

St. Louis Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated
Chapter Meeting Minutes
Zoom Meeting
Saturday, March 6, 2021 - **CONFIDENTIAL**

The Chapter President, DeJeanette Williams, called St. Louis Alumnae Chapter meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. with the formal opening. 144 members were present at the start of the meeting and a quorum was established.

Adoption of the Agenda

The chapter president presented the agenda to the chapter for approval Theresa Hargrow-Simmons moved that we accept the agenda. Carolyn Thomas seconded the motion. The chapter voted 157 for and 0 against to accept the agenda as presented. The motion passed.

President's Remarks – DeJeanette Williams

- March 3, 2021 marked the 108th anniversary of our Founders' first act of social action.

National Updates

- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is working with The Children's Defense Fund for a Chapters Beyond Books partnership. The partnership was initiated as an emergency response effort to bring culturally relevant books to youth in grades kindergarten thru 12th grade students. The goal is to distribute 50,000 books to assist families in building their in-home libraries. Each chapter is asked to give a \$1000 donation or more. The chapter will receive 75 books to donate to children in our area. Our chapter will be participating via the Dive into Books with Delta program.
 - The 17th Annual Delta Days at the United Nations will be held virtually on March 25 and March 26, 2021. Online registration is open and will close on March 15 or when capacity is reached. The cost is \$25 for the event on March 26. The event on March 25 is free and registration is required. Refer to the March 2, 2021 email from National Headquarters for more information.
- Members are asked to ensure information in the Sisters Portal is up to date.

Regional Updates

- Continue to review the "We. Are. Central." updates for information regarding upcoming activities.

Chapter Updates

- Missouri Delta Days at the State Capitol will be on Saturday, March 27, 2021 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration closes on March 21, 2021.
- Delta Authors on Tour will be hosted by the Omaha Alumnae Chapter on Saturday, April 17, 2021 from 1 p.m.- 3 p.m.
- Continue to review the We. Are. Central updates.
- The St. Louis Alumnae and other Delta chapters in our area will be recognized on March 7, 2021 at 10 a.m. at St. Peters AME Church during their Women's Emphasis Month program. Our 22nd National President Reverend Gwendolyn Boyd will be the guest speaker. The program may be viewed on Facebook Live.
- Soror Mildred Anderson is in rehab at The Bethesda Home in room 2025.
- Soror Ruby Wilkins transitioned to the Omega Omega Chapter on February 23, 2021. She resided in Maryland. The services will be held on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. EST and will be streamed on the Wiley Funeral Home website at www.wileyfh.com.
- The chapter will conduct the Omega Omega service on Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 5 p.m. for Soror Aurita Caldwell. The link to attend can be found in the newsletter.

Minutes – Tracey Carter

The chapter reviewed the February chapter meeting minutes. No corrections were communicated. The minutes will stand as presented.

Welcome and Kudos – LaVerne Bady

- Visiting sorors were welcomed by the president and 2nd vice president.
- Kudos
 - The Delta DEARS for a successful "Breaking the Rules & Playing the Blues" sisterhood mixer
 - SLA Academy for a successful "Developing Tour Relationship with Delta" presentation
 - Reclamation and Retention a successful Virtual Sisterhood Stroll and Slide event
 - Soror Karen Jordan has been named the new managing partner for Dentons Law Firm
 - Kudos to Amanda Shields. The Missouri Botanical Garden has announced she will be their first director of diversity and inclusion

Correspondence-Kelli Jordan-DeDeaux

- Thank you card for Soror Doris Graham for condolences extended
- Thank you card for Sorors Ida Casey and Taylor Jackson for condolences extended
- Thank you card from Ms. Jean Heil, a teacher at Moline Acres School for the chapter's Dive into Books with Delta donation.
- TSU Greeks and Friends Annual Scholarship Fundraiser. See the newsletter for a link to purchase tickets.
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The deadline for the newsletter was March 25, 2021.

The chapter offered birthday greetings to sorors born in March.

Financial Reports

Financial Secretary's Report – Gayle Abram

The financial secretary reported on the receipts for the Bank of America and Regions Bank accounts for the months of January 2021. The report will be filed pending audit.

Treasurer – Patricia Stewart

The assistant treasurer reported on the bank balances for the Operational, Ariya, Education, Fundraising, Money Market, and Social Action accounts for the months of January 2021. The report will be filed pending audit.

Program Planning and Development –Bernadette White

Community Awareness and Involvement

- 353 bras were donated by the chapter and Ann's Bra Shop to women in the St. Louis area. The Crisis Nursery collected 50 bras in their last effort. Donations are still being accepted.
- As part of the Central Region's initiative, "The Central Region Takes Care of First Responders", chapter members visited four firehouses and delivered a hot lunch, beverages, and a gift bag.

