



SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY, INC.

Alpha Upsilon Sigma

"A Non-governmental Organization Associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information"

Eureka T. Rucker, Anti-Grammateus

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Sorority Meeting
September 19, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Jocelyn Abdul-Rasheed, Linday Ashford, Andrey Ayers, Laurie Baker, Chokaio Benton, Juliette Boone, Warletta Brookins, Jeanie Brown, Nancy Byrd, Ruthie Cabine, Georgianna Clanton, Alisha Coleman, Vannessa Curtis, Elaine Dandridge, Charlita Dunn, Lynda Dunn, Edna Farmer, Barbara Fleming, Ashley Golliday, Jan Griffin, Katina Hardin, Stacie Hamilton, Marian Harris, Marlene Harris, Micheline Harris, Aimee Hart, Pamela Hughes, TiJauna Ingram, Harriet Jackson-Lewis, Kimberly Johnson, Pamela Jones-King, Ramona Jones, Jaqueline Kemp, Wanda LeFlore, Christi Liddell, Angela Lyles, Denise Merritt, Lenisha Moyegun, Wenifred Nash-Bell, Ak'iya Perry, Cindy Reed, Eureka Rucker, Ethel Shanklin, Zikisha Shanklin-Young, Ingrid Shelton-Williams, Mary Smith-Floyd, Carolyn Spencer, Carmelita Spencer, Annissa Stanley, Geraldine Thomas, Verna Tolden, Andrea Tolden-Hughes, Thelma Vaughn, Gina Walker, Rajae White, Shelia Williams, Erin Wilson, Brenda Odom

Basileus Shelia Williams called the meeting to order at 2:36p

Phone numbers that were on the Zoom call were identified by Soror Abdul-Rasheed. There were two phone numbers on the call that were not able to be identified so they were placed in the waiting room

Σ Meditation by Soror Lynn Clanton

Σ Pledge – recited silently

Correspondence: none

Anti-Grammateus Report: no report

Swearing in of the new officers by Soror Wanda LeFlore for the 2020-2020 sorority year. The new officers are as follows:

Basileus: Shelia Williams

1st Anti-Basileus: Katina Hardin

2nd Anti-Basileus: Nakesha Tolden-Mosley

3rd Anti-Basileus: Vacant

Grammateus: Harriet Jackson-Lewis

Anti-Grammateus: Eureka Rucker
Tamiochus: Crystal Martin-Nicholson
Epistoleus: Pamela Hughes
parliamentarian: Jocelyn Abdul-Rasheed
Seargent At Arms: Roberta Ayers
Nominations Chair: Ashley Golliday

Basileus Report: There was a survey that was completed 3 weeks ago. The syntaktes shared the results with her and said that she was going to send out a letter regarding a plan of action by 9/18/2020, but she had an emergency. We should receive the letter by Monday. As soon as the letter is received it will be shared with the chapter. Basileus Shelia Williams shared the responses with the chapter that she received from the Syntaktes via screen share. There were 61 responses to the survey out of 87 sorors.

Soror LeFlore had a question regarding the plan of action. Basileus Williams stated that the Syntaktes is coming up with a plan of action for the chapter. Her plan of action is from the responses to the survey, as well as input from the legal advisor and mediators in the sorority.

Soror Tolden-Hughes would like to know if the individuals that were named in the survey will have a chance to respond to what was written. Basileus Williams said that the syntaktes is going to have a face to face meeting with individuals so they will have a chance to respond.

Anti-Basileus Reports

- Σ **1st anti basileus** – We have approximately 9 sorors who are reactivating and transferring into the chapter.
- Σ **2nd anti basileus** – (please see emailed report) – She met with the undergraduates on 8/22/2020 to introduce herself. There was no Sigma business conducted. The next chapter meeting will be held on 9/20/2020. There are currently 8 undergraduate sorors.
- Σ **3rd anti basileus** – This position is vacant at this time. Soror Hardin has been in contact with the sorors. They have 4 returning members. The officers are as follows: Basileus - Alanna Wheems, Anti-Basileus – Dominique Williams, Tamiochus – Denisha Griffin and Anti-Grammateus - Regina Sorano. One of the sorors who graduated will be the on-campus advisor as she is employed at Eastern Illinois University. The date of the next meeting is unknown at this time.

Standing Reports:

Tamiochus – (please see emailed report) – July 1, 2020 – opening balance \$67,119.87, revenues \$68,029.75, total expenses \$477 for a balance of \$67,552.75. Scholarship savings account – beginning balance \$15,222.75, no interest, ending balance \$15,222.75.

August 1, 2020 – opening balance \$67,552.05, revenues \$70,377.32, total expenses \$3,697.00 for a balance of \$66,680.32. Scholarship savings account – beginning balance \$15,222.75, no interest, ending balance \$15,222.75.

The proposed budget for the 2020-2020 sorority year as well as the regional and national dues were reviewed by Soror Harriet Jackson-Lewis.

Soror Shanklin would like to know if she was removed from the committee. Basileus Williams informed her that she believes that she forgot to be invited. The Rhosebuds are asking for an increase in the budget due to Covid-19 and not being able to do things with the young ladies in person. They are asking for an increase in the budget from \$200 to \$600. Soror Lewis will get with Soror Martin-Nicholson to advise her of the \$600 that is being requested and they will see how they can factor that into the budget. We will not be able to vote on the proposed budget at this time due to this change.

