

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED
LAMBDA ETA OMEGA CHAPTER
Sorority Meeting Minutes – Saturday, February 13, 2021

Present: Executive Committee Members of Lambda Eta Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Place: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Quorum: Yes
Presiding: Basileus, LaKiesha Harris

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by the Bas Soror LaSonya White gave the prayer. The agenda was adopted with correction, Soror Benita completed the Epistoleus report in place of Soror Renita Davis, by Soror Sylvia Ferguson and was seconded by Soror Betrina Thomas.

The minutes from the January meeting were accepted with corrections from Soror Eloise Turk and Soror Nancy Mitchell, the corrections were grammatical and spelling errors under the connections committee and budget committee reports.

Approval of Minutes was motioned by Soror Deborah Hill and seconded by Soror Paulette Lipscomb.

Officers Report

- **Basileus Soror LaKiesha Harris**

- Madame Basileus' report was emailed on February 01, 2021. However, she did want to draw attention to several key announcements. They are as follows:
 - The SERC will be held on 04/08/21- 04/11/21. The conference will be virtual and the fee is \$75 until Monday, 02/15/21. The late fee will be assessed at an additional \$25. There is an additional fee of \$19.08 for the EAF Tea. This is not mandatory. The \$75 fee will be used to pay for the virtual hosting for the conference.
 - Sorors are asked to send all milestones to be reported to Madame Basileus. Those acknowledgments are due to regionals on 02/15/21. Members are asked to submit information even if they are not attending SERC.
 - Awards are due to either Soror LaKiesha or Soror Iesha by 02/15/21.
 - The chapter handbook is being updated. Sorors are asked to submit headshots in black top/blazers/AKA blazers with a single strand of pearls by 03/01/21. To date there has been only submission. If sorors would like to use their current photo they will need to contact Soror J. Patrice Marbry with that information.
 - There was a called Executive Committee meeting to discuss extending the courtesy of waving 2021 dues to all sorors who were current with their dues. **Soror Patrice Maxwell made the motion and the second was provided by Soror Betrina Thomas to extend the waiver to all sorors who**

pay by 02/01/21. The motion carried unanimously.

- This is our centennial year for SERC. We have been encouraged to participate in the souvenir program book by placing an ad in the centennial souvenir book. For Graduate chapters the price is \$175 for a full ad and \$100 for a ½ page. Outside back cover is \$1500 and inside front cover is \$1000. Soror Jonetta Terry made a motion that we purchase a full page ad. **Soror Michelle Bradford provided the second for the motion. The motion carried with a majority vote for a full page ad for \$175 in the Souvenir Journal.**
- Soror LaKiesha stressed the need to keep in contact with us to get information out quickly. She will create another GroupMe that will be strictly used for sorority business. All other conversations will remain in the original GroupMe.
- Our Pearl Sorors were spotlighted as well as our February
- **Anti-Basileus Soror Sylvia Ferguson**
 - Soror Sylvia's report was sent out in the February Newsletter, First. She did make some additions to the report.
 - For MLK day, our first day of service we had 50 sorors that reached out and completed individual acts of service. Our second impact day, "Pink Goes Red", was very successful. We had 20 sorors reach out to five or more people and urge them to check their blood pressure. We were able to impact a total of 145 individuals who were impacted by those acts. Everyone's participation was greatly appreciated.
 - The targets will be hosting several activities during the month of February to commemorate Black History Month. These activities will include:
 - Target 1: Highlighting individual HBCUs on Fridays through social media.
 - Target 2: Women's health will work in conjunction with the Fundraising Committee for the Tutus, Chucks, and Pearls event.
 - Target 3: Economic Legacy will highlight black owned businesses in the community via our social media pages.
 - Target 4: The Arts will host a Harlem Renaissance Virtual Tour. The sorority will sponsor 10 students in grades 4-12. The cost is \$15. This will be held on 02/27/21.
 - Target 5: Global Impact will have several activities for the community service projects during our centennial conference. We are being asked to donate a minimum of 100 items, in any combination (glasses, pillowcase dresses and shirts, socks & throws, and Soles for Soles). The items will be distributed through the normal means. The dates for collection are 01/31/21 - 04/02/21, there will be a call a thon on 04/06/21. So far we have collected 76 pairs of shoes for Soles for Souls. We will add the throws and socks as a project for an abused women's shelter. The community service projects are listed in the regional SERC program booklet. Soror Turk informed us that there are over 20 dresses that have been made in our storage unit. Soror Michelle asked if the t-shirts can be purchased. It was suggested that sorors that are not sewing will contribute to purchasing the materials.
- **Tamiouchos Soror Charleena Walker**
 - The Tamiouchos report was displayed for sorors and is published.
 - The end balance for sorority accounts are as follows:

