



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER  
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING  
Mar 5, 2022

Following the ritualistic opening, President Robin T. Blackmon called the Austin Alumnae chapter meeting to order at 10:25 AM on Mar 5, 2022. A quorum, via Zoom, was present for the transaction of business as presented in the agenda. The motion was properly made, seconded, and adopted with no opposition.

Welcome New and Visiting Sorors.

There were two visiting sorors for the Mar chapter meeting: Sorors Angela Cobb and Lauren Lovett.

Minutes – Soror Janet Scroggins Marshall, Recording Secretary

The minutes of the Feb 2022 chapter meeting were approved as distributed.

Correspondence – Soror Tiffany Holmes White, Corresponding Secretary

- **Thank you card:** “My Dear Sorors, I am deeply grateful for the love you shared with me on Saturday, December 11, midst a very cold day. My heart was warmed. I listened to beautiful voices even through masks, singing Christmas carols with so much enthusiasm. I was also presented a lovely gift. Thanks again for the dedication you devote to bringing so much joy into our lives... Soror Lenora Waters”
- **Thank you card:** “Dear Sorors, This note brings appreciation for your kindness and your thoughtfulness. Thank you for the gift cards you donated to our chapter members as a result of Hurricane Ida. I pray God’s continued blessings on you and your families...Soror Betty B. Stewart”

Emergency Response – Soror Suzanne Piper

- This month’s safety briefing reminded the AAC body of important Cybersecurity tips such as limiting the amount of personal information that is placed online and keeping your cybersecurity software updated.

Chapter Reports

Officers

President – Soror Robin T. Blackmon

Austin Alumnae Local

- Houston Justice v Abbott Lawsuit (related to Texas Voters Right Act) that Delta Sigma Theta is a party in the suit. Austin Alumnae has responded to the request for discovery.
  - Reports, fliers, and other documents to show the chapter’s civic engagement.
- Reconsider the status of the May chapter meeting: from in-person back to virtual due to the Covid incidences
  - The 2022-2023 calendar and budget is voted on in May and a quorum is needed. The virtual status is more likely to ensure that a quorum is present.



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- The Quarter 2 Internal Audit report is available on the portal.
- Scholarship and Standards has released a new template for Policies and Procedures
  - Chapters are to update this year to be in compliance.
  - The P&P committee will be at the upcoming Eboard and Chapter meetings. We will vote on the P&Ps in May.
- The time of the AAC Authors event will be adjusted slightly so that members can also enjoy the National Authors event.
- The registration for the Southwest Regional Conference is scheduled to open around Mar 16, 2022.
  - The conference will be held Aug 11-14. The decision will be either virtual or in-person. Not an option for a hybrid event. If in person, will be in Ft. Worth, Texas.
  - Rituals and Conference bags are to be ordered through the Chapter
  - The last ritual date is Dec 2021.
  - A survey will be done to determine interest.

**1st Vice President/Membership Services** – Soror Jacqueline Habersham

- The 2022 Sisterhood Month theme is “Sisters in Motion”.
  - From the Book of Esther
  - 22 days of prayer
  - Flo Code donation of feminine products to shelters
  - Trivia questions with prizes
  - Rep your college
  - Call your line sisters
  - Send a card to a Delta Dear
  - Wear Red Days
  - Social Action, Grow with Google, Authors, and Red S.H.O.E days
- Question: When is it appropriate to use the Soror title?

