



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

Alpha Kappa Omega

Transparency

Inclusiveness

True Sisterliness



Meeting Minutes ♦ January 20, 2018

The Basileus, Soror Marsha Penn, called the January 20, 2018, regular meeting of the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated to order at 11:01 AM. There were 444 sorors in attendance at the meeting that was held at The Power Center, 12401 South Post Oak Road, Houston, TX 77045.

Approval of Agenda: Soror Penn presented the meeting agenda.

Action: A motion was made for approval of the agenda as presented with the change of not having the Wine Perfumes Discovery Report. The motion was seconded. **Discussion:** No discussion heard. **Vote by Voice:** The motion was adopted.

Invocation: Soror Charlyn Kyles, Chaplain, provided the devotion.

Update of Sorors on Quiet Time: Soror Penn reported on the following Sorors: Soror Carol McCree who is back home recuperating and can now take short telephone calls, but no visits at this time. In the future when visitors are accepted, provided mask and gloves will be required to be worn to assist with the acceptance of the transplant. Soror Lillie Etienne, Soror Polly Turner and Soror Gwendolyn Brinkley are all recuperating well from their recent illnesses. Soror Mattelia Grays' husband, Mr. Horace Grays, is in the hospital but is doing well. Please keep them in your prayers.

Leadership Moment: Soror Penn stated that in February she will present the Presidents Report for the year ending in 2017. All Sorors are encouraged to participate on committees. The list of committees is in our chapter directory.

Introduction of the Hostess Committee: Soror Davina Horace, Chairman of the January Hostess Committee, informed the body of the January service project which is the donation of blankets to the Children's Assessment Center. Soror Horace recognized the members of the January Hostess Committee and the Co-Chairman, Soror Jo Beth Harris.

Introduction of VSM's: Soror Susan Bynam, Protocol Chairman, introduced Soror Mattelia B. Grays, 18th Supreme Basileus; Soror Faye B. Bryant, 21st Supreme Basileus; Soror Polly Sparks Turner, 20th South Central Regional Director; Soror Gwendolyn J. Brinkley, 23rd South Central Regional Director; and Soror Berna Greer, Former Supreme Tamiouchos and former Chairman of the International Investment Committee; Soror Nekeidra Brown, former 2nd Supreme Anti-Basileus and South Central Representative to the International Risk Management Committee; Soror JoAnn Brown, Chairman of the International Conference Planning Committee; Soror Regina Carrington, South Central Region Representative to the International Program Committee; and Soror Tamara Cubit, South Central Region Representative to the International Reinstatement Task Force Committee. Appointments to the Launching New Dimensions of Service Investigation and Evaluation Team – Sorors Darlene Johnson, Diana Johnson, Pamela Lazard, Felicia Ransfer, Patricia Roberts, and Tishauna Washington. South Central Regional appointments recognized: Sorors Ulonda Crawford Eurey, Strategic Planning Chairman; Carol McCree, Mentoring Program Chairman; Karen Grays, Logistics Co-Chairman; Kim Topps, Texas Statewide Connections Chairman; and Mary Smith Johnson, Membership Committee.

Introduction of Visiting Sorors: Soror Mary Smith Johnson, Hodegos, welcomed and introduced seven transferring sorors, twenty-one reactivating sorors, and twenty-three visiting sorors.

Reading of the Rules: Soror Karen Grays, Parliamentarian, presented the special rules of order related to debate that were adopted December 17, 2005, to govern all chapter meetings.

OFFICER REPORTS

Approval of the Minutes: Soror Helen J. Houston, 2017 Grammateus, thanked the chapter for allowing her to serve as 2017 Grammateus. Action: A motion was made for approval of the December 16, 2017 minutes with corrections. The motion was seconded. Discussion: No discussion heard. Vote by Voice: The motion was adopted.

Correspondence: Soror Brenda Morris Davis, Epistoleus, highlighted the Correspondence Report as printed in the January packet listing Thank You Notes, Invitations, and Holiday Greetings. Additional correspondences from Sorors: Faye Philips and Sandra Tucker both thanking sorors for the calls, messages and ivy plant received after the loss of their mothers.

Executive Committee: Soror Pippa Brown-Andrews, Grammateus, presented an oral report of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter met at the Power Center on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. There were 20 Executive Committee members and Committee Chairmen and other members present. There are no recommendations to bring forth for the month of January.