- Operations: \$38,466.91
 - Fundraising: \$1,971.85
 - UNCF: \$605.90
 - Scholarship: \$2,557.29
 - Savings: \$2,273.05
- Soror Charleena discussed the requirement in our bylaws to have both the Basileus and Tamiouchos on the checking account. She made the verbal request for both Soror LaKiesha Harris, as well as herself to be added to all sorority banking accounts at both of our financial institutions. This was to inform the chapter that both LaKiesha Harris and Charleena Walker have both been bonded and will be added to all accounts.
- **Epistoleus Soror Benita Davis**
 - There was only one correspondence received. It was a thank you card from Soror Renita Jemison, Benita Davis, and Soror Beulah Harrell for all the love, support, and prayers of intercession on Khori's behalf.
- **Hodegos Soror Betrina Thomas**
 - The following sorors received "Get Well Soon" cards:
 - Soror Jan Avery has had an outpatient procedure; Soror Valerie Brown who had surgery; Soror Edwina Ricks also had surgery; and Soror Sonja's mother received a card as well in January.
 - In the month of February, a sympathy card was sent to Soror Roslyn Potter for the death of her aunt Felicia Rice; a sympathy card Soror Renita Davis for the loss of sister, Felecia Rice; a sympathy card, \$500, and a resolution was sent to the family of Soror Gertie Lowe. The Lowe Family also received food and a flower from the sorority.
 - Sympathy cards have been sent to Soror Bernadette Bush and Cynthia Smith for the loss of their loved ones
 - Prayers request for the following sorors family:
 - Sorors Temika and Soror Missy's father who is suffering from COVID-19
 - Soros Yolanda James and family
 - Soror Sabrina Graves and family
 - Khori Jemison, Sorors Renita, Benita, and Beulah's loved one.
 - Continued prayers for those who are recovering from surgery, suffering from COVID-19, and experiencing bereavement.

Committee Reports

- **Sisterly Relations** **Soror Sandra Graham**
 - Sorors Beulah Harrell and Soror Eloise Turk, our Precious Pearls, will be participating in the Precious Pear virtual event sponsored by 89th SERC. The committee will present our Pearls with gift baskets containing all the materials needed for the event as well as light snacks.
 - The committee planned and implemented a get to know your soror event prior to today's meeting. This is done in an effort to put faces with names. During the month of February, sorors are asked to contact four sorors and "get acquainted" with each other.
- **Membership** **Soror Vashon Watts**
 - The Membership Committee met on January 10, 2021 via conference call. The following items were discussed:

- Moving our chapter's reactivation celebration date to January 14, 2021 because of the National Founders Day Celebration scheduled for January 15, 2021.
- Members voted to move the chapter's celebration to January 14, 2021.
- Welcome Home Reactivation Toolkit; 5K -A Race To The Finish Celebration
- The Chapter's Reactivation Celebration was held on January 14, 2021, VIA Zoom. The celebration was informative and fun!
- Reactivating Sorors were welcomed back and introduced by Basileus LaKiesha Harris, toolkit was shared with new Sorors, question/ answer session followed, a fun music game led by Soror Melcie Guyton, tee shirt contest winner named; Soror M. Perry. A total of 23 Sorors have reactivated or transferred to Lambda Eta Omega! Thank You Sorors for your commitment to service.

- **MIP**

Soror Betrina Thomas

- We will restart MIP. We will resume from the information session, which is where we stopped as a result of the pandemic. We will have to submit and have our dates approved by Madame Regional Director. The start date is still to be determined. The committee is working on completing the COVID-19 Risk Mitigation plan. The rough draft of the plan is now complete. In addition to the completion of the Risk Mitigation plan, the budget is currently being revised.
- The schedule of activities will be composed of a seven-day process. These days will be broken into weekends. Weekends one and two will include Friday and Saturday. Weekend three will include Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The committee is planning to have the face to face sessions at The Venue so that we will be able to meet social distancing requirements. Rituals will be performed on day one, part one and on day seven part three. There WILL NOT be a MIP luncheon due to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines.
- Those in attendance for face to face sessions must have a negative COVID-19 test for both days. The test must be done within the three days of the face to face meeting. It has been strongly suggested that we have the absolute minimum amount of people present for those days. Face to face meetings will not take place until May or June of this year.
- ALL participants in the virtual sessions will need to be on a desktop, laptop, or Chromebook. NO MOBILE devices will be allowed to be used.
- Further information will be given once we receive the MIP Handbook.

- **Archives**

Soror Doretha White

- Our first task is to consider three facts to be used to highlight Lambda Eta Omega for the One Hundred Day Countdown for Regional. The committee chose to highlight **UNCF, Debutante and Outstanding Mothers' Program.**
- Also, at this meeting, the committee has been asked to submit a five slide presentation of the chapter's history. The committee decided on:
 1. Pictures of charter members
 2. Pictures of each Basileus from the chapter's beginning to the current one
 3. Pictures of all initiation lines made through this chapter.

