



Alpha Sigma Graduate Chapter Meeting

Order of Business

March 21, 2020 – 10:15 am

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Technology

“GREATER SERVICE, GREATER PROGRESS”

1. Aamina Alexander	2. Kinshasa Allender-Davis	3. Shira Amos
4. Carmelita Anderson	5. Keira Bible	6. Rachel Bizzle
7. LaNette Boone	8. Kimberly Brown-Harden	9. Lolita Campbell
10. Tamara Chapple	11. Carla Clark	12. Jennifer Clayton
13. Fallon Coleman	14. Dawn Davis	15. Nieka Davis
16. DeShara Doub	17. Jamicka Edwards	18. Alana Everett
19. Metai Ezell	20. Shawna Farmer	21. Sonya Gilbert
22. Daphne Gilmore	23. Catina Harris	24. Delia Harris
25. Keshia Harris	26. Aikim Hoggs	27. LaTonya Hudson
28. SaRita Hughes	29. Heather Jackson	30. Samika Johnson
31. DaiMiona Jones	32. Kathy Jones	33. Sharron Jones
34. Shelli Jones	35. Nikita King	36. Jennifer Lee
37. Valerie Ligon	38. Brandi London	39. Gloria Lucas
40. Brandi McGrady	41. Miah McLaurin	42. Remitha Norman
43. Qiana Paytner	44. LaShawn Reed	45. Briana Rhodes
46. Martha Riley	47. Lisa Robey	48. Brenda Roper
49. India Samuels	50. Karin Sarratt	51. Tanika Scott
52. Khalilah Shabazz	53. Janell Smith	54. Takeisha Smith
55. Yolanda Snowden	56. Karloa Stevens	57. Andrea Terrell
58. Tikilia Tinker-Martin	59. Nikiyah Troutman	60. Marian Turner
61. Vanessa Tyson	62. Toni Watson	63. Charlene Williams
64. Ti’auna Williams	65. Charonda Woods	66. Dawn Wright
67. Dannielle Yelder	68. Tiffney Young	69. Elwanda Haynes

Opening / Devotional / Adoption of Agenda /Reading of Minutes (Silently)

The presiding officer, Basileus Wright, called the Alpha Sigma Graduate Chapter meeting to order at 10:15 am. Basileus Wright called for approval of the Agenda as submitted. A motion was made and duly approved.

Basileus Wright explained why we were shifting to virtual meetings to conduct chapter business. Basileus Wright referenced an e-mail communications from Headquarters on March 13, 2020, that provided guidance on Chapter Operations.

Chaplin Terrell led the Chapter in a devotional prayer.

Basileus Wright asked for a motion to approve the February 15, 2020 Meeting Minutes as written. Soror Tyson made a motion and it was properly seconded by Soror Catina Harris. The minutes were duly approved.

Officer Reports

Basileus (pg. 2)

There were questions about whether or not the Youth Symposium would be cancelled and how we would manage the Scholarship Application process this year due to the pandemic. Refer to the Composite for details.

There were also questions about whether or not refunds will be given by the Central Region in light of the conference being cancelled. Syntaktes Harris indicated that options were being explored with her Board and the hotel. She committed to provide updates in the coming weeks.

Anti-Basileus (pgs. 3 - 11)

Refer to Composite for updates on membership results based on retention, reclamation, and recruitment strategies. Sorors should remember that the *Membership Connect Newsletter* is intended for Alpha Sigma Financial Sorors only and should not be forwarded or shared. This helps us to ensure we're maintaining the integrity of the current T.O.R.C.H program.

Basileus Wright shared her sincere thanks with Soror Amos for her leadership and the membership committee's hard work, as well. Alpha Sigma is leading the way!

1st Anti-Basileus (pg. 12)

Refer to the Composite for updates on this Officer's activities and events attended. Soror Williams again thanked Sorors for supporting the undergraduates.

There was a question about the undergrads are doing in these unprecedented times. Soror Williams asked that each Advisor speak to that question during their officer reports.