Financial Secretary's Report: Soror Erica Moore, 2016-2017 Pecunious Grammateus, presented the Financial Summary Report as follows: As of December 31, 2017 there were 754 members of Alpha Kappa Omega. On Saturday, December 16, 2017, the financial team collected \$82,415.00 for 2018 dues. The moneys and report were submitted to the Treasurer on Monday, December 18, 2017. As of December 31, 2017, 309 sorors paid 2018 dues. 233 were collected by the Pecunious Grammateus and the Anti-Pecunious Grammateus and 76 were collected from Paypal. There were 76 life members, 233 Graduate members total paid. There were 14 partial payments made between November 18, 2017 and December 31, 2017. There were 23 reactivation dues for 2018 collected during the December 2017 meeting. A number of financial cards have arrived; See the Financial Secretary to receive. Please refer to the December monthly distribution packet for the written detailed Financial Secretary's report.

Soror Moore thanked the chapter for allowing her to serve as the Financial Secretary for the past 24 months. She also recognized Sorors Sheri Cole and Christyn Thibodeaux for serving alongside of her on the financial team.

Treasurer's Report: Soror Lisa Brooks, 2017 Tamiouchos, presented the following reports for the month of December 2017: *Comparison of Budget to Actual – Operations, Statement of Financial Position; Monthly Bank Reconciliation; and Outstanding Checks.* Chapter assets as reported in the *Statement of Financial Position* are listed in the chart below.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - ASSETS			
Chapter Operations	\$171,081.60	Housing	\$83,687.44
Grants and Self-Sustaining	\$46,641.89	Savings	\$19,159.30
Gamma Psi Chapter Tax 2017 and 2018	200.00	Prepaid Expenses	23,031.00
		TOTAL ASSETS	\$343,801.23
TOTAL INCOME			
December 2017	\$8658.03	Actual YTD	\$336,196.99
TOTAL EXPENSES			
December 31, 2017	\$34,628.11	Actual YTD	\$285,918.79
TOTAL INCOME IN EXCESS OF EXPENSES			
December 31, 2017	(\$25,970.08)	Actual YTD	\$50,278.20
DEBUTANTE TOTAL INCOME			
December 2017	\$34.13	Actual YTD	\$107,958.13
DEBUTANTE TOTAL EXPENSES			
December 31, 2017	\$780.65	Actual YTD	\$106,943.65
TOTAL DEBUTANTE INCOME IN EXCESS OF EXPENSES			
December 31, 2017	(\$746.52)	Actual YTD	\$1,014.48

Soror Brooks stated that all funds for dues received in the month of December 31, 2017 were transmitted to the corporate office. Please refer to the December monthly distribution packet for the written detailed financial report. The financial report will be referred to the Audit Committee for review.

Graduate Advisors Report (Please refer to the December monthly distribution packet for the written reports):

Gamma Psi- Soror Erica Smith, Graduate Advisor, reported that she and the Graduate Advisor Council submitted paperwork to request a Membership Intake Process (MIP) for Spring 2018. The council participated in the Alpha Kappa Omega's day of service at the Star of Hope. Soror Smith is scheduled to attend the Texas Southern University's meeting for Graduate Advisors of Greek Letter Organizations.

It is being requested that the Alpha Kappa Omega chapter provide Gamma Psi with seed money to cover the cost associated with the MIP. The money will be repaid to Alpha Kappa Omega at the end of the MIP. It is also requested that Alpha Kappa Omega provide a letter of support for the Gamma Psi MIP dated for 2018.

Action: A motion was made by Soror Marsha Penn to accept the Gamma Psi Graduate Advisor's report to include providing seed money for MIP in the amount of \$4300 from the operations account with reimbursement back to Alpha Kappa Omega and a letter of support to be forwarded in support of Gamma Psi. Discussion: Soror Angela Williams asked if TSU was not considering Gamma Psi as an organization on campus since there is a \$2500 fee for the room rental. Soror Erica Smith responded by saying that she has questioned the school about the charge and is awaiting a response. However she has received the initial quote and we will not have another meeting until after the response is received. Any money not needed, will not be used. Vote by Voice: The motion was adopted.

