



Austin Alumnae Chapter DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes Virtual Meeting Robin Blackmon, Presiding Officer October 31, 2023

Legal Notice read by Darralyn Johnson

Call to Order (quorum present) at 7:03 p.m. by Robin Blackmon

ERT moment by Ollie White

Adoption of the Agenda with the addition to add report from Elections Committee under special committees and additional announcements. Moved by LaKisha Crenshaw. Passed by unanimous vote.

Meditation/Reflection was rendered by Joan Roberts Scott

Approval of October 3, 2023 Minutes Recording Secretary Darralyn Johnson reported that the October executive board minutes were uploaded to the Chapter's website and with no corrections given, the minutes stand approved as submitted.

Correspondence reported by Corresponding Secretary LaKisha Crenshaw: Correspondence from Soror Elsa Cooke-Holmes, CEO and International President, regarding South West Regional Conference Hosting; National Scholarship and Standards Committee regarding Austin Alumnae's service area; thank you card from the Risen family and Scholarship donation from L. Jones for \$2500. Full report attached.

Chapter Reports

Officers

President Robin Blackmon: Report included the following:

- Greetings to EBoard meeting attendees.
- Thank you to the sorors who traveled to San Antonio for the hearing.
- Sister II Sister Circles co-chaired by Sorors Noble and Johnson, please contact them if you have not heard from your circle lead.
- Congratulations to Soror Southall for acceptance into PEARL cohort 3.
- Heritage and Archives to receive the Scholarship and Standards letter and the letter regarding hosting the regional conference.
- Scholarship Fundraiser is important and sorors are asked to sell five tickets. Cost \$85.00



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- Arts and Letters have a red-carpet event where we will secure the entire theatre on December 9 to see The Color Purple. Sorors are asked to wear purple and the cost is \$30 and open to the public. 5:30 p.m. arrival, 6 p.m. showing.
- Regional update
 - Several members of Austin Alumnae attended the regional retreat.
 - RD Crystal Barker introduced the I am SW 100 campaign at the retreat. Sorors are encouraged to donate.
 - DID must be completed in April. Soror Habersham will determine a date. Chapter quorum must be met.
 - The region is strongly encouraging the red carpet event for The Color Purple.

Financial Secretary Anita Daniels: Report included the following:

- October 2023 collections-\$24651.92
- 288 members for the SY 2023
- 256 members for FY 2024
- Dues amounts were presented
- Late fees are now in effect
- Members were reminded to include member number in PayPal transactions.
- The full report from the financial secretary can be found in the members only portion of the chapter's website.

Treasurer/Budget and Finance Deborah Shaw-Boatner: Report included the following:

- Beginning balance \$166,636.83 for all accounts.
- Ending balance \$169,583.31 for all accounts
- I am SW region 100 donations were transferred on October 31 although not reflected on submitted report.
- Budget and Finance meeting on October 11 resulted in increase in several budget line items due to increased membership dues received and revenue from the retreat for FY 2023 and FY 2024.
- Move that the report of adjustments from the Budget and Finance Committee be accepted as presented for the SY 2023 year. Discussion: correction of total on local courtesies. Motion passed 27 for 2 against.
- Move that the report of adjustments from the Budget and Finance Committee be accepted as presented for the SY24 year. Discussion: additional opportunities to request additional funding for the full 2024 calendar year does exist. Motion passed 26 for 2 against.
- Treasurer Deborah Shaw-Boatner moved that the \$2500 donation received and designated for scholarship purposes be donated to the Austin Delta Foundation (our scholarship partner) towards their scholarship fundraiser.
- There is a schedule for reimbursement distribution and voucher submission.
- SY23 voucher request deadline is December 3.



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- The full report from the treasurer/budget and finance committee can be found in the members only portion of the chapter's website.

Committee Reports

Five Point Thrust

Educational Development Chair Paulette Walls: Report included the following:

- Early Childhood literacy is a local initiative and Oak Springs elementary school was chosen.
- School supplies donated to Oak Springs in the spring semester.
- Moved that the educational development committee solicit the chapter for school supplies to donate to Oak Springs Elementary School. Collections will be at the November and December chapter meetings. The motion passed 24 for and 3 against.
- President Blackmon did note that as this motion will need to be approved at chapter meeting, the main donation response would happen at the December chapter meeting.

