



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

Following the ritualistic opening, President Robin T. Blackmon called the Austin Alumnae chapter meeting to order at 10:19 AM on Jan 7 2023.

Emergency Response – Soror Suzanne Piper

- The Jan chapter meeting was virtual, so the standard emergency exits message was not issued. The body was reminded to stay vigilant about the COVID 19 virus. The city has alert level has risen from low to medium due to the latest strain of the virus being more contagious.

Adoption of Agenda

- A quorum 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 five (5) visiting sorors for the Jan chapter meeting: Sorors Alyssa Patterson, Albany Robertson, Dr. Shameka Gibson, Kelly Smith, and Jasmine Chandler.

Minutes – Soror Janet Scroggins Marshall, Recording Secretary

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

Correspondence – Soror Tiffany Holmes White, Corresponding Secretary

- Thank you note: “Sorors, Words cannot express my appreciation for the love, support, and prayers that have been extended to me during the loss of my Aunt. This unexpected loss was difficult for our family for several reasons, one we had recently buried her son in January 2022 unexpectedly, and she actually passed three years and one day from the loss of my mother. In times like these I am reminded that the sisterhood of this organization is paramount and I appreciate it more than you know. I would also like to thank you all for the Christmas Cards and tokens I received. I'm looking forward to the New Year with each of You. With AIIIIIIIIII of My Love, President Blackmon”
- Thank you letter from the Sickle Cell Association of Texas Marc Thomas Foundation for \$1,000 donation.
- American Red Cross donation request.
- Thank you card: “To my loving sisters/sorors of Austin Alumnae, Thank you for the outpouring of love, support and



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

condolences in all forms of calls, texts, cards, emails and gifts after the loss of my Dad. Your words of expressions of condolences truly soothed my heart. With eternal love and gratitude, Soror Nancy Knight-Brown"

- Thank you card: "Dear Sorors, Saying thank you doesn't seem like enough to show how much your caring and thoughtfulness have meant to me. Thank you for the beautiful Christmas can loaded with precious items and delicious goodies. A Big thank you to the White Christmas Committee and Soror Rippenkroege who delivered the beautiful can to me. Again, I say thank you! With Sisterly Love, Soror Mary Caldwell"
- Thank you note: "Sorors, it is with much gratitude and pride that I thank all of my sorors for all of the support, your presence, kind expressions and words, and any courtesies extended during all of the month's events and ceremonies surrounding my portrait unveiling and retirement from my daily court responsibilities. My heart is always full when I see and note my Sorors' presence at important life events of all of our sisters! That is what sisterhood is all about, support and love! I want to particularly thank Soror Jacqueline Habersham for her words and presence at the luncheon, and our Social Action Chairs, Celeste Williams and Veronica Johnson, for their presence and for the courtesy extended. I'm a proud member of our sisterhood and the Austin Alumnae Chapter! In gratitude, Soror Brenda Kennedy"
- Sponsorship Request: Austin Delta Foundation's Austin Got Talent showcase and competition on Saturday, February 18, 2023 at the Embassy Suites. Sponsorship tiers range from \$250 and up.

Chapter Reports

Officers

President – Soror Robin T. Blackmon

- Soror President brought to the AAC body attention the latest Informz messages of which she encouraged reading
 - 12/5 Delta Red Pages Registration Opened.



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

- 12/7 110th Founders Day Celebration
- 12/7 Call for Nominations
- 12/8 Grand Chapter Quarterly Financial Report
- 12/9 Career opportunities at National Headquarters
- 12/9 2023 Founders Day Resource Guide
- 12/12 Delta Red Carpet and DSTv 2022 Holiday Edition
- 12/14 2023 Dues Renewal Notice
- 12/16 Your HBCU can apply for the DPEC Award
- 12/22 22 Days of Delta | Sisterhood Giving Campaign
 - **We aim to raise \$1,110,000 in honor of our 110 years of impact through sisterhood, scholarship, service, and social action**, and we need every Delta in the house to bring this goal to life! We invite YOU, every soror, friend, and partner, to join us during our 22 Days of Delta Giving Campaign by donating: \$22; \$110; \$484 (a one-time donation of \$22 for each of our Founders); Any other amount you desire.
- 12/27 2021 Delta Journal
- 12/27 Re-Imagine membership Intake Survey open until January 13.

- **The full chapter president's report is on the website.**

1st Vice President/Membership Services – Soror Jacqueline Habersham

- J-13 is coming!
- The concert is not a chapter sponsored event. Remember Protocol at J13 events.
 - Maze/Frankie Beverly also featuring the Isley Brothers
 - Jan 13, 2023
 - HEB Center at Cedar Park at 7:30 p.m.
- Update on past events
 - Jingle and Mingle was a wonderful and fun-filled event that followed the Dec chapter meeting
 - White Christmas Outreach was a joyous blessing
 - Christmas cheer was spread to our sick and shut-in sorors. The "Delta Sigma Theta Carolers" sang to residents at the Parsons House especially, resident Jo Helen Belle. The carolers also reached to ten (10) other sorors in and around the Austin area.



