



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Aug 16, 2022

President Robin T. Blackmon called the virtual Austin Alumnae Executive Board meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug 16, 2022. A quorum was present, via Zoom, for the transaction of business. The agenda as distributed was approved. The motion was properly made, seconded, and adopted without opposition.

Meditation / Reflection – Soror Dedurie Kirk

Soror Kirk offered the following words of inspiration to start the sororal year: Ready! Set! Go! Just as we get prepared for our chapter meetings with our rituals and our attire, let's get ready to do the Lord's work in the name of Delta!

Minutes – Soror Janet Marshall, Recording Secretary

There were no edits to the Apr 2022 E-board meeting minutes.

Correspondence – Soror Tiffany Holmes White, Corresponding Secretary

- **Thank you letter:** "On behalf of those we serve, we express our deepest gratitude for your generosity. Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,000.00 received on Wednesday, June 29, 2022. Sincerely, Sari Vatske, President and CEO, Central Texas Food Bank"
- **Thank you letter:** "Thank you for your contribution of \$1,000 on June 16, 2022 to Good Work Austin! Your donation allows us to support Austin's locally owned businesses, provide good jobs to hospitality industry workers and feed communities facing food insecurity. Sincerely, Kevin Lawler, Executive Director"
- **Thank you card:** "Thank you for your generous donation to Spectrum Theatre Company! We're thrilled to receive your encouragement. You make a difference for us, and we're immensely thankful to you! Marilyn Harden, Board President, Spectrum Theatre Co."
- **Solicitation letter:** Central Texas Food Bank
- **Invitation:** Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Gamma Eta Lambda Chapter Scholarship Gala will be held on September 17, 2022 at Kalahari Resorts and Conventions Center at 6:00pm. The request for our chapter to purchase an ad and 2 tickets.
- **Invitation:** Sun, Sand, and Sorors, there is no better combination! Sorors, we would love to have you join us at the Jamaica Alumnae Chapter Sisterhood Retreat taking place in Montego Bay, Jamaica October 13-15, 2022! Spend the weekend basking in the crystal blue waters, exploring the island, and enjoying the all-inclusive food and festivities at the resort. And, yes, there is more. Information-packed learning sessions with an incredible lineup of speakers that include Immediate Past National President Beverly Smith, Emmy Nominated Actress, Soror Sheryl Lee Ralph, and remarks from Soror Paula Giddings, author, In Search of Sisterhood.
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Emergency Response

- Due to the COVID- 19 pandemic, the meetings are virtual and therefore the standard information regarding meeting space emergency exits is not issued.

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Chapter Reports

Officers

President – Soror Robin T. Blackmon

Re-cap of Regional Conference Elections Results

- Regional Director – Crystal T. Barker
- Regional Representative – Aniecia Browning
- Member, National Scholarship & Standards Committee – Nicole Taylor, Esq.
- Member, National Finance Committee – Nicole Deloach
- Member, 2023 National Nominating Committee – Vanessa Dunn
- Chair, 2024 Regional Nominating Committee - Monica Iles
- Member, 2024 Regional Nominating Committee (3 Alumnae Positions)
 - Dr. Erica Joseph
 - Dr. Tia Locke-Simmons
 - Vacant
 - Collegiate Member, 2024 Regional Nominating Committee – Amani Biggs
- Please see the Informz message dated Mon, Aug 15 encouraging members to complete the evaluation of the 48th SWR Conference.
- Congratulations went out to AAC's Relay for Life efforts. Acknowledged at the Regional Conference for 2nd place. Also, congratulations went out to Soror Celeste Williams as our promising Pearl!
- President Blackmon voiced that AAC wants to emphasize membership engagement this year.



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

- Austin Alumnae Chapter Retreat
- Theme: Get Ready for the REDvolution
 - Fri, Aug 26, 2022
 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
 - Punch Bowl Social 11310 Domain Drive; Austin, Tx
 - All sorors are invited to attend, active and inactive.
 - Attire is casual.
- Continues on Sat, Aug 27, 2022
 - 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 - Members only
 - Committee chair training from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
- Masks are required. Continental breakfast and a lunch will be provided.

Financial Secretary – *Soror Anita Daniels*

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

- 283 members on the roster for FY 22-23
- FY 22-23 dues are as follows
 - Δ Life – \$195
 - Δ 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 143381; Austin, Texas 78714**
- Please remember to include your member number, no matter your means of payment!
- Stay tuned for more details. The dues collections dates will change since DST is changing the basis from fiscal year to calendar year.