2nd Anti-Basileus – Alpha Chapter (pg. 13)

Refer to Composite for updates on T.O.R.C.H. completion and a BIG welcome to Soror Michaela Ivory. Several Sorors gave Poodle Shout Outs to Soror Ivory for doing such an exceptional job on her new member presentation.

Soror Joshua indicated they will continue to meet using FaceTime. She shared that Soror Strong will be graduating next month, so this is an important time for transition planning. Soror Strong is having a difficult time with Butler cancelling graduation based on the pandemic. Please reach out and be supportive and encouraging for Soror Strong.

Sorors inquired about the best way to connect with the undergrads that are graduating. There is an interest in reaching out and being supportive. Soror Williams indicated that she will provide feedback after her meeting with the advisors this week.

Sorors suggested that we consider hosting something as a chapter/region this summer to allow our Sorors to "walk across the stage" and be recognized and celebrated with their families and friends in the audience! Soror Williams indicated they will take this recommendation under advisement.

4th Anti-Basileus – Mu Chapter (pg. 14)

Refer to Composite for updates on events attended by the Advisor and how the undergrads are making moves! Soror Yelder shared that the undergrads are really devastated with this current situation. She highlighted that Soror Cage placed 3rd in the Annie Neville competition at the Central Region conference.

5th Anti-Basileus – Gamma Zeta (pg. 15)

Refer to Composite for advisor and chapter update. Soror Snowden shared that Gamma Zeta received several scholastic achievement awards and Soror Hendricks received a graduating senior award. Sorors were encouraged to congratulate the Gamma Zeta Sorors on their accomplishments.

Anti-Grammateus (pg. 16)

Refer to the Composite for updates in the pending sorority badge order, attendance protocol and the AS newsletter content submittal deadlines.

Grammateus (pgs. 17 – 26)

Refer to Composite for financial report. Soror Clayton indicated that she will be making a note of correction to her report as follows: 1) \$150 dues assessments not reflected for Soror Kesha Harris, and 2) \$150 unapplied payments for Soror Kesha Harris. This detail was also outlined in an e-mail notification to Soror Sarratt.

We currently have 154 financial Sorors and you can refer to the roster in the Composite.

Tamiochus (pgs. 27 – 33)

Refer to the Composite for the financial reconciliation report. There is also a reimbursement form and the reimbursement categories are included for reference. Soror Clark indicated that the budget will be submitted to the Executive Board in April and the Chapter will vote in May.

Parliamentarian (pg. 34)

Refer to the Composite for details. Soror Jones indicated that no recommendations were submitted. Soror Jones thanked Sorors for their words of encouragement and financial support as she had announced her candidacy for Central Region Anti-Grammateus.

Committee Reports

Scholarship

Soror Johnson shared the online application process, to include the deadline and required documents. We had a goal of raising \$5k this year and we raised \$4k, which is \$1k short. Sorors asked if we could extend the deadline based on the current pandemic. Soror Johnson indicated that we can extend the deadline to Friday, May 22nd and notification will be made to recipients on May 30th.

Soror Norman asked about how we can get back to scholarship giving levels of a minimum of \$4,500. She express an interest in seeing us take a stronger position on our scholarship giving. Basileus Wright asked Soror Clark if this was something that she and the Financial Team can take under advisement. Soror Clark confirmed that this is something that can be addressed during the budgeting process.

Refer to the Composite for additional details on the 22 Club, Committee Update, and Poodle Shout Outs!

Nominations

Soror Tyson reminded the Chapter of the April 1st nominations deadline for open Chapter positions. She was disappointed to report that she had only received one application thus far. The slate will be presented during the April Chapter meeting and voting will occur in May.

Boule delegation nominations remain open and we have 8 names submitted.

Soror Tyson confirmed we will be entertaining nominations from the floor in our April meeting and Sorors were reminded of the e-mail to submit nominations: alphasigmanominations@gmail.com

Soror Tyson confirmed that the Committee can define the standing rules for how campaigns can be run for the Chapter.

