



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE CHAPTER MEETING
Oct 2, 2021

Following the ritualistic opening, President Robin T. Blackmon called the **virtual** Austin Alumnae chapter meeting to order at 10:19 AM on Oct 2, 2021. A quorum was present for the transaction of business as presented in the agenda. The motion was made, seconded, and adopted with no opposition. (See Exhibit).

Welcome New and Visiting Sorors.

There was one visiting soror for the Oct virtual chapter meeting: Soror Donta Clemons.

Minutes – Soror Janet Scroggins Marshall, Recording Secretary

The minutes of the Sep 2021 chapter meeting were approved as distributed.

Correspondence – Soror Tiffany Holmes White, Corresponding Secretary

- Thank you note from Soror Tamela Saldana for AAC supporting during her illness recovery.

Emergency Response – Soror Suzanne Piper

- Message to AAC was to remember to practice safe driving practices in this virtual environment. Focus first on driving and pull over to engage in virtual meetings.

Chapter Reports

Officers

President – Soror Robin T. Blackmon

- The Austin Alumnae Chapter has met compliance. The full compliance letter will be posted on the website. Soror Blackmon thanked all who made the transition of officers successful.
- Soror President reminded us that the required quorum for meetings is now 25%.
- In-Person meetings require approval from the Regional Director/State Coordinator. These meetings must incorporate COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- All members encouraged to engage in the National Candidate's Forum to make an informed decision regarding AAC vote for representation.
- Congratulation to AAC Social Action for a successful redistricting webinar and voter registration drives. Soror President would like for future events to be expanded.
- Congratulations to Charitable Partners for exceeding its fundraising goal.
- The AAC liability premium will rise due to the increase in our membership size
- All interested are encouraged to engage in the early bird convention workshops.
- Soror President Blackmon will be on travel status to the National Convention. The AAC 2nd Vice President Soror Kacey Hanson will preside over the Nov Chapter meeting.



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Financial Secretary – Soror Anita Daniels

For details regarding collections, please see Financial or Recording Secretary.

General Reminder: Please update your name, address, contact information in the National membership portal.

- 344 members for FY 21-22
- FY 21-22 dues are as follows:
Golden/Diamond Life - \$195
Regular - \$385
- General Note: There are two ways to pay: (1) PayPal. The PayPal fees will be passed on to the payor. (2) Mail. Austin Alumnae Chapter; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc; PO Box 301273; Austin Texas 78703

Treasurer/Budget and Finance – Soror Demitra Alexander

For detailed information of the Treasurer's Report, please see Treasurer or Recording Secretary.

Budget highlights/Treasurer Comments

- **General Note:** Please visit the website to view the treasurer reports
- **Reminder of Previous Action:** The line item for the National Convention Ad was increased by \$150 at the Sep 11, 2021 chapter meeting.
- **RECOMMENDATION:** Increase Budget Line Items as below:
 - National Convention-\$500
 - Contingency-\$8,230
- The recommendation was properly made by the committee, voted upon, and passed 96-6

Protocol Moment

- The Protocol and Traditions (PT) committee member Soror Cathy Ellison virtually walked us through how to find information of interest in the Protocol and Traditions manual.
- Based on a recent survey, 48% of those responded their interest in refreshing her memory on Delta insignia, colors, and regalia.
- Dstatx,pt@gmail.com



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Committee Reports

Five Point Thrust Committees

Economic Development – Soror Avis Gipson, Co-Chair

- The Wealth Wednesday series beginning on Oct 13, 2021 is open to the public. The first topic to be addressed is retirement.
- Other initiatives featured will be:
 - Black Owned Business Project
 - Black Owned Banks
 - Delta Red Pages. The deadline to submit is Nov 6, 2021
 - Property Texas Workshop with the Austin Revitalization Authority. Stay tuned because the date of the workshop may change.
- General Eco Dev Info: Meetings held 2nd Wednesday of the month. Dstatx.econdev@gmail.com

Educational Development – Soror Bethany Bell

- First session for Delta Academy and Delta Gems is scheduled for Nov 13, 2021
 - Topics include:
 - Social Media & Information Safety
 - Sister's Keeper is Never Too Early – Team Building
 - Winter is Coming – Service Project
 - Self Service – Embracing Self Awareness & Self Esteem
 - Money Moves – Black Women Business & Money Management
 - Health Habits & Relationships (GEMS only)
 - Let's Get Moving!
- Early Literacy will launch this Spring. Chairs are working with partner campuses to establish virtual plans and protocol.
- EMBODI plans are being discussed. Dates being considered are Spring 2022 or 2023.
- Soror Educators we need your help connecting to leadership in area schools!
 - Complete a form. Available are approved promo videos, fliers, and QR codes to be shared.
 - Your must be a trained volunteer to participate with the youth activities
 - Oct 18 6:30 - 8:45 p.m.
 - Oct 24 2:00 - 4:15 p.m.
 - Per National Headquarters, all youth activities are virtual until further notice.
- General Ed Dev Info: dstatxeddev@gmail.com



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Social Action – Soror Jeri Brooks