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

- Congratulations!
 - Judge Brenda Kennedy
 - Retiring after 35 years on the bench of the 403rd Judicial District/ County Court at Law No 7
 - Judge Lora Livingston
 - Retiring after 27 years on the bench of the 261st Judicial District/Travis County Local Administrative Judge

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.

- 303 members for FY 22-23
- FY 22-23 dues are as follows:
 - Golden/Diamond Life - \$195
 - Regular - \$385
 - If non-financial for 1 year-\$400; if non-financial for 2+ years-\$415

****Important Information – Shift to Calendar Year Basis**

- Short Year (to complete the 2023 Calendar Year) – Jul – Dec 31, 2023
 - Payable Jan 1 – Mar 31, 2023: \$92.50
 - \$92.50 represents one half of the local dues
 - No late fees on the \$92.50
 - Non-Financial/Reclaimed Sorors
 - If non-financial for one year, the \$385 becomes \$400 (included \$15 re-instatement fee)
 - If non-financial for two years or more, the \$385 becomes \$415 (included \$30 re-instatement fee)
- Full Year (to start the 2024 Calendar Year) – Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2024
 - Payable Jul 1 – Sep 30, 2023: \$385 Regular or \$195 Lifetime Member
 - Represents a full year of local and national dues
 - Late fees begin Oct 1, 2023
 - If non-financial for one year, the \$385 becomes \$400
 - If non-financial for two years or more, the \$385 becomes \$415

Examples:

FINANCIAL MEMBERS

- Only \$92.50 is due Jan-Mar 2023



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

NON-FINANCIAL REGULAR MEMBERS

- If non-financial for one year: \$492.50
 - \$92.50 for short year fee plus \$385 regular membership fee plus \$15 re-instatement fee
- If non-financial for two years or more: \$507.50
 - \$92.50 for short year fee plus \$385 regular membership fee plus \$30 re-instatement fee
- 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**
- **Regardless of payment method, please include member number.**

Treasurer/Budget and Finance – Soror Deborah Shaw Boatner

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

Protocol Moment

- The official Delta Symbols were shown to the AAC body with some short information about:
 - The Sorority Pin
 - The Pyramid Pin
 - The Fortitude Pin
 - The Diamond Jubilee Pin
 - The Millennium Pin
 - Delta Anniversary Pins
 - The Sorority Seal
 - The Sorority Crest
 - The Presidential Seal
 - The Sorority Emblem
- The body was encouraged to refer to the Protocol and Traditions manual for more information!
- Protocol and Traditions sub-committee
 - Co chairs: Sorors Cedel Evans and Sandra McCreary-Marshall
 - Members: Sorors Anita Daniels, Lorie Ellis, Cathy Ellison, Brenda Hanson, Darralyn Johnson, Tennille Thomas, Sekoya Waddy, Toni Williams, Celeste Williams, and Gloria Williams



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

Committee Reports

Five Point Thrust Committees

Social Action – Soror Celeste Williams/Soror Veronica Johnson

- Important Upcoming dates:
 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service
 - Jan 16, 2023 (30th Annual Event)
 - Community March and Festival on the campus of Huston Tillotson University from 10 a.m. to approx. 3 p.m.
 - The Texas Social Action State Coordinator will be hosting a Social Action Training session during the state meeting weekend of Feb 17-19, 2023
 - DDNC - Mar 25-28, 2023
 - Red and White Day – Apr 17, 2023
 - Legislative priorities must be approved by national Social Action Commission
 - Soror Sharon Watkins Jones will share priorities by March
 - Priorities will be distributed at Red & White Day
 - Virtual trainings will be held prior to Red & White Day
 - Working to secure a chapter training for Voter Deputy Registrar Training. Date and Time TBD.
 - Racial Equity Day Rally & Press Conference –



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

-
- Feb 12, 2023 9:30 -10:30 a.m. on Tx State Capitol South Steps
 - The goal is to partner with participating organizations to highlight how inequities are hurting kids across the state.
 - Hold a briefing with state legislators and community leaders present at the rally
 - Require the Sunset Commission to include reducing disparities as part of the review process
 - Crown Act- prevent the discrimination against natural and protective hairstyles in academic setting throughout the state of Texas.
 - Reestablish and renew funding for the Office of Minority Health Statistics Engagement
 - RECOMMENDATION: Partner with the organization Children at Risk to address racial disparities affecting Texas kids and families during the upcoming Texas Legislative session Racial Equity Rally Day on Feb 14, 2023 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
 - The request is just that the AAC body show up and wear red and be just be present standing in support
 - The motion was properly made, seconded, voted upon and passed with a vote of 113-2.
 - The State of Black Children in Texas: Standing at the Crossroads of Recovery and Resilience
 - Virtual event to be held on Feb 16, 2023
 - Presented in partnership wit Texas Family Leadership Council (TXFLC), Texas Racial Equity Collaborative (TREC), and the United Way of Greater Houston.
 -

General Info: The Social Action committee meets on second Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Social Action Moment

Know your organization

- Be fully aware of your organizations' positions & the relationship it maintains wit other organizations and with the legislature.

