

**Minutes of the Regular Chapter Meeting
Epsilon Kappa of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
March 7, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Epsilon Kappa Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was held on March 7, 2016, at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Austin.

Jewelry donated by members was for sale before the meeting. President Earin Martin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The scheduled program on School Safety was delayed until all guest panelists were present. The first part of the business meeting proceeded.

The minutes for the February 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Marcia Kirkland, Treasurer, was not in attendance. Earin Martin presented the Treasurer's Report for Marcia. The balance was \$3218.74, which included \$180 from the February jewelry sale. Those proceeds go to the chapter's SEE project.

Bernadine Eaton, Nominations Committee Chair, presented the slate of officers nominated for the 2016-2018 biennium. Nominations include Pam Kelly for President, Kathy Mihalik for First Vice President, Cheryl Lane for Second Vice President, and Norma Jost for Secretary. Earin Martin, Marilyn Gregory, and Debbie Sansom are nominated for the Nominations Committee. And Elizabeth Newell and Eva Ornelas were presented as the committee's nominees for the Epsilon Kappa Educational Foundation. Earin called for nominations from the floor. There were none. A motion and second was not required since the nominations were presented by a committee. Bernadine called for a vote. The slate of officers was approved.

Pam Kelly, Membership Committee Chair, presented the Membership Committee's report, including the March 8, 2016, Lunch Bunch date at the Olive Garden. Earin reported that 5 new members were invited to attend the new member orientation at Pam Kelly's home on April 3 and initiation at Elizabeth Newell's home on April 9, 2016.

Earin called for nominations for invitation to membership. By email, member Forrest Hancock nominated Lilian Villafuerte of Madrid, Spain. Lilian is currently employed as a dual language teacher in an Austin ISD elementary school. Earin moved to accept Lilian's nomination for invitation to membership on behalf of Forrest, and Sandi Causey seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Bernadine Eaton, as Vice President of the Epsilon Kappa Educational Foundation, provided members with the Annual Report on the Foundation. The Foundation currently supports two major initiatives: The Phyllis Richards Leadership Grants and the SEE (Supporting Early-career Educators) project. Mary Louise Poolman, a recipient of the Phyllis Richards Leadership Grant, told members that she used the grant to attend the TSO Convention in San Antonio. She encouraged members to apply by the deadline of April 15, 2016.

Earin reminded members about the TSO Convention in Frisco, Texas. The convention is June 23-25, 2016. Our own chapter member and State President, Marilyn Gregory, will throw out the first pitch at the Friday night baseball event for DKG members and their families.

Earin also reminded members about the Area 7 Fall Workshop on August 27, 2016, in Marble Falls, and informed members that Epsilon Kappa is responsible for coordinating the ASTEF raffle. Volunteers are needed to help set up the raffle items and sell ASTEF raffle tickets at the workshop. Breakout session presenters and facilitators for the workshop are also needed.

The fourth invited panelist did not arrive, so the program on **School Safety: Bullying, Cyberbullying, and School Emergency Management/Life Safety Procedures**, began at 6:45 p.m. Moderator Claudia Knowles introduced the three panel members:
William Besse, Vice President, Consulting & Investigations, of Andrews International
Kathy Martinez-Prather, Director of the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University
Christian Evoy, Captain, Austin ISD Police Department

Earin thanked presenters on the panel. The program ended at 8:00 p.m.

The business meeting continued with New Business. The idea of Hospitality Teams was presented by Earin Martin. Every chapter member would be assigned to a Hospitality Team. There would be seven Hospitality Teams, with each team responsible for one meeting per year, including refreshments, greeting members and helping with name tags, greeting guest speakers, decorations (where appropriate), Brag Basket, and clean up. The **team leader** would coordinate with the Arrangements Chair and with team members. Members are welcome to switch with another member to assist at a different meeting if they are unable to help with their assigned meeting.

Earin asked for discussion. Elizabeth Newell suggested that if a member is hosting the meeting at their home, then her team would be responsible for that meeting. Members in attendance supported the concept of the Hospitality Teams. Because Parliamentarian Marilyn Gregory noted at the time that we did not have a quorum in attendance, there was no official vote taken.

Earin asked for any other new business items. There were none.

Earin shared upcoming dates and reminders and thanked hostesses for providing the refreshments.

Sandi Causey passed the Brag Basket, benefitting the Chapter SEE Project.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Kathleen Mihalik
Substitute Secretary

NOTE: It was later determined that a quorum was not in attendance at this meeting for the election of the officers and the approval of the new member for invitation to membership. Nor was a quorum in attendance for the approval of the Hospitality Teams. A quorum currently consists of 22 members. Therefore, President Earin Martin conducted an electronic vote via email on March 13, 2016, for all three items. Thirty members voted electronically. All three items were approved via electronic vote.

ARTICLE IX –CHAPTER MEETINGS Section A – Quorum, as follows:

A quorum at a regular or called business meeting shall be 25 percent of the chapter membership.