Soror Tolden-Hughes would like to know why we are being assessed for the AUS foundation. She states that this foundation is a separate entity. She would like to know if the AUS foundation is still active and who are the members of the board. Soror Walker states that she has distributed minutes from every meeting that has been held, however, they have not met in about 4-5 months. She also is in the process of restructuring the board as there has been some sorors who have left.

Soror Shanklin-Young would like to know if the \$7 assessment for the AUS foundation is something that we as a chapter will vote on. Basileus Williams advised that we will be voting on this budget which includes this assessment.

Action Item: Soror Tolden-Hughes made a motion that we remove the \$7 assessment from the budget until we are made aware of what these monies will be used for. Motion properly seconded.

Question by Soror Golliday: She states that the assessment was put in place to cover the cost of things taking place with the foundation. Soror Walker should have the opportunity to speak with the chapter regarding the foundation.

Question by Soror Merritt: She states that she was on the interim board in 2018 and would like to know if a new board has been developed since 2018? The last communication that she received was that the AUS foundation had been dissolved as of January 2020 due to the fees not being paid. Who are the current board members and who is on the committee for the foundation? She asks that if there are new board members can her name and address be removed so that the appropriate people can receive the information.

Soror Walker addressed all of the questions that were asked by the sorors.

Question by Soror Tolden-Hughes: she would like to know what the funds would be used for. Soror Walker states that the funds would be used for the annual assessment and for the fees for the bank account. The bank charges a fee if there is not a certain amount of money kept in the account. Soror Tolden-Hughes withdrew her motion from the floor.

Soror Pamela Jones-King states that all of what Soror Walker just explained to the chapter she has explained before and has offered meetings to the chapter to discuss the 501c3. She would also like to know who are all of the committee chairs in the chapters and how does one go about joining a committee. Basileus Williams states that she will email this information to the chapter.

Action Item: Soror Ingram made a motion that we put a line item in the budget for \$300 for the AUS foundation until the foundation can support itself. Motion properly seconded by Soror Andrea Tolden. Motion carried.

Question by Soror Shanklin-Young: would like to know why the motion is for \$300 when Soror Walker said that she only needs \$140. Basileus Williams states that the monies could be for unexpected expenses.

Action Item: Soror Lewis made a motion that we table the budget until the Rhosebud line item has been addressed and the AUS line item has been added. Motion properly seconded by Soror Geraldine Thomas. Motion carried.

Epistoleus – Madame Epistoleus shared her screen and gave a presentation. She would like to gather pictures of our chapter history to be added to a document storage. She would like the members of the chapter to sign a photo release so that everyone's pictures can be added to the website. The goal is to have this done by 10/1/2020. The website will include being able to pay dues, our minutes, our bylaws, etc. The website domain is sgrhoestl.org. The newsletter "The Rhooyal Buzz" will go out within the next month. The plan is to rebrand all of our social media platforms and would like to introduce chapter hashtags. There were 2 different logo options that were presented to the chapter. There will be a public relations committee. If you are interested please contact her aus.epistoleus.org. Sorors were asked to vote via the chat box on which logo they preferred. Logo 1 had majority of the votes.

Carver King: Is in need of funds to wrap up from last sorority year. Basileus Williams informed her that she will need to request the monies need from Soror Martin-Nicholson.

Grammateus: Madame Grammateus informed the chapter of the increase in the central region assessment. It has increased \$10 for a total of \$44. This may be paid directly to the chapter via cash app or you can send Soror Jackson-Lewis a check or money order. Her address was listed in the email that she sent on 9/18/2020 to the chapter. Regarding national head tax life members are responsible for \$100. Non-life members are responsible for \$250. Military sorors with documentation on file at headquarters the fee is \$200.

All sorors have been cleared to pay their national assessments online. If you are unable to pay online please pay via cash app or via check made payable to Alpha Upsilon Sigma and please mail the check to Soror Lewis. Please disregard the breakdown of the 2020-2021 dues as this will change with the new line items that will be added.

Rhoer Report: The Rhoer Club met on 9/19/2020. Advisors present were: Soror Farmer, Soror Shanklin Young and Soror Merritt. They had 11 Rhoers present on the Zoom meeting. The 2020-2021 offers are as follows: President: Ember Breeding, Vice-President: Mariah Canada, Recording Secretary: Yannah Murphy, Corresponding Secretary: Chloe Roddy, Treasurer: Maryian Bonner, Chaplain: Kaitlyn Jackson and Historian: Camille McDonald. Voter registration was discussed and one Rhoer will be registered on Sigma Gamma Rho website since the International Grand Basileus wants each region to be responsible for the designated number of registered voters to be a part of "When We All Vote" initiated by Michelle Obama.

Announcements: The Hattie McDaniel Initiative will be held on 10/24/2020 from 11a-1p via Zoom. A flyer will be sent out to the chapter to share via social media. If anyone knows a breast cancer survivor that may be will to speak at the event please pass me their information so that I may reach out to them. The next meeting will be held on 10/1/2020. If anyone is interested in joining the committee please reach out to Soror Rucker.

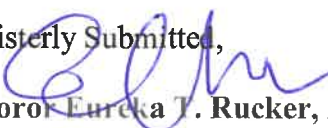
Please keep Soror Antoinette Culp in your thoughts and prayers. She has been hospitalized for over a week.

Soror Hughes has a template for Sorors to sign up for committees

Please keep Soror Dorothy Lloyd in your prayers. She lost a nephew.

Meeting adjourned at 4:41p.

Sisterly Submitted,

 10/3/2020
Soror Eureka T. Rucker, Anti-Grammateus