Know your issue

- Keep in mind, no one can be expected to address every question or concern regarding an issue
- Don't hesitate to admit your lack of knowledge on a particular point
- Be willing to pursue the answer and report back

Know your opposition

- Anticipate the opposition and answer their arguments positively before such arguments surface publicly

The AAC body was provided with the do's and don't of lobbying which included being respectful to legislature and addressing legislatures properly. Also never engage in arguments, stay informed, and protect the Delta brand.

President Blackmon reminded the AAC body that Social Action is what we do and that is who we are as Deltas!



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

Standing Committees

N/A

Special Committees

N/A

New Business

Policies & Procedures – Soror Patricia Shorter

- Policies & Procedures for Chapter #161-Austin Alumnae
- Chair – Soror Patricia Shorter
- Members – Sorors Jeffrey Archer, Avis Gipson, Pamela Hall, Donna Jackson, Brenda Kennedy, Mary Lewis-Winston
- Approved by National Scholarship and Standards on Dec 22, 2022
- Brief Summary of changes:
 - Service area language updated to “the Austin community”
 - Executive Board requires that all chairs must have reported at the prior Eboard meeting
 - Elected positions: Add Asst. Corresponding Secretary, Asst Recording Secretary
 - Membership Services (Hospitality and Courtesies) -no chapter specific language added at this time
 - Technology chair requirement to attend a certain number of regional and national conventions was removed as it exceeds National requirements
 - Records Retention appendix references removed. Instead references point to Chapter Mgmt Handbook
 - Travel policy modified to reflect the type of rate i.e. prevailing mileage and per diem rate.
 - Unconsumed funds – Each budget will start a zero based and will no longer include funds unconsumed from the previous year and rolled over.
 - Criteria for elected officer/positions was updated to include being financial with Grand Chapter prior to being elected so as to include the possibility of collegiates and transfer members for office.
 - Transition of Officer specific language is removed and instead refers to the Chapter Management Handbook.
- Follow up:
 - The 2022-2023 Policies and Procedures and Rules of Order Form (ROOF) will be posted to the member portal
 - Questions and/or comments may be submitted to dstatxpolicies@gmail.com.



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

Announcements

Adjournment

A motion was made for the meeting to adjourn at 11:53 AM. The motion was properly made and seconded. The motion was approved with no opposition.

This area left blank



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE Virtual CHAPTER MEETING
Jan 7, 2023

Summary of Actions

Committee	Recommendation	Moved	Seconded	Count	Results
AAC Body	Approve agenda for the Jan 7, 2023 chapter meeting.	Soror Celeste Williams	Soror Gloria Williams	112-1	Passed
Social Action	Partner with the organization Children at Risk to address racial disparities affecting Texas kids and families during the upcoming Texas Legislative session Racial Equity Rally Day on Feb 14, 2023 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.	Soror Versonica Johnson	Soror Alnita Foote	113-2	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 Agenda January 7, 2023 Presiding Officer, Robin T. Blackmon

Pre-Meeting

Legal Notice
Safety Briefing

Ritualistic Opening

Call to Order

Adoption of the Agenda

Introduction and Welcome to Visiting/New Sorors

Approval of December Minutes

Correspondence

Soror Janet Marshall

Soror Tiffany Holmes White

Chapter Reports

Officers

President
1st Vice President
Financial Secretary
Treasurer

Soror Robin Blackmon

Soror Jacqueline Habersham

Soror Anita Daniels

Soror Demitra Alexander

Committee Reports (3 Minutes)

Protocol Moment

Five Point Thrust

Social Action

Soror Veronica Johnson

Standing Committees

N/A

Special Committees

N/A

Unfinished Business

N/A

New Business

Policies and Procedures

Soror Patricia Shorter

(Committee may need extended time to report.)

Technology Moment

Adjournment

Committee Recommendations

Social Action recommends that Austin Alumnae partners with Children at Risk to address racial disparities affecting Texas kids and families during the upcoming Texas Legislative Session families, Racial Equity Rally Day, on February 14, 2023. 9:30 am - 10:30 am.

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

Budget and Finance Meeting Thursday, January 12, 2023 Virtual
<https://zoom.us/join/zoom-join-link>

Chapter Meeting Saturday, February 4, 2023 Virtual
<https://zoom.us/j/91997857121?pwd=aXpvNWY5YWVFcFVqMXloYmZUUVdlldzo9>

Executive Board Meeting Tuesday, January 17, 2023 Virtual
<https://zoom.us/j/97561669874?pwd=K3RSUnhYVUlfBg1mL1RwY3d4QkpPdzo9>

