021 Basileus

Please contact Soror Susan Bynam via email at Grammateus.AKOmega@gmail.com with any suggested corrections.