Dive into Books with Delta

- Co-chairs Sorors Karen Goldman and Carrie Coleman and the First Vice President Bernadette White delivered over 100 books to Moline Elementary School in the Riverview Gardens School District

Economic Development

- The committee is spotlighting three soror-owned businesses.
 - Next Moves Creations – Michelle Boyd
 - Made You Smile Jewelry, LLC – Dawn Higgins
 - Stowers Realty Group – Janelle Stowers
- The registration winner for the Billion Dollar Challenge is K. Michelle Elliott-Piphus. Soror Gwen Blackmon is the contact for the Billion Dollar Challenge. All are welcome to join the team.
- Saturday, April 3, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. - Money Savvy - DEARS

Education Committee-Mind Guard/Scholarship

- Sorors are asked to donate to the scholarship fund.
- \$11,837.60 has been raised so far for Mind Guard Scholarships. The goal is \$15,000.
- The link to the scholarship application is in the newsletter.
- In addition to contacting school counselors for scholarship recipients, we now include the social media, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. In addition, we will be expanding to My Scholarship Central to attract applicants.

Delta GEMS

- The committee is accepting applications.
- The 2021 theme is: "Love the Skin You Are In!".
- Application deadline is March 7, 2021

Physical and Mental Health

- Virtual Sip and Share: Self Care Check-in will be on March 1, 2021 from 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. This activity is in collaboration with the Reclamation and Retention committee.
- American Heart Association Virtual Walk on May 15, 2021
- Exercise class in partnership with the Fundraising committee will be in June. Stay tuned for more

information.

Membership Services – LaVerne Bady

Check Out the Church

- The committee is working on the virtual Ecumenical/Sisterhood Month service to be held following the Founders Day program which will take place on March 14, 2020 at 10 a.m.
- The theme is “God Has Spoken, Let the Church Say Amen”.
- The program will include The Voices of Fortitude, Soror Karen Hylton, and Pastor Karen Anderson.

Cheer Courtesy

Condolences

- Claudette Fleming on the loss of her brother
- Yvette Hamilton-Hawkins on the loss of her mother
- Brenda Gilmore on the loss of her father
- DeAndria Player is recuperating at home from surgery

Delta DEARS

- The committee hosted a sisterhood mixer on February 26, 2021 “Breaking the Rules and Playing the Blues”. Activities included a scavenger hunt and African-American movie trivia.
- Gift cards were awarded to winners of the scavenger hunt and trivia games.
- The Delta Dears will participate in the financial workshop with the Economic Development committee on April 3, 2021.

Founders Day

- Founders Day will be held on March 13, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.
- Tickets for guests and sorors is \$22
- The speakers are the Honorable Shirley Franklin, Congresswoman Nakema Williams, and The Honorable Maxine Waters.

June Luncheon

- Plans are underway for the June Luncheon which will be held on June 5, 2021
- The committee is looking for members. Please contact Kathy Thomas or Sharonda Martin

Reclamation and Retention

- Sisterhood month began with “Praying with a Purpose” on March 1, 2021 at 7:13 a.m. and will end with prayer on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 7:13 p.m.
- The committee hosted a slide and stroll session with two instructors, LaDawna Thomas and Monica Perry
- Virtual Sip and Share: Self Care Check-in will be on March 12, 2021 from 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. This activity is in collaboration with the Physical and Mental Health committee.
- March 16, 2021 – Red Carpet Event “The United States vs. Billie Holiday” featuring Honorary Member Andra Day. The event will be hosted by the Arts and Letters committee and will begin at 7 p.m.
- On Saturday, March 27, 2021 the committee will host a “Chapter Fun Night” at 5 p.m.
- The link to the Sisterhood Month Calendar is in the newsletter.
- The committee recognized the chapter’s first responders via a video presentation

Nominating Committee – Duchess Gibbon

- The chapter has open positions for: Treasurer, Chair of the Nominating Committee, and five Nominating Committee Member positions. All positions have a 2-year term.
- Saturday, March 20, 2021 – Deadline for written nominations and Candidate Data Profile Forms

Policies and Procedures – Gloria Reno

- The committee presented the recommended changes to the policies and procedures.
- The document will be posted in the Members Only section on the chapter website.
- The documents will be voted on at the May meeting.

New Business None


Announcements

- Robin Wright-Jones reminded the chapter about Delta Days at the State Capitol on March 27, 2021.
- Margaret Williams reminded the chapter of the upcoming mayoral election in the city of St. Louis on Tuesday April 6, 2021.

Doris Graham moved to adjourn the chapter meeting. Joyce Jefferson seconded the motion. The chapter voted 148 for and 0 against to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.



Tracey Carter
2020-2022 SLA Recording Secretary



DeJeanette Williams
2020-2022 SLA Chapter President