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Treasurer/Budget and Finance – Soror Demitra Alexander

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

Committee Reports

Five Point Thrust

Educational Development – Soror Bethany Bell

- There were eighteen (18) applicants for all the youth programs
- Still seeking youth candidates
- Always looking for volunteers
- Also looking for sponsors to fund the college tour. The cost is \$285 per touring student.
 - Trying to lock in the contracts before the prices change.
- The youth program will be promoted at the AISD Bash on Aug 6, 2022!
- School supplies will be collected at the AAC Retreat.
- Sep 10, 2022 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. there will be an orientation session for GEMs and EMBODI.
- The EMBODI Symposium will now be one (1) day on Nov 12, 2022. The time is slated for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Still looking for a location.

Social Action – Soror Celeste Williams

- Activation Registration!
- Social Justice weekend: Sep 23-25, 2022
- Volunteers are needed with the effort to register voters across the community, starting with Friday night football and through church services on Sunday.
- The four points of focus this year:
 - Boards & Commissions
 - Legislative Priorities and Communications
 - Get out to vote
 - Food Insecurity
- General information: The Social Action committee meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.



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Standing Committees

Heritage & Archives – Soror Nancy Thompson

- Initiative to Preserve History!
- Calling on AAC Past Presidents to submit any plaques, pictures, programs, journals.
- The items will be kept in a climate controlled single location.
- The committee will pick the items up upon request.

Technology Committee – Soror Kathryn Foster

- Encouraging all to please submit ideas for website improvement
- In preparation for the each respective meeting, the documents will be filed together in a prep file. Thereafter, the info will be archived accordingly.

Ad hoc/Special Committees

New Business

Executive Board – Soror Robin Blackmon

E-Board Meetings

- Currently, the Eboard meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.
- Proposal to consider if the current EBoard schedule allows for committees to have met, presented items for discussion, and obtain E-board approval, before the items may be presented to the AAC body. Are items for discussion arising between the time of the last Eboard and the subsequent chapter meeting?
- Discussion included opposition from Sorors Newman, Daniels, and Gipson. Comments included that the change would not allow sufficient time to prepare the required reports for the chapter meeting. Soror Newman also stated that the agenda section of "New Business" is designated for any items that were not presented in the preceding Eboard. Soror Lagrone-Haynes spoke in favor.
- **RECOMMENDATION:** Move that the Executive Board meetings be held on the Tuesday prior to the monthly chapter meeting. The motion was properly made, seconded, voted, and did NOT pass with a vote of 6-14.



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Community Invitations & Request

Alpha Phi Alpha

- Alpha Phi Alpha has requested AAC support of purchasing a full page ad at the cost of \$150 plus purchase two tickets- one for the AAC Chapter President plus one delegate-for \$125 each. The total request is \$400.
- The request was received during the summer. The event is to be held Sep 17, 2022. Discussion included comments that the Alpha Phi Alpha organization has supported AAC in the past.
- In response to a request about the line item budget, there is \$300 set aside for this item; making the line item budget \$100 short of the request. Soror Jeffrey Archer voiced that she was in support of the request and that she would make up the \$100 difference if necessary.
- **RECOMMENDATION** – Move that AAC support the Alpha Phi Alpha organization by purchasing a full-page ad for \$150 and two tickets at \$125 each for their upcoming gala. The motion was properly made, seconded, voted upon, and passed with a vote of 16-6.
- **RECOMMENDATION** – Move that \$100 be moved from contingency to cover the Alpha Phi Alpha \$400 request. The current line item is \$300 and the request totals \$400. The difference of \$100 is needed from contingency. The motion was properly made, seconded, voted upon, and passed with a vote of 17-2.

