



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF THE CHAPTER MEETING
May 6, 2023

Following the ritualistic opening, President Robin T. Blackmon called the Austin Alumnae chapter meeting to order at 10:20 AM on May 6, 2023.

Emergency Response – Soror Suzanne Piper

- The May chapter meeting was in-person, so the standard emergency exits message was issued.

Adoption of Agenda

- A quorum was present for the transaction of business as presented in the agenda, with the following exception. Soror La'Kisha Crenshaw will substitute for Soror Tiffany White for the Correspondence report. The motion was properly made, seconded, and adopted with no opposition.

Welcome New and Visiting Sorors

There was ten (10) visiting sorors for the May chapter meeting: Sorors Brianna Ponder, Javon Bracy, Tyler Hooks, LaPortia Smith, Alexis Guyton, Kierra King, Barbara Hernandez, Charmaine Lloyd and including virtual visitors Crystal Barker-Southwest Regional Director and Karen Dourseau - Houston's Alumnae 2nd Vice President /Chair of Program Planning and Development Committee.

Our two virtual leadership visitors announced that Austin Alumnae will host the next Regional Conference! This was a surprise early announcement for AAC ears only at this time, so no further details were provided. The chapter was advised to stay tuned and to be prepared for the work! Based on the success of the AAC Founders Day event, the expectation is high!

Minutes – Soror Janet Scroggins Marshall, Recording Secretary

The minutes of the Apr 2023 chapter meeting were approved by the AAC body as distributed. There were some clerical edits submitted by President Blackmon.



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Correspondence – Soror La'Kisha Crenshaw for Tiffany Holmes White, Corresponding Secretary

- Thank you card (Postmarked 4/28/23) from Soror Belinda Davis. Appreciative of the plaque, flowers, pin, and fellowship. -Thanks for recognizing her 50 years as a Delta
- Request for \$300 (Email dated 5/2/23) from: Madison Hunter, Chapter President of Iota Omega Chapter at Texas State University. Asks that the Austin Alumnae Chapter send the funds to help offset the expenses associated with the 56th National Convention.
- Request for \$300 (Email dated 5/2/23) from: Kamyia Gibbs, Chapter President of Epsilon Beta Chapter at The University of Texas at Austin. Asks that the Austin Alumnae Chapter send the funds to help offset the expenses associated with the 56th National Convention.
- Congratulations to the Chapter (Letter dated 5/5/23) from National Co-Chairs, National Program Planning and Development Committee. Austin Alumnae Chapter's nominee has been selected to participate in the 2023 Presidential Youth Conference (PYC) in Montgomery, Alabama on June 28-June 30, 2023.
 - Theme: "From Enslavement to Empowerment: Achieving My Ancestors' Wildest Dreams"
 - PYC students and Chaperones will be staying at DoubleTree by Hilton @ 120 Madison Ave. Montgomery, AL.
 - Acceptance of the invitation must be received by May 12 by 5:00 PM EST. All required forms attached:
 - Confirmation of Attendance form (Form A)
 - Hotel Prepayment form (Form B)
 - Chaperone Acknowledgement form (Form C)
 - PYC T-shirt form (Form D)
 - Risk Management forms B1-B3, B5, B7-B8, B12)
- Thank you for past support, an invite, and request for continued support (Email dated 4/27/23) from: Kelvin Gibson, PhD, Epsilon Iota c/o Omega Psi Phi, Inc. SneakerBall Committee Chairman. Expressing gratitude for our generous contribution to the Inaugural Austin Ques Sneaker Ball last year. It helped to provide 500 pairs of sneakers to underserved kids in the Austin metro area.
 - Invited to the **2nd Annual Kick for Kids Austin Ques Sneaker Ball on June 24, 2023**. Formal invitation to your organization to attend our 2nd Annual Austin Ques Sneaker Ball as our guest of honor.
 - Request continued support of the Gala. Your donation and/or attendance. Sponsorship details in attached letter were as follows:



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-
- Platinum Sponsorship - \$5,000.00
 - Purple Sponsorship - \$2,000.00
 - Gold Sponsorship - \$1,000.00
 - Bronze Sponsorship - \$500.00
 - Checks Payable to: Epsilon Iota Foundation
 - Mail to: Epsilon Iota Foundation c/o Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc.
P. O. Box 140044
Austin, TX 78714
 - RECOMMENDATION (resulting from the above two collegiate chapter requests for support to attend the upcoming 56th National Convention in July 2023). Support both the Iota Omega and Epsilon Beta chapters with \$300 each (total \$600) to attend the National Convention using excess funds from Founders Day. The motion was properly made, seconded, voted upon, and passed with a vote of 93-0.