Soror Shabazz asked Soror Tyson if she received the note confirming Soror Amos' interest in being a Boule delegate.

Soror McGrady asked a point of clarification about the deadline posted on the Sorors Only website for nominations. It refers to April 30th, which is incorrect.

Health & Wellness (pg. 37)

Soror Campbell provided an update on the Matters of the Mind II event that was held on Thu., Feb. 27th. Refer to the Composite for additional details and Poodle Shout Outs! Stay tuned for more updates on an upcoming Mental Health Virtual workshop and the next Getting Fit with Sigma Fitness Challenge! Sorors were encouraged to prioritize OUR health and to take extra precautions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NPHC

Soror Forbes and Soror Haynes reported that the Zeta's have officially postponed their SOLD OUT Centennial Gala, which was scheduled for March 21, 2020. We still have tickets for one of the two tables that Alpha Sigma purchased for the Zeta Centennial Gala. Sorors Forbes and Haynes expressed disappointment that we had yet to sell out our two tables in support of this event.

Basileus Wright referred the Chapter to the formal letter received from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority about the postponed Gala.

Awards & Achievement

Soror Yelder shared plans to proceed with trying to find a location to host this event. At a minimum, we will proceed with the nominations (awards1922@gmail.com) so that we can recognize and honor our Sorors!

Unfinished Business

Soror Samuels inquired about whether or not the financial report was ever finalized and submitted by Soror Darden. Soror Darden stated that all of the financials were reflected in her previous report, which was given by Soror Clayton in her absence. There was a question from the floor about the amount of money that had been allocated for scholarships. Soror Clayton indicated that none of the funds raised from Founders has currently been allocated towards scholarships.

After further discussion, Soror Tyson suggested a process for how to manage the disbursements from Founders. Basileus Wright asked for a recommendation from the Soror Darden and the Financial Team. We'll add this to the April meeting as part of the budget discussion.

Soror Joshua requested an itemized list of tickets that were sold from the Founders event. Basileus Wright stated that this reconciliation will be provided to the Chapter, even though it has not been provided in the past.

New Business (New Items / Projects Not Yet Discussed) - None

Good of the Order - Announcements and/or Remarks

- **Syntaktes Harris - Central Region Conference & Relocation for New Leadership Role** – Thanks to the Chapter for showing up in BIG numbers for the Conference. Thanks to everyone that's been sending her messages (e-mail and text). We're looking to reschedule and pick up where we left off, we just want everyone to be safe.

For our undergrads, we'll find a way to celebrate them! Even though they may not have a new member presentation, they can still do their step shows. Syntaktes Harris also shared professional news that she's been offered a job and will be relocating to Kentucky next month. Her start date is mid-April. She reiterated that she is NOT leaving Alpha Sigma! This new role represents a promotion for her and it's a great opportunity.

- **Soror Roper reminded Sorors that this is election season.** Mon., May 4th is the Voter Registration Deadline
- **Soror Cox** commented that the inserts in the Regional Conference books was beautiful. It highlighted our AS candidates running for various positions. Basileus Harris shared that the printer made an error, but Soror Shabazz worked on this concession. Soror Amos stated that we have the extra copies of those inserts too.
- **Soror Riley** shared that she will be providing virtual piano lessons.
- **Soror Doub** stressed the importance of Sorors managing their mental health during this unprecedented time.
- **Soror Cox** asked if we have any updates on Boule. Soror Tyson stated that updates and further direction from the Board will be forthcoming.
- There was a discussion about whether or not this meeting would be considered an official meeting. Refer back to e-mail guidance received from Headquarters - - laws of our state supersede our bylaws.
- **Soror Tikilia Tinker-Martin** extended a Poodle Praise to everyone that worked on the Youth Symposium before it was cancelled. More details will be forthcoming as we learn more about how to navigate in this crisis.
- **Soror Amos** extended a heartfelt thanks to everyone that supported her campaign at the Central Region Conference.

Meeting Adjourned

“Defining our legacy through servant leadership”