

Epsilon Sigma Phi – Alpha Rho Chapter Council Meeting MINUTES

Thursday, April 20, 2023 – 3:00 PM by Zoom

Call to Order

Roll Call

Nora Rhoades, Sarah Maass, Marlin Bates, Candis Meerpohl, Cassie Thiessen, Denise Dias, Elizabeth Kiss, Jaime Menon, Jan Steen, Jessica Kootz, Jim Lindquist, Laurie Chandler, Jill Martinson, Patsy Maddy, Sharon Erickson-Fryback

Reports

Treasurer's Report: Marlin reviewed the treasurer's reports the Deb Wood posted in MSTeams, from Sept to March dates.

President's Report: Sarah shared that retirees have to be added to Teams annually, so having them on MST is a communication issue. We are looking into solutions to having a strong communication strategy. Regarding retirees, there has been inquiry about if there is interest on being on a committee or not. We appreciate their wealth of knowledge and experience and the desire to grow/benefit from them throughout the entire organization. Jim Lindquist shared that the Retiree Committee did meet and discuss this. It was a hybrid meeting and included retirees and active professionals. Conesus is that retirees should be encouraged to be involved on other committees and not just default to only being on the retiree committee. Linda Beech is on the Annual Conference this year but doesn't want to be on more than one committee. Nationals does not have a retiree committee and life members are encouraged to be active on other committees. Denise Dias shared that her committee met and Stacy Warner did attend as a retiree and it was very beneficial to have her insight and contributions. It was appreciated. Jessica Kootz had Beth Drescher reach out to provide active involvement. Marlin Bates shared that on global relations committee they did have a retiree involved that was inspired and they wanted to explore national involvement on that committee nationally – Doug Jardine. It would allow him to serve on a national committee he hadn't yet served on.

Marketing and Communications Report: Ethel shared this because she was not able to attend the meeting - Our committee did meet on Tuesday, April 18, and I have completed our Qualtrics survey. We are still working on who will be the Chair Elect. We are checking with two members that were not able to attend the meeting. I will hopefully send you the Chair Elect name soon.

Memorial and Recognition Committee: Sarah is going to rectify the issue with the Annual Conference committee confusion. Now is the time to brainstorm who might be good people to nominate for awards due mid-September.

Recognition Committee: Elizabeth Kiss shared that they came up with a purpose statement,

selected a chair-elect, discussed strategies to promote recognition opportunities so everyone deserving gets nominated.

National Meeting: It would be helpful to start getting a list of what the Kansas delegation may look like. June 1 is the target date of registration opening.

Annual Conference Committee – It was shared there needs to be a retiree letter sharing retiree time to gather at ESP and AC. Susie has traditionally sent the letter/emails out. Retiree activities need to be included in the Annual Conference program. McKenzie Zimmerman and Nora Rhoades are representing ESP on the AC planning committee. The committee will try to meet monthly to stay connected and on-top of the conference planning needs.

Bylaws and Constitution Committee: Jill Martinson shared that as an organization we are caught up due to recent year changes to bylaws and constitution, but the committee will be focusing on policies and procedures this year.

Global Relations Committee: Sharon Erickson Fryback shared they plan to meet quarterly and will meet in May. They will send out emails to members to build and information base. They selected chair elects for next two years.

Professional Development Committee: Jessica Kootz said the committee has applied for a grant to do professional development before Annual Conference as a pre-conference on Monday. They will meet in May to select chair elect. They discussed reaching new members and experienced agents not in ESP, and will look to Center of Engagement/Office of Engage and how they can help us focus on core competencies of extension professional. The Community Development Association may look to partner to do the pre-conference workshop. They are needing to reserve space in the Union and need to follow through with Sarah Keatley to get the pre-conference space reserved.

Other Committees have met and have planned a meeting schedule. They are working on chair elect decisions.

Website is the history/archives: Mary Hellmer is who you work with to get things posted. Minutes are posted to website.

Endowment Board Update: Marlin Bates shared that the Endowment Board has issued and closed a second round of grant applications. They are meeting next week to discuss whether or not and to what extent to fund – two are professional development requests and two are program grants. There will likely still be additional funds to distribute so the group will be considering another date to issue the application process. Encourage people to apply and to become members to apply.

Broader Arching “Assignment” for Committees: Discussion was had about how it helped the new chairs to start communication and help them get moving and find direction with a focus.

While it seemed like the list was long, most got through the whole list and it was concrete way to have a purpose to meet, accomplish a task, and meet each other. We had a good start to think about how things fit together so we are working pro-actively instead of scrambling closer to deadlines. It is appreciated that the committees actively pursued the “ask” because the committee work is seeming more robust than it has in previous years. We seem committed to truly serve the members.

Annual Report due to National by May 1: Sarah as president does this. Marlin is assisting her. It a complex process, but they met and had a working meeting and have already completing the task.

ESP Master Calendar: There is a Working Group of volunteers. Some have volunteered, but can still build up the group more. As you think of your committees and you think of deadlines that make sense – we can get them on a master calendar to provide a map for our organization! Send Sarah those dates in MST in the ESP Channel. This is inspired by the National Master Calendar. The reward will be that we all have a better guide.

Feedback Survey from ESP Committees: JCEP requested feedback and we chose to use committees to gather the feedback. Nora Rhoades prepared the Qualtrics. Purpose statement part was for ESP to help with understanding our committees. Nora will email it out to the listserv, but will check with board first. Exec. Board will discuss it more in-depth and then report to JCEP.

Adjourn