Chapter Reports

Officers

President – Soror Robin T. Blackmon

Austin/Local

- Congratulations on a successful Red and White day. We had a historic number of Deltas in attendance, almost 500. Thanks to every member of Austin Alumnae that stepped in and worked as Boots on the Ground to make it happen. Hats off to Celeste Williams our Social Action Co-Chair for serving on the Committee and keeping AA abreast of everything. And Soror Jeri Brooks, let's recognize her for the outstanding work she did with the entire day but definitely the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the building named in honor of our Soror Barbara Jordan.



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- Both Chapter Delegates have registered for the National convention during the special registration designated for the President and Delegates.

Regional/State

- SWR Sisterhood week – Sorors we reported \$8,924.43 in purchased to black owned businesses. We had 7 sorors read during the week.
- SWR communication - Delta Authors on Tour in the SW Region hosted by Dallas Alumnae Chapter on June 3, 2023;
- SWR communication – Love Letter Sisterhood Edition

National

- Informz messages to be aware of:
 - 4/3 - 56th National Convention Scarf and Fan Set
 - 4/5 - Applications for Leadership Cohort
 - 4/7 – State of recent expulsion of Tennessee Lawmakers
 - 4/10 – National PPD Committee Updates
 - 4/10 – Project Ace Fuel Your Engine
 - 4/11 – 2023 Delta Heritage Celebration Award
 - 4/12 – Call for Resolutions
 - 4/13 - The Quill and the Reel Webinar
 - 4/15 – Delta Sponsorship Opportunities
 - 4/15 – Fiscal Forum Webinar
 - 4/16 – Leading with Fortitude: Virtual Candidates Forum
 - 4/18 - Scholarship and Seed Grant Application Season
 - 4/18 – National Financial Aid and Special Scholarship Announcement
 - 4/19 – Call for Submissions for National Arts and Letters Awards
 - 4/20 – Calling all Steppers to the Front 56th National Convention Step Show
 - 4/24 – Introducing Crimson Stage – Host a Broadway Show
 - 4/26 – Compliance Submissions
 - 4/27 – Madree Penn White Award
 - 5/1 – Deltas on the Fairway Golf Tournament
 - 5/2 – Grand Chapter Quarterly Financial Report
 - 5/2 – Freedom to Learn Rally
 - 5/3 – Good Start, Good Growth, Good Living Initiative Round Table Discussion
- **The full chapter president’s report is on the website.**



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2nd Vice President – Soror Kacey Hanson

- Chapter Management – 21 (29%)
 - E Board Meetings
 - Chapter Meetings
 - Budget & Finance Meetings
- AA/DST Member Programs – 21 (29%)
- Public Service Programs – 30 (42%)

- The current budget requests to date exceed the available income to date; the following was discussed during the re-visit with the programs chairs.
 - Standardized speaker honorarium amounts
 - Distinguished organization support versus chapter programming
 - Identified programming needing budgetary support

- The proposed calendar was presented. President Blackmon advised that the program planning must be aligned with the Strategic Plan goals for the chapter to remain in compliance.
 - Soror Karen Ware inquired about the possibility of regular meeting space. President Blackmon responded that cost is a factor but meeting space options are still being researched.

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the 2023-2024 proposed Austin Alumnae Chapter Calendar, to submit for approval, having identified some programming will need additional budgetary support in order to execute. The recommendation was properly made, seconded, and passed with a vote of 88-1.

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.

- 311 members for FY 22-23
- 223 members for the short year (Jul -Dec 2023)
- 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



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****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

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 Demitra Alexander



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The financial reports were presented to the AAC body.

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

Committee Reports

Five Point Thrust Committees

Social Action – Soror Melody Southall

- Boards & Commissions interest meeting is on May 20, 2023 at the ADF House from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Community Drive at the ADF House is on May 20, 2023 at the ADF House from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 - Suggestions are onesies, blankets, wipes, etc.
 - HB 1958 relating to maternal mortality and morbidity and Medicaid eligibility for certain services provided
 - Donations will go to the Community Health Care Center

- Voter Deputy Registrar Training



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- 100% Participation is still being requested
- Opportunity to complete online Voter Deputy Registrar Training Travis County
- <https://tax-office.traviscountytx.gov.voters/volunteer-deputy-registrars>
- The training is a video that only last 22 minutes and 19 seconds long with a 25- question examination to test your knowledge. You must score an 80% on the exam.
- Certification requirement vary by county.
- But once certified in one county, reciprocity is granted for the other counties. Please contact the other offices for a reciprocity certificate.