Epsilon Lambda- Soror Patricia Roberts, Graduate Advisor, reported on the chapter activities for 2017. There were 13 sorors to graduate and one soror to transfer into to the chapter. Currently there are 15 active members. The sorors' cumulative GPA was 3.0 which was the 2nd highest GPA for Fraternal and Sorority Organizations on campus. She recognized Epsilon Lambda mentors. Epsilon Lambda attended all required training and conferences and has submitted for MIP. MIP is anticipated to be hosted in the spring after regional conference.

Omicron Gamma- Soror Dina Williams, Graduate Advisor, reported that the chapter ended the year with installation of officers for 2018. They held a food drive to support the Blue Ridge United Methodist Church's food pantry. Omicron Gamma participated in Alpha Kappa Omega's MLK day of service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Logistics: Soror Nicole Montgomery, Committee Chairman, recognized the Co-Chairmen, Soror Diana Merritte and Soror Shundra Williams. She reported that the Logistics Committee is a new committee designated by the Basileus in 2017. This new committee will assist the Basileus with the facilities and other operations needed to conduct smooth and orderly chapter meetings. A detailed report is in your packet; however, a few items will be highlighted. If you have requested a table or any space, scheduled presentations, special decorations related to the chapter meeting, contact Nicole Montgomery with a written email at: nicolemontnm@gmail.com (listed in the report and in the chapter directory). The Basileus must approve those requests. The Logistics Committee will be working with the Hospitality Committee on creative ways to deal with waitlisted sorors and RSVPs.

Nominating/Regional Conference Delegates: Soror Laura Rousseve Allen, Committee Chairman, thanked Soror Pamela Lazard on a smooth transition. She recognized the 2018 Nominating Committee as listed in the report. Soror Rousseve Allen stated that we would be voting on the 2018 South Central Regional Conference Delegates. She read the election guidelines to the body. A written list of sorors that are not eligible to serve as delegates is provided in the December Monthly distribution packet. The official ballot list the names of those who are automatic delegates based on office held. Only Seven delegates are to be voted on.

Soror Penn opened the floor for nominations for delegates for the South Central Regional Conference. Names nominated from the floor for delegates are: Latosha McGill Clayton, Deshaundra Foley, Jocquelyn Roberson, Christina Allen-Crowder, Geraldine Brown, Tera Brown-Daniels, Lashonda Willis, Beverly Harris, Tishauna Washington, Betty Merritte-Williams, Brittany Des Vignes, Yolanda Murdock-Wiltz, and Belinda James.

Action: A motion was made to close the nominations. Discussion: None heard. Vote by Voice: The motion was adopted.

Soror Penn announced the Tellers Committee members, chaired by Soror Karen Demaris. The committee will collect and count the ballots.

ASCEND Program Target: Soror Gloria Williams, Committee Co-Chairman, reported on the December activities and field trips of the program. On February 5th, the students will attend an Aggieland Saturday Fieldtrip to Texas A & M University sponsored by Schlumberger and made available by Soror Paula Harris. Soror Cherise Story, Lead Coach, reported that the Program Planning Meeting will be held Monday, February 5th from 6:30p to 8:30p.

Chapter E-Automation: Soror Evelyn Gates and Soror Rhonda Williams, Committee Co-Chairmen, reported that the committee is seeking to implement the Time Station application. This application will speed up our entrance and keep track of attendance at meetings. A brief demonstration was done using QR code cards. As a result, an attendance report can be generated and quorum status can be obtained. Sorors were asked to update your information on the Alpha Kappa Omega website.

Soror Carolene Goffney reported on the Add to Calendar application, used to see all chapter activities. She will investigate features and any changes to the chapter.

Founders' Day 2018: Soror Betty Frazier, Committee Chairman, reported on an update for the HMAC Founders' Day Service Project. On Saturday, January 13, 2018, the donations of \$345 were delivered. The committee is asking that each soror go online to the link assigned to Alpha Kappa Omega to donate \$15 dollars as a part of a sisterly competition to purchase "19,008 Formula Project".

Soror Betty Cox, Committee Chairman, reported that the Supreme Basileus, Soror Dorothy Buchanan Wilson, will attend our Founders' Day event on Sunday, January 28, 2018. Alpha Kappa Omega's rotation role for HMAC Founders' Day, is to be in charge of the Hostess Committee. HMAC Hostess Committee and those volunteering as Hostess were asked to stand to be recognized. The attire for hostesses will be black dresses with a pink corsages that will be given out the day of the event. A sample of the corsage was shown. Other sorors are no longer required to wear white.