**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.



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- 351 members for FY 21-22
- FY 21-22 and 22-23 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~~ New: PO Box 143381; Austin, Texas 78714
- Dues are currently being collected between now and Mar 31<sup>st</sup> for the 22-23 year. After April 1st, additional fees will be assessed. The mailbox will be checked every 2 weeks. Do not pay by PayPal until the link has been provided to pay the 22-23 dues.
- There will be an in-person collection at Carver Library on Mar 17, 2022 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

**Treasurer/Budget and Finance** – Soror Demitra Alexander

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

- Go to the website to see if you have any outstanding checks that need attention.
- Soror Alexander presented the budget to emphasize the line items that were adjusted to fund the following recommendation.
- Soror Sherman reported that the amount of scholarships awarded was \$20,000.
- Soror Foote reported that new fundraising opportunities are being researched.
- Soror Roberts-Scott read a letter from a recipient of the ADF scholarships.
- Soror Harry shared that she was a former recipient of an ADF award.
- **RECOMMENDATION** – Adjust budget to reduce unused funds in several budget line items as outlined by B&F committee chair and increase ADF scholarship line item by \$9,000. The motion was properly made by the committee, voted upon, and passed with a vote of 96-3.

**Protocol Moment**

- The topic(s) covered and where to find in the Protocol & Traditions Manual included:
  - Photos and videos protocols to identify what is and what is not appropriate when it pertains to photos and videos with the Sorority.
    - Resources are the Protocols and Traditions Manual AND Delta Technology Guidelines
    - The AAC members were presented with multiple True or False questions. Answers were eventually revealed to the body during the meeting.



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**Committee Reports**

**Five Point Thrust Committees**

**Social Action** – Soror Celeste Williams

- The primary election is on Mar 1, 2022
  - The purpose of primary election is to determine each political party's candidates for the upcoming general election in November
  - Voters designate or declare a political party and will vote for the candidates from that party from each position for each election
  - The winners of key races were shown such as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, Land Commissioner, Agriculture Commissioner, and Railroad Commissioner.
- Run off elections
  - If a candidate fails to earn a majority (50%+1), they will head to a run-off along with the second highest vote getter.
  - Voters can only vote in the runoff election for the party they voted for in the 1<sup>st</sup> primary election.
  - If a voter did not cast a vote in the 1<sup>st</sup> primary, they can vote in either the Democratic or Republican runoff.
  - Run off election day is May 24, 2022
  - There are seven (7) run off elections in major state office races
- The last day to register to vote for run off election is Apr 25, 2022.
- Early vote for the run off election is May 16 thru May 20, 2022
- Last day to apply by mail (received, not just postmarked) is May 13, 2022
- General Info: The Social Action committee meets on second Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

**Social Action Moment**

**Key dates from above**

- Run off election day is May 24, 2022
- The last day to register to vote for run off election is Apr 25, 2022
- Early vote for the run off election is May 16 thru May 20, 2022
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**Standing Committees**

**Arts and Letters** – Soror Stacey Cleveland

- Readers, Writers, and Wranglers Authors Spotlight
- Sat, Mar 19, 2022 10:00 a.m. to noon
- 120 have already registered for the event.

**Special Committees**

**Founders Day** – Sorors Renee Jones and Sheldy Starks

- Photos were presented of the Day of Service events
- 35 people made blankets.
  - Mar 10 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to pick up the blankets made
- The South Austin project entailed setting up an apartment for a young mother transitioning from homelessness. She has an 18-month-old and another baby arriving soon. A notable piece of wall art said: “She believed she could so she did”.
- The Hope Alliance project has been rescheduled to Mar 12<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
  - This is an outside shed organizing project. A few volunteers are still needed.
- Registration is open for the South Texas Cluster II Founders Day Celebration
  - Sun, Mar 27, 2022 3 pm to 5 pm
  - Attire is Red
  - Registration closes Mar 20
  - Cost \$0
  - Closed: Sorors (financial and non-financial)
  - Registration is required to verify membership
  - After registration confirmed, you will receive the link

**New Business/Announcements**

**Executive Committee** – Soror Kacey Hanson

- **RECOMMENDATION** – Reconsider changing the May meeting from an in-person meeting to a virtual meeting
- The motion was properly made by the Executive Board, properly voted upon, and passed with a vote of 78-13.



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**Adjournment**

A motion was made for the meeting to adjourn at 12:00 PM. The motion was properly seconded. The motion was approved with no opposition.