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

Social Action Moment

- Soror Dewi Smith encouraged all those interested to attend the upcoming Boards & Commissions interest meeting at the ADF House on May 20, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Soror Smith expressed the importance of getting involved at the local level. She is a member of the City of Austin's African American Resource Advisory Commission
- The interest meeting will include website information, will talk about panel experiences, and review the general application process.
- Her call to the AAC body was not to just watch, but to get involved. Integrate and catalyze Delta's efforts!

Standing Committees

Ways and Means – Soror Alnita Foote

- Double Good Popcorn Sales Start Date – May 4, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
- Double Good Popcorn Sales End Date – May 8, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
- Sales Instructions
 - Create your store
 - Download Double Good app
 - Add Code LDM EWD
- Double Good Popcorn Sales
 - Austin Alumnae profited \$12,404 in 2022
 - Let's double our profit in 2023
 - If 150 sorors sell \$500 in popcorn, AAC would profit \$37,500
 - If 150 sorors sell \$750 in popcorn, AAC would profit \$56,250
 - Donations will be accepted, just as last year: \$421. Donations go directly to AAC.



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- Prizes will be awarded for the top three sellers. The cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will be \$75, \$50, and \$25 respectively.
- Direct donations to AAC are also welcome! The direct donations are received 100%.

Policies & Procedures – Soror Patricia Shorter

- Committee members
 - Sorors Patricia Shorter, Jeffrey Archer, Avis Gipson, Donna Jackson, Honorable Brenda Kennedy, Mary Lewis-Winston
- Soror Shorter commented that the most recent DID was a wheelhouse of information for the P&P process.
- Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws
 - Informz Message Notification – Jan 31, 2023
 - Per Article XI of Grand Chapter's Constitution
 - Per Article XX of Grand Chapter's ByLaws
 - Series of webinars and overview of amendments
 - Clarity in duties and responsibilities
 - Clarity and consistency
 - Align with current practices
 - Recommend best practices
 - 35 Amendments proposed
 - 1 global change to CBL
 - 5 amendments proposed to the Constitution
 - 29 amendments proposed to the Bylaws
- **RECOMMENDATION** – The Policies and Procedures Committee recommends the chapter delegate votes in favor of the 35 amendments proposed by the National Constitution and Bylaws Committee during the 56th National Convention in Indianapolis, IN. The motion was made by the committee, voted upon, and passed with a vote of 84-1.

Heritage & Archives – Soror Tashia Coleman

- The Heritage & Archives committee presented the year-end review video featuring the chapter programming to the AAC body

Special Committees

Founders Day – Soror Donna Jackson

- Post Founders Day Celebration Feedback
 - Budget the service day project as a separate line item from Founders Day
 - General information: 187 tickets were sold at \$75 each equals \$14,025
 - It was a long day! Consider having the rededication ceremony on a separate day.



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- Itemize, for example, the hotel, hotel taxes, and hotel fees
- Joint Cluster meeting
- Consider starting the Founders Day line item at \$10K seed money, so the committee does not have to go back to request additional.
- Budget Summary
 -

Budget	\$11,650.00
Fundraising Income	+\$14,025.00
Available	=\$25,675.00
Total Spend to Date	- \$21,589.76
Rem'g Balance	\$ 4,947.65 *

*Note: the presentation displayed a remaining balance of \$4,947.65, but if the numbers presented above are correct, the mathematical remaining balance should be as follows: \$25,675 minus \$21,589.76 equals \$4,085.24

Service Area (Ad Hoc) – Soror Pamela Hall

- Committee Members
 - Sorors Genia Antoine, Robin Blackmon, Raissa Ferron, Alnita Foote, Pamela Hall, Brenda Hanson, Zabrina Hoggard, and Freda Mills
- Service Area Data Reviewed included
 - AAC Rosters
 - AAC Service Programs
 - Service Area of Surrounding Chapters
 - Cities in surrounding counties
 - Target population

- Chapter Rosters

○ <u>City</u>	○ <u>2018-2019</u>	○ <u>2022-2023</u>
○ Austin	○ 56%	○ 47%
○ Pflugerville	○ 17%	○ 19%
○ Round Rock	○ 13%	○ 12%
○ Leander	○ 3%	○ 3%
○ Hutto	○ 1%	○ 3%
○ Manor	○ 1%	○ 3%
○ Cedar Park	○ 2%	○ 2%
○ Georgetown	○ 1%	○ 2%



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- Percentage of Programs/Projects by city from 2018-2023

• City	• Percentage
• Austin	• 56.9%
• Kyle	• 2.0%
• Bastrop	• 2.0%
• Round Rock	• 9.8%
• Pflugerville	• 5.9%
• Manor	• 2.9%
• Lockhart	• 2.0%
• Leander	• 3.9%
• Hutto	• 3.9%
• Georgetown	• 3.9%
• Del Valle	• 2.0%
• Dale	• 2.0%