- The webinar entitled Two Seats and a Bunch of Maps was registered by 165 people with 130 people actually attending
 - Panel included:
 - Senator Sarah Eckhardt
 - Chris Moore – Austin Justice Coalition
 - Noor Taj – Southern Coalition for Social Justice (SCSJ)
 - Kathryn Sadasivan – Legal Defense Fund
 - Allison Riggs, Co-Executive Director, Programs Chief Counsel for Voting Rights Southern Coalition for Social Justice
 - Ashley Goudeau Freeman – KVUE Political Commentator – Moderator
- National Voters Registration Day held on Sep 28, 2021 at ACC Round Rock. The event resulted in the registration of 20 voters. The committee will provide an update as to how many voters were registers at the Oct 1 event held at Pflugerville and Manor High School Football games.
- All 350 members are encouraged to do at least one social action activity a year!
- Please let the Social Action Committee know if you are already a member of a board or commission.
- 1. Register, 2. Get Informed, and 3. Vote.
- Social Action General Info: Educate! Advocate! Influence! Activate! Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. dstatx.pai@gmail.com

Social Action Moment

Call to action for members to send legislators an email about the redistricting plan's impact to our community. An email will be available for sorors to add their information and submit to have our voices heard.
<https://redistricting.capitol.texas.gov/>

The redistricting plan is making its way from the Senate to Congress to House. On Oct 4 @ 9 a.m., SB6 will be heard in the Congress; HB1 will be heard in the house.

The email campaign will take only 15 minutes to complete two emails. The Social Coalition for Social Justice recommends that emphasis be placed on the procedural hurdles e.g. not enough time of the redistricting process.



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Standing Committees

Policies & Procedures – Soror Patricia Shorter

- **RECOMMENDATION** - Chapter delegate to vote in favor of the 87 amendments proposed by the National Constitution and Bylaws Committee at the 55th National Convention held on Nov 19-22 in Atlanta, GA.
 - The committee reviewed the amendments and believed that the amendments will align with the best practices of the Non-Profit Corporation Act of D.C.
 - The comment was that there were no “surprises” in the amendments. For example, the legacy definition is being updated and clarified.
- The motion was properly made by the committee, voted upon, and passed with a vote of 102-1.

Special Committees

Site Committee – Soror Kecia Rowan

- Searching for a location for a potential December chapter meeting
- The previous site being considered is no longer suitable due to our chapter's size
- An application for use of the LBJ Auditorium has been placed
- Looking for 2 to 3 back up locations.
 - A member asked if the Barbara Jordan Center has been considered.
- For meeting purposes, hybrid attendance is not allowed. The meeting must either be all virtual or all in-person.

New Business/Announcements

New members are reminded to the membership portal to request credentials for establishing her new profile account.

The DIDs planned for Nov will not take place since many will be at the National Convention.

Adjournment

A motion was made for the meeting to adjourn at 11:45 AM. The motion was properly seconded. The motion was approved with no opposition.



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Summary of Actions

Committee	Recommendation	Moved	Seconded	Count	Results
AAC Body	Approve agenda for the Oct 2, 2021 chapter meeting.	Soror Jeffrey Archer	Soror Kacey Hanson	91-0	Passed
Budget & Finance	Increase Budget Line Items as below: -National Convention-\$500 -Contingency-\$8,230	Soror Demitra Alexander on behalf of the Budget & Finance Committee	N/A	96-6	Passed
Policies & Procedures	Chapter delegate to vote in favor of the 87 amendments proposed by the National Constitution and Bylaws Committee at the 55 th National Convention held on Nov 19-22 in Atlanta, GA.	Soror Patricia Shorter on behalf of the Policies & Procedures Committee	N/A	102-1	Passed

Soror Janet Scroggins Marshall, Recording Secretary

Soror Robin T. Blackmon, President



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

**Austin Alumnae Virtual Chapter Meeting
October 2, 2021
Presiding Officer, Robin T. Blackmon**

Ritualistic Opening
Call to Order
Adoption of the Agenda
Introduction and Welcome of Visiting Sorors

Order of Business

Minutes of September Meeting
Correspondence
Emergency Response Safety Briefing

Soror Janet Marshall
Soror Tiffany Holmes White
Soror Suzanne Piper

Chapter Reports

Officers

President
Financial Secretary
Treasurer/Budget and Finance

Soror Robin Blackmon
Soror Anita Daniels
Soror Demitra Alexander

Committee Reports (3 Minutes Limit)

Protocol Moment

Five Point Thrust

Economic Development
Educational Development
Social Action

Soror Avis Gipson
Soror Bethany Bell
Soror Jeri Brooks

Social Action Moment

Standing Committees

Policies and Procedures

Soror Patricia Shorter

Special Committees

Site Committee

Soror Kecia Rowan

Unfinished Business

N/A

New Business

N/A

Motion for Adjournment

Ritualistic Closing

Committee Recommendations

Budget & Finance Committee Recommends to:

- Increase Budget Line Items Below:
 - National Convention -\$500
 - Contingency - \$8,230

Policies and Procedures Committee Recommends to:

- Inform the chapter delegate to vote in-favor of the 87 amendments proposed by the National Constitution and Bylaws Committee that will be voted on during the 55th National Convention, Nov. 19-22, in Atlanta, GA.

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

Executive Board Meeting	October 19, 2021 6:00 pm	Zoom - Virtual
Chapter Meeting	November 6, 2021 10:00 pm	Zoom - Virtual
Economic Development	October 13, 2021 12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Zoom - Virtual
Red Bag Lunch Webinar Topic: Retirement Are you Ready for it?		
Risk Management Volunteer Trainings		
	October 18, 2021 6:30 pm	Zoom - Virtual
	October 24, 2021 2:00 pm	Zoom - Virtual

Announcements

November Odyssey Due Date: Thursday, Oct. 28 at 11:59 pm submit to the Journalist at dstatx.journalist@gmail.com