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**Summary of Actions**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Moved</b>	<b>Seconded</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Results</b>
AAC Body	Approve agenda for the Mar 5, 2022 chapter meeting.	Soror Alnita Foote	Soror Gloria Williams	91-0	Passed
Budget & Finance	Adjust budget to reduce unused funds in several budget line items as outlined by B&F committee chair and ADF scholarship line item by \$9,000.	Soror Demitra Alexander on behalf of the Committee	N/A	96-3	Passed
Executive Committee	Reconsider changing the May meeting from an in-person meeting to a virtual meeting	Soror Kacey Hanson on behalf of the Committee	N/A	78-13	Passed

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Soror Janet Scroggins Marshall, Recording Secretary

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Soror Robin T. Blackmon, President



# AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

## **Austin Alumnae Virtual Chapter Meeting March 5, 2022 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 February Meeting  
Correspondence  
Emergency Response Safety Briefing

Soror Janet Marshall  
Soror Tiffany Holmes White  
Soror Suzanne Piper

### **Chapter Reports**

#### **Officers**

President  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President  
Financial Secretary  
Treasurer/Budget and Finance

Soror Robin Blackmon  
Soror Jacqueline Habersham  
Soror Anita Daniels  
Soror Demitra Alexander

### **Committee Reports (3 Minutes Limit)**

#### **Protocol Moment**

#### **Five Point Thrust**

Social Action

Soror Celeste Williams

#### **Social Action Moment**

#### **Standing Committees**

Arts and Letters

Soror Stacey Cleveland

#### **Special Committees**

Founders Day

Sorors Renee Jones and  
Sheldy Starks

#### **Unfinished Business**

N/A

#### **New Business**

In-person/Virtual Meeting

Soror Kacey Hanson

#### **Motion for Adjournment**

#### **Ritualistic Closing**

### **Committee Recommendations**

**Budget and Finance recommends:** Adjust budget to reduce unused funds in several budget line items as outlined by B&F committee chair and increase ADF scholarship line item by \$9,000.

**Executive Board recommends:** Reconsider changing the May meeting from an in-person meeting to a virtual meeting.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Activities**

**Executive Board Meeting** Tuesday, March 15, 6:00pm Virtual  
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMofuiprzMrHdzulOikhVLfYVOC5o-I82yW>

**Grow with Google:** Thursday, March 17, 6:30pm Virtual  
**Design Thinking for Entrepreneurs**  
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEud-CvrD4iHdEtfIG3aPpfYX17M5Mpzd8->

**Arts & Letters Committee Presents** Readers, Writers & Wranglers! **(Deltas Only)**  
Saturday, March 19, 2022 10:00am - 12:00pm Virtual  
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJckcuihrTspGtYjrFBmd8muM7AnWb2cvaxS>

**Chapter Meeting** Saturday, April 2, 10:00am Virtual  
[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0sduihpjwsEtMOYO4zTHq\\_ iyjp06ZfRZcK](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0sduihpjwsEtMOYO4zTHq_ iyjp06ZfRZcK)

### **Announcements**

#### **Please Don't Forget to Pay Your Dues.**

Please visit <https://dstatx.org/pay-dues/> for due amounts and payment options. Dues paid after March 15 will initially incur a \$10 late fee.

**Week of March 13 Weekly Digest:** Submit all content by Thursday, March 10

**Week of March 20 Weekly Digest:** Submit all content by Thursday, March 17

**April Odyssey Due Date:** Thursday, March 24 at 11:59 pm submit to the Journalist at [dstatx.journalist@gmail.com](mailto:dstatx.journalist@gmail.com)

**Message from Journalist** \*Please note due to swift publication constraints, content not received by the stated deadline, may appear in a subsequent edition of the desired Odyssey or Weekly Digest publication. Questions? Email Soror Autumn Caviness ([dstatx.journalist@gmail.com](mailto:dstatx.journalist@gmail.com)).