- Other slide presented showed the service areas for surrounding chapters, the associated cities in those surrounding counties, and target populations
- A question by Soror Cedel Evans was raised and answered: The county definition of the AAC service areas does NOT limit our ability to participate in another county. If there is planned participation in the other counties, the idea to do so should be vetted with the AA chapter.
- The next step includes getting the AAC service area updated with Soror Taylor – Scholarship & Standards
- RECOMMENDATION:** The Service Area Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the service area of Austin Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. be defined as Hays County, Travis County and Williamson County. The recommendation was made by the Committee, voted upon, and passed with a vote of 66-13.

New Business

Installation of New Officers

- The ceremony was conducted for the newly elected officers listed below.



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o Position	o Elected Officer 2023-2025
o President	o Robin Blackmon
o 1 st VP	o Jacqueline Habersham
o 2 nd VP	o Kacey Hanson
o Recording Secretary	o Darralyn Johnson
o Corresponding Secretary	o La'Kisha Crenshaw
o Financial Secretary	o Anita Daniels
o Asst Financial Secretary	o Tennille Thomas
o Treasurer	o Deborah Shaw Boatner
o Asst Treasurer	o Kimily Johnson
o Chair, Internal Audit	o Sophia Williams
o Chair, Nom Committee	o Carla Roberson
o Member, Nom	o Gloria Frazier
o Member, Nom	o Lisa Newman
o Member, Nom	o Gloria Williams
o Member, Nom	o La Tasha Robinson
o Sergeant at Arms	o Laronica Moise
o Journalist	o Autumn Caviness
o Risk Mgmt. Coordinator	o Nancy Knight Brown

Announcements

Adjournment

A motion was made for the meeting to adjourn at 12:26 PM. The motion was properly made and 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 May 6 2023 chapter meeting.	Soror Avis Gipson	Soror Alnita Foote	90-0	Passed
AAC Body	Support both the Iota Omega and Epsilon Beta chapters with \$300 each (total \$600) to attend the National Convention using excess funds from Founders Day.	Soror Renee Jones	Soror Alnita Foote	93-0	Passed
PPD	Adopt the 2023-2024 proposed Austin Alumnae Chapter Calendar, to submit for approval, having identified some programming will need additional budgetary support in order to execute.	Soror Kacey Hanson	Soror Carrie Swisher	88-1	Passed
Policies & Procedures	The Policies and Procedures Committee recommends the chapter delegate votes in favor of the 35 amendments proposed by the National Constitution and Bylaws Committee during the 56 th National Convention in Indianapolis, IN.	Soror Patricia Shorter on behalf of the committee	N/A	84-1	Passed
Service Area	The Service Area Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the service area of Austin Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. be defined as Hays County, Travis County and Williamson County.	Soror Pamela Hall on behalf of the committee	N/A	66-13	Passed


Soror Janet Scroggins Marshall, Recording Secretary


Soror Robin T. Blackmon, President



AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Austin Alumnae In-Person Chapter Meeting Agenda

May 6, 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 April Minutes

Correspondence

Soror Janet Marshall

Soror Tiffany Holmes White

Chapter Reports

Officers

President
2nd Vice-President
Financial Secretary
Treasurer

Soror Robin Blackmon

Soror Kacey Hanson

Soror Anita Daniels

Soror Demitra Alexander

Committee Reports (3 Minutes)

Five Point Thrust

Social Action

Soror Melody Southall

Social Action Moment

Standing Committees

Ways and Means (Fundraising)
Policies and Procedures
Heritage and Archives

Soror Alnita Foote

Soror Patricia Shorter

Soror Tashia Coleman

Special Committees

Founders Day
Service Area Ad Hoc

Soror Donna Jackson

Soror Pamela Hall

New Business

Installation of Officers

Motion for Adjournment

Ritualistic Closing

Fellowship and Recognition

Executive Board Recommendations

1. The 2nd Vice-President recommends adoption of the 2023-2024 proposed Austin Alumnae Chapter Calendar, with the addition of a Ways & Means activity in the spring to submit for approval, having identified some programming will need additional budgetary support in order to execute.
2. The Policies and Procedures Committee recommends the chapter delegate votes in-favor of the 35 amendments proposed by the National Constitution and Bylaws Committee during the 56th National Convention, in Indianapolis, IN.
3. The Service Area Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the service area of the Austin Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. be defined as Hays County, Travis County and Williamson County.

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

The Second DID on Sisterhood will be May 18, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m. Details and the registration link will be provided later.