Soror Marsha Penn announced that HMAC will gather for sisterly relations at Lakewood Church to worship on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 where Pastor John Gray will be speaking.

Health Program Target: Soror Dr. Pamela Cormier, Committee Chairman, recognized Soror Cheryl Duncan as the Committee Co-Chairman. Soror Cormier Health Impact day for 2018, Health Promotion Committee Target II will be the Pink Goes Red a Heart Healthy Awareness Event at 6pm on Friday, February 2, 2018, held at Lockhart Elementary. The HMAC Pink Goes Red Women's Health Symposium at 10am to 2pm on Saturday, February 3, 2018, held at the Fifth Ward Multi-Service Center.

Fine Arts: Soror Fennoye Thomas, Committee Co-Chairman, presented an oral update on the committee activities. The First event will be held in March 16, 2018 at Jones Hall at 7:30 pm. The event will be to see the Alvin Ailey Dance Troup. The rates are: \$42 will be for seats behind the Orchestra level and \$54 for seats on the Orchestra level. At least 10 people need to sign up to get the best rates. There are sign-up sheets on the table and tickets can be purchased with the Ticketron Committee. Tickets must be purchased before the next sorority meeting. Future activities will include the Museum of Fine Arts. An underwriter is needed for that event. Sorors that volunteered during the Nutcracker Market were asked to stand to be recognized. The committee would like to thank those volunteers for their service.

It's All About the Ball/Prom Gown Charity Event: Soror Chaney Ledet, Committee Chairman, presented an oral report stating that the event will be held at the Houston Business Development Center (Palm Center) on Saturday, March 31, 2018 tentatively scheduled for 11am to 2pm. Currently approximately 100 gowns have been donated. A partnership with Jovani has been formed. There is still a need for donations. Gowns should be cleaned, pressed and hanging in a plastic bag. Sorors can also participate by donating accessories (to be placed zip lock bags). For any questions, email to ChaneyLadet@yahoo.com or to SJLbinz@sbcglobal.net.

Young Sorors Rejuvenation/Sisterly Relations: Sorors Shalondra Moore and Charvela Fearon, Sisterly Relations Committee Chairmen, highlighted the upcoming event. "Get your Pearls Popping for Sadie Hawkins", an event being held to bridge the gap between the young sorors and the seasoned sorors. The event will be held at the Blue Triangle Center on Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 7pm-9pm. Tickets are \$15. This is a partnership between the Sisterly Relations Committee and the Young Soror's Committee. An invitation demonstration for the event was given by Soror Christyn Thibodeaux, Young Sorors Committee Chairman.

Chapter 90th Anniversary Gala Budget: Soror Joyce Jacquet, Committee Chairman, presented the theme for the anniversary event, "Celebrating 90 years of Continuous Sisterhood and Service". Chairmen and Co-Chairmen were asked to stand to be recognized. Soror Jacquet encouraged sorors to join an Anniversary Committee.

Soror Cherise Story presented the budget for the anniversary celebration (please refer to the December monthly distribution packet for the written report). Two budget options were given:

- 1) Revenue Over (under) Expenses of \$10,767.00 and a food and beverage option for \$40
- 2) Revenue Over (under) Expenses of \$142.00 and a food and beverage option for \$50.

Action: A motion was made that the 90th Anniversary Committee would like to recommend that the chapter vote on the \$40 or the \$50 option with the budget presented. The motion was seconded. Discussion: A question of where the event will be held was asked and Soror Jacquet stated that the Hilton Americas downtown has been secured.
Vote by Rising: The \$50 option was adopted.

Boule Updates: Soror Diedra Fontaine, Boule Conference Chairman, reported an update on the 68th Boule: Launching New Dimensions of Service. She encouraged all sorors to join a Boule Committee. The deadline to order the Boule attire is February 1, 2018. She noted that the boule attire was organized to ensure that all visiting sorors can identify host chapter sorors for any questions. Soror Dorothy Buchanan Wilson will host a special Boule Planning and Update meeting on Sunday, January 28th, 2018 at 3pm. All active sorors are invited. (Please refer to the December monthly distribution packet for more details regarding Boule planning). Discussion: Soror Cheryl Cash presented to the microphone and stated that after signing up for a Boule Committee there has been no contact from any of the committee chairmen. Soror Diedra stated that there are many committee chairmen within Alpha Kappa Omega. She asked that all committee chairmen stand. If you have not been contacted by a committee chairman, you may contact Soror Diedra at 832.332.8013.