International Awareness and Involvement Chair Akeshia Johnson Smothers: Report included the following:

- World Aids Day is December 1.
- Save the Date December 1 for a Formal Gala and December 2 Health Fair.
- Partnering with City of Austin/Austin Public Health, Austin Area HIV Planning Council, What's in the mirror and Avita Pharmaceuticals.
- Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of the month. Dstatx.iai@gmail.com

Standing Committees

Nominating Committee Chair Carla Roberson: Report included the following:

- Move a re-opening of the award nomination time frame to garner more entries in order to ensure a full slate with the further support of a Nomination Form Training session on November 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. via zoom. Discussion occurs around the reasoning for the request to reopen (low numbers, incomplete submissions, lack of training) as well as the reassurance that rules were not being suspended. Additionally, the jot form's ability to upload documents was discussed. The motion carried 23 for and 3 against.
- Proposed schedule based on approval of the reopening:
 - Nominations reopen immediately after the training on November 6.
 - Nominations close on November 25 at 5:00 p.m.
 - Nomination Committee meets and vets submissions on November 27.
 - Nomination Committee presents slate of nominees at the Eboard meeting on November 28.



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- Slate of nominees and to the Elections committee from November 29 - December 3.
- Vote launched on December 3.

Elections Committee Chair Rene Conley: Report included the following:

- Due to the connectivity issues at the in-person meeting site, the election for awards will not be electronic and paper ballots will be used.
- November 22 written notification of chapter vote will be sent to the members.
- December 3 the chapter will vote with attendance verification held from 10:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m. and balloting from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Election committee members will be responsible for distribution and collection of ballots.
- Move that the award winner for each category be selected by popular vote (the highest number of votes instead of majority vote (more than half the votes). A second ballot or runoff will be conducted only if there is a tie vote in any award category. No discussion. Motion carried 26 for 0 against.

Special Committees

None Reported

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business

New Business

49th Southwest Regional Conference reported by Co-Chair Avis Gipson: The report included the following:

- Steering committees identified
- Co-chairs selected
- Committee member sign up jot form will be distributed soon.



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Announcements:

Chapter Meeting November 4, 2023 10:00 a.m. in-person

Policies and Procedures: As a reminder Austin Alumnae Members and Committees are invited to submit recommendations for change regarding the Chapter's Policies and Procedures by Thursday, November 30, 2023, to dstatxpolicies@gmail.com. The recommendations form is available in the member portal.

Membership Services White Christmas 2023: On Saturday, December 9, 2023, the Membership Services Committee will be spreading some holiday cheer to our sick and shut-in sorors. We will be singing joyous Christmas songs and blessing them with a special gift. If you know a soror who would love a visit, please notify Tanya Rippenkroegar at tanya.rippenkroeger@hotmail.com or Melody Southall at mlsouthall@gmail.com by November 10, 2023. Also, if you want to join us for this wonderful outreach, please sign up at the November chapter meeting.

Social Action:

- Get on Board 2023 – 2024 *Sorors Only* - November 18 – 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. – ADF House 1190 San Bernard Austin, TX 78702
- Attend the School Board Meeting in your community, see the dates on the chapter's website calendar
- Next Steps in lawsuit – Briefs December 15; Closing Argument January 12
- Social Action Subcommittee Boards & Commission Meeting – November 9
- Social Action Committee Meeting – November 14

Arts and Letters reminder of the red-carpet event for The Color Purple. Stanchions are needed.

A motion to adjourn was entertained with the motion coming from Kacey Hanson, no opposition noted.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.



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Summary of Motions

Motion	Moved by	Second offered by	Motion Result
Adoption of Agenda with addition of a recommendation from social action.	LaKisha Crenshaw	Alnita Daniels	Carried (28 for 0 against)
Move that the report of adjustments from the Budget and Finance Committee be accepted as presented for the SY23 year	Deborah Shaw-Boatner	Not needed, submitted by committee	Discussion occurred Carried (27 for 2 against)
Move that the report of adjustments from the Budget and Finance Committee be accepted as presented for the SY23 year	Deborah Shaw-Boatner	Not needed, submitted by committee	Discussion occurred Carried (26 for 2 against)
Move that the \$2500 donation received and designated for scholarship purposes be donated to the Austin Delta Foundation (our scholarship partner) towards their scholarship fundraiser.	Deborah Shaw-Boatner	Pam Hall	Carried (25 for, 2 against)
Moved that the educational development committee solicit the chapter for school supplies to donate to Oak Springs Elementary School. Collections will be at the November and December chapter meetings	Paulette Walls	Not needed, submitted by committee	Carried (24 for, 3 against)
Move a re-opening of the award nomination time frame to garner more entries in order to ensure a full slate with the further support of a Nomination Form Training session on November 6, 2023 at 7:00PM via zoom.	Carla Grace Roberson	Not needed, submitted by committee	Discussion occurred Carried (23 for 3 against)
Move that the award winner for each category be selected by popular vote (the highest number of votes instead of majority vote (more than half the votes). A second ballot or runoff will be conducted only if there is a tie vote in any award category	Rene Conley	Not needed, submitted by committee	Discussion occurred Carried (26 for 0 against)
Move to adjourn	Kacey Hanson	Sherri Fleming	Carried on consent

Approved:

Robin Blackmon, President

Darralyn N. Johnson, Recording Secretary

Presiding Officer