4. Pictures of the Pearl and Golden Sorors of the chapter
5. Pictures of all Ivies Beyond the Wall that were a part of this chapter.

- Long range goals to work on are:
 1. New updated chapter history book
 2. Scrapbook/ digital scrapbook

- **Standards**

- **Soror Ashley Lewis**

- As of today there have been 56 sorors who have completed and returned their code of ethics form. The goal for the chapter is to have 90% of the chapter to complete and submit the form.
- Soror LaKiesha stressed the importance of having the form signed and completed. Soror Mandisa offered to assist sorors in completing this task.

- **Finance Committee**

- **Soror Charleena Walker**

- The Budget and Finance committee met to follow up on the discussion pertaining to the number of bank accounts and financial institutions currently possessed by Lambda Eta Omega. The Finance committee would like to recommend leaving the 2 banking institutions (Regions and The Exchange Bank) with 6 bank accounts; no change is required.
- In November & December of 2020, Sorors Mandisa and Charleena wrote the checks for the Thanksgiving and the Christmas projects in the amount of \$1404 from the operating account. Typically, projects such as these are paid out of the fundraising account. Since there are currently very minimal funds in the fundraising account, **it is recommended by the Finance committee that the funds for these projects be covered by the operating account and no transfers be made from the fundraising account. Soror Mandisa Perry motioned and it was seconded by Soror Betrina Thomas. The recommendation was accepted with a majority vote of yes.**
- **The Financial policy was emailed out with the recommended changes in red font. The changes were minor changes. The motion was seconded by Soror J. Patrice Marbry. The recommendation was accepted with a majority vote of yes.**
- The check request voucher has been uploaded on our LEO website for easier access. If you need assistance getting check requests completed, please reach out to Soror Mandisa who will assist in getting the proper signatures electronically.

- **Technology Committee**

- **Soror Iesha Williams**

- The Meeting & Event Support Technology committee attended the MIP Webinar hosted by the international MIP committee. The following attendees were registering for either 1/19 or 1/21 sessions: ▪ Iesha Williams, Erika Heard-Robinson, Sonja Anthony, Jennifer Rowe
- The South Eastern Regional conference is hosting a separate MIP webinar on 2/8/2021
- Committees can reach out to Iesha at the lambdaetaomegatech@gmail.com to schedule a meeting using the chapter's Zoom. Only 1 committee meeting may be scheduled at the same time. A google calendar has been added to the website in the Members Only section that allows everyone to see what meetings have been scheduled (that the tech committee has been made aware). Committee chairs should have access and editing rights for the calendar.
- Members have been trained on using Strikingly, the application used for

website maintenance. Ivy and Pearls Community Advancement Foundation web updates are being made to the website. Annual updates of the site include updating the Officers and Photo Gallery pages. Website team will make Quarterly updates for website content along with monthly members only updates.

- **Connection Committee**

- **Soror Yvette Latham**

- The committee is asking for all sorors to become financially active in the NAACP. Membership for the organization is \$30 annually. The application is available electronically. Soror Paulette Lipscomb will receive and attend to all applications. The suggested dates for a membership drive are 03/15/21 - 04/15/21.
 - Save the Date for AKA Day at the Capitol which will be held on 05/06/21. Registration and cost is to be determined. They are asking for volunteers to serve on committees. The committees and responsibilities will be distributed following the sorority meeting. The deadline to sign up for committees will be 02/20/21.

- **UNCF**

- **Soror Beulah Harrell**

- The total amount of pledges received from WMGJ was \$2,020, of which \$1,710 of the pledges were collected. There were 22 people on their list that did not call in or pledge any amount. These sorors will be responsible for paying the \$100 per our bylaws.
 - Overall the sorority took in \$9,200 in money and pledges. This figure does not include money sent through PayPal.

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- **Education**

- **Soror Jonetta Terry**

- The committee met and reviewed Goals and Objectives of the committee and discussed potential collaboration efforts with #CAP, HBCU and The Arts! Committees
 - READ ACROSS AMERICA is scheduled for March 2, 2021 (Soror Mandisa will look into finding schools or classrooms for us to read to students). Sorors are asked to contact Soror Jonetta or Soror Mandisa if you would like to participate. If you are not able to read to the students and you are not available during the day, you can still participate by submitting a recording of you reading a book.
 - The committee would like to provide virtual tutoring in the areas of Reading / Math for grades K-8. Soror will be asked to sign up to see if we have enough to participate before further discussing.
 - The budget was discussed. We now have \$250 for educational enrichment; \$2556.65 from last Debutante. The committee would like to provide \$5000 total (5 - \$1000 scholarships):
 - Academic Merit
 - Need Base
 - UNCF recipient
 - HBCU recipient
 - Education Major
 - Three proposals:
 - **Name the Education Scholarship the "Mildred Woody Education Scholarship" the motion was seconded by Soror Paulette Lipscomb. The recommendation was carried with a majority vote of yes.**
 - Receive \$1,000 from the UNCF radiothon to be given to a recipient

that attends a UNCF school.