Hospitality Special Note: Soror Penn reported that the Finance Committee made a recommendation at the November 2017 sorority meeting and the chapter voted to accept that recommendation that the Hospitality Committee come up with a process and a plan regarding how to handle RSVPs (sorors that RSVP and does not show up and those that do not RSVP but shows up).

Soror Anitra Provost and her committee did meet with the Power Center; however, today was exceptional with the number of visiting and reactivating sorors that are present. Soror Anitra Provost, Hospitality Committee Chairman, apologized for those sorors that are sitting in chairs and that had RSVP'd but did not get to eat. She announced that there are no meals available unless those sorors that do not have meal tickets, those who just reactivated today, and those that are visiting today, are willing to release their chair at the table. The Power Center will not be able to add additional tables and is only able to serve food to those tables that have been set up before you. Those sorors in the categories previously listed are encouraged to release your seats.

Unfinished Business: The external audit of the 2015 records is back in progress by Mr. Wooten for completion. Mr. Wooten had started the audit of the 2015 records in 2016.

New Business: Soror Helen Houston presented to the microphone to state that in regards to the Life Membership fee for Soror Clarice Lowe, sorors collected \$859 dollars to apply for her life membership. The chapter contributed \$100.

Soror Glenniece Stewart presented to the microphone to state that the 2015 adjusted financial statements were not submitted.

Announcements - Open Mic

Soror Brenda Davis, Epistoleus, made four announcements:

- The 2018 Chapter Executive Committee and the Standing Committee Chairmen and CoChairmen will be taken today, immediately after the foundation meeting. A group photo of all committee chairmen and cochairmen will be taken at a later date and will be announced.
- The Program Planning Meeting to count down Launching New Dimensions will be held Monday, February 5th. The location and time will be announced.
- Some of the 2018 Financial Cards have arrived. Please see the Anti Pecunious Grammateus, Latosha McGill Clayton, to receive your card.
- The Boule Attire is available for fitting today after the meeting.

Sorors verbalized announcements during the open mic session.

Birthday Recognitions: Soror Penn along with Soror Mary Barnett, Hostess Committee Chairman, Soror Helen Houston, and Soror Alicia Hitt, recognized sorors celebrating December birthdays. An excerpt from the song Happy Birthday written by Stevie Wonder was sung.

Action: A motion was made to recess the meeting as we wait on the Tellers report. The motion was seconded.

Discussion: None heard. Vote by Voice: The motion was adopted.

The meeting went into recess at 1:24pm.

The meeting was reconvened out of recess and called to order at **2:11pm**.

Tellers Committee Report: Soror Karen Demaris, Committee Chairman, presented the results for the election of delegates for the 2018 South Central Regional Conference (listed in the table below). The voting strength was 326. *There was a tie for the seventh and eighth place (a discussion with those sorors will be scheduled).

Number of Votes	Name	Number of Votes	Name	Number of Votes	Name
225	Latosha McGill Clayton	149	**Tera Brown-Daniels	133	Brittany Des Vignes
209	Deshaundra Foley	95	Lashonda Willis	130	Yolanda Murdock-Wiltz
105	Jocquelyn Roberson	86	Beverly Harris	130	Ulonda Crawford Eurey
162	Christina Allen-Crowder	162	Tishauna Washington	155	Belinda James
174	Geraldine Brown	149	**Betty Merritte-Williams		

Delegates are indicated in bold, alternates are not bolded.

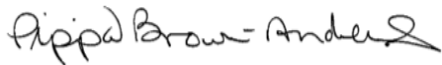
****Sorors tied for Seventh and Eighth place.**

Action: Soror Karen Demaris made a motion for acceptance of the tellers report. The motion was seconded.

Discussion: None Heard. Vote by Voice: The report was adopted.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:15pm.

Submitted By:



Pippa Brown-Andrews
2018 Grammateus



Marsha Penn
2018 Basileus

Please contact Soror Pippa Brown-Andrews via email at Grammateus.AKOmega@gmail.com , no later than Thursday, January 15, 2018 with any suggested corrections.