Jamaica Chapter-DST

- The Jamaica Chapter Sisterhood Retreat is to be held Oct 13-15, 2022. The retreat will include self-care, sisterhood fellowship, and learning. Speakers include the immediate Past National President Soror Beverly Smith, Emmy-nominated actress Soror Sheryl Lee Ralph, and author of *In Search of Sisterhood* Soror Paula Giddings
- Opportunity to connect with the Jamaica chapter in the spirit of International Awareness.
- Discussion included opposition from Sorors Newman and Gipson. Soror Newman commented that there is so much to do especially since there is now a new Regional Director and Regional Representative. Soror Gipson expressed general opposition unless the International Awareness committee already had sufficient funding in its budget for the purpose.
- The cost is including registration, hotel, air transportation is \$1,680.
- **RECOMMENDATION** – Move that Austin Alumnae send one (1) International Awareness Committee Chair member to the Jamaica Chapter Sisterhood Retreat on Oct 13-15, 2022. The cost is estimated at \$1,680. The motion was properly made, seconded, voted upon, and did NOT pass with a vote of 2-21.

Announcements

Reminder that the upcoming Sep Chapter meeting will be in person. Masks will be required. The date is Sep 10, 2022. The time is 10:00 a.m. The address is 6401 N Hampton Dr, Austin, TX 78723. The facility is the Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy.



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Adjournment

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:33 PM. 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	Motion to adopt the Aug agenda	Unanimous Consent	Unanimous Consent		Passed
Executive	Move that the Executive Board meetings be held on the Tuesday prior to the monthly chapter meeting.	Soror Janet Marshall	Soror Jonna Lagrone Haynes	6-14	Failed
Executive	Move that AAC support the Alpha Phi Alpha organization by purchasing a full-page ad for \$150 and two tickets at \$125 each for their upcoming gala. The total request is \$400	Soror Alnita Foote	Soror Tiffany Holmes White	16-6	Passed
Executive	Move that \$100 be moved from contingency to cover the Alpha Phi Alpha \$400 request. The current line item is \$300 and the request totals \$400. The difference of \$100 is needed from contingency.	Soror Deborah Shaw Boatner	Soror Patricia Shorter	17-2	Passed
Executive	Move that Austin Alumnae send one (1) International Awareness Committee Chair member to the Jamaica Chapter Sisterhood Retreat on Oct 13-15, 2022. The cost is estimated at \$1,680.	Soror Akeshia Smothers	Soror Patricia Shorter	2-21	Failed

Soror Janet Marshall, Recording Secretary

Soror Robin T. Blackmon, President



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Executive Board Meeting Agenda August 16, 2022 Presiding Officer, Robin T. Blackmon

Call to Order
Adoption of the Agenda
Meditation/Reflection
Approval of April Minutes
Correspondence

Soror Dedurie Kirk
Soror Janet Marshall
Soror Tiffany Holmes White

Chapter Reports

Officers

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

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

Committee Reports

Five Point Thrust

Educational Development
Social Action

Soror Bethany Bell
Soror Celeste Williams

Standing Committees

Heritage and Archives
Technology Committee

Soror Nancy Thompson
Soror Kathryn Foster

Special Committees

N/A

Unfinished Business

N/A

New Business

Executive Board Meeting
Community Invitations and Request

Soror Robin Blackmon
Soror Robin Blackmon

Adjournment

Committee Recommendations

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

Chapter Meeting

Saturday, September 10, 2022

In-person

**Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy
6401 N Hampton Dr, Austin, TX 78723**

*****Mask will be required*****

Chapter Retreat August 27, 2022

Volma Overton Early College Prep
7201 Colony Loop Drive Austin, TX 78724

Leadership Training (Executive Board) 8:30 am to 9:30 am

All members 9:00 am (continental breakfast) to 1:00 pm

*****Mask will be required*****

Please submit names and contact information for inactive sorors to Soror Habersham at dstatx.vp1@gmail.com for Reclamation Activities.

Announcements

Omega Omega Notice:

Soror Dorothy Orebo's Omega Omega services will be August 19, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the St. James Episcopal Church.

August Omega Omega Assignments – Soror April Briscoe through Soror Stacey Cleveland.

Please email your Regional Convention photo to our Chapter Social Media Photos email: dstatxphotos@gmail.com

Sorors, Educational Development Needs Our Help with the

Back to School Supply Drive!

It's that time of year, Sorors! Back-to-School! Please consider bringing the following items based on your

last name to the chapter retreat:

Alexander through Lovett – Composition Notebooks, Markers and Folders

Maduro-Johnson through Zenon – Tissues, Pencils, and Glue Sticks

We want to support our educators and community schools. This year's Back-to-School Supply Drive recipient is Pflugerville Elementary, where our very own Soror Genia Antoine is the Principal.

We THANK YOU in advance and don't forget to bring your item(s) on August 27!