- Receive \$1000 from the HBCU Jam to be given to a recipient that attends a HBCU. Soror Jonetta will reach out to the committee for further discussion.

- **Risk Management**

Soror Patricia Granger

- Met to adopt the 2021 and 2022 risk management plan. The committee would like to present the plan to the Executive Committee at the March Executive Committee.

- **Fundraising**

Soror Sabrina Graves

- Soror Sabrina discussed the Chucks, Tutus, and Pearls Fundraiser. Each participant is asked to donate \$19.08 per submitted picture. This donation is tax deductible when paying through the Ivy and Pearl Foundation. Half of the donations made will benefit the American Heart Association. Donations can be made without submitting a photo.
- The committee is exploring the possibility of a virtual party. Details and information will be given as the plan progresses.

- **Foundation**

Soror Sylvia Ferguson

- The Ivy and Pearls Community Advancement Foundations, Inc. sent gift receipts to December 2020 donors Jan 24th and Jan.27th, 2021.
- In response to Charleena Walker request to separate the Foundations Treasurer duties, we have disseminated duties as follows:
Correspondence Secretary and Assistant Treasurer -shall receive funds, shall enter regularly in the books of the Corporation.
- Directorate members are currently attending a four-week Chapter Foundation Series, we will make suggested updates to the Foundations documents and bylaws as warranted. The updated bylaws will be distributed to Foundation members.
- The Foundation has asked sorors to use Amazon Smile if they make purchases from Amazon. Because we are a 501C we can receive donations from each purchase. The website is smile.amazon.com.
- A meeting for the members of the foundation will be held in March. This meeting will be separate from our regular chapter meeting. All funds for the UNCF should be given to Soror Michelle Bradford. Tax deductible receipts should be available a month after the donation.

- **Pecunious Grammateus**

Soror Tanyeka Boley

- LEO received \$8,490 during the month of January. Soror Tanyeka displayed her report and it is available on the website. Payments can be made by four methods: cash, check/cashier's check, money order, or PayPal. Please DO NOT send cash in the mail. To make payments via PayPal the preferred method is via your bank account. If you use a debit card the transaction will incur a fee. If you use a credit card the fee will be taken from the amount that is being paid this method will ensure that you are not charged any fees. If you need to make cash payments, please call Soror Tanyeka to make arrangements.
- If mailing payments, please mail them to:
 - Soror Tanyeka 244
Kaiser Blvd Apt 2505
Madison, Al 35758
256-328-3779
- The 2020 assessment and fees should be paid at this point. If your fees have not been paid, please contact Soror Tanyeka. 2021 Assessments of

\$60 are due by 03/31/21. 2022 EAF (\$10) and National Dues (\$125) are due by 12/11/21.

- **Unfinished Business**

- **New Business**

- **Delegates**

- Delegates shall be elected by the chapter. Delegates are voted on by the chapter unless there is only one person nominated for each spot. There is a question of what membership number that we should use for determining the number of delegates. As of 02/01/21 we had 85 active sorors, which would give us 7 delegates. If the number used is from 12/31/20, we would have 87 members. This would entitle us to 8 delegates. If we used our unofficial count we would have 107 members, which calls for the number of delegates to be 9. Soror Turk suggested that we have to go with the official number. Soror Deborah agreed with Soror Turk.

- Delegates are expected to be on the call the entire time

- Soror LaKiesha expressed her wish that Soror Iesha Williams be considered as a delegate.

- Soror Turk recommended the following sorors as delegates for SERC and the chapter voted with a majority of yes votes:

- Soror LaKiesha Harris (Bylaws)
- Soror Sylvia Ferguson (Bylaws)
- Soror Iesha Williams
- Soror Charleena Walker
- Soror Tanyeka Boley
- Soror Betrina Thomas
- Soror Patrice Marbry
- Soror Sandra Graham (alternate)
- Soror Vashon Watts (alternate)
- Soror Yvette Latham (alternate)

- **Meeting Conflict**

- Due to conflict with the Regional Conference the April meeting needs to be moved earlier or later. The chapter voted for 04/17/21 as a change in meeting date.

- **Questions/Concerns/Announcements**

- Soror Belinda will participate in a COVID-19 discussion with New Destiny on 02/19/21 at 7 pm.

- Any soror who has not had a COVID-19 vaccination can call the Etowah County Health Department and schedule an appointment.

Adjournment