

**Gastonia Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Chapter Meeting Minutes~January 14, 2021~ 6:34pm  
Zoom Meeting**

Opened with prayer by Soror Harris

A quorum was present

**Call to Order:** Motion to adopt the agenda with the addendum to add Social Action and Fundraiser made by Soror Green; seconded by Soror Walker. Motion carried with a vote of 42.

Motion to adopt the December Executive Board meeting minutes and Chapter meeting minutes made by Soror Walker; seconded by Soror Maxwell with the following changes: Physical and Mental Health Report, change Young Mother's Residence Home to Mira Via Services. Correct spelling of Trustee (Dr. Johnathan Williams) in the Executive Board Minutes. Motion carried with a vote of 45.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Local-** Soror Richardson

- None

**National/Regional/Local-** Soror Pettiford

- (VIRTUAL) National Founders Day Celebration: January 16, 2021 at 4:00 pm ET. Founders Day address, and many more surprises. You won't want to miss this event as we come together for the first time virtually to commemorate 108 years of sisterhood, scholarship, and service.
- In honor of our country's new leadership and historical presence in the upcoming administration, [D4 Women in Action](#) is pleased to host its Inaugural D4 Fundraiser featuring Isaiah Thomas, Black women community leaders, and special honorees. The proceeds for this fundraiser will support the Chisholm Jordan Institute. January 23, 2021 at 8:00 pm \$100 per person  
Registration:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/d4-women-in-action-inauguration-inaugural-toast-tickets-135491720383>
- Burlington Alumnae Chapter presents Crimson & Cream Virtual Gala on Saturday February 13, 202 from 7pm-9pm cost is \$25.00. Silent auction, DJ KJ and live jazz.
- Cabarrus Health Alliance presents "Journey to a Healthier Me" virtual session topics that focus on food choices, physical activity, stress management, etc. No cost. Contact Soror Alicia McDaniel, Healthy Living Program Manager at 704-920-1255

**Chapter Officer Reports**

**President-** Soror Pettiford

- The Presidents Round Table was held on January 12<sup>th</sup> various compliance updates: March 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Audit Report due, August 31<sup>st</sup> Internal Audit due.

- Discussed the South Atlantic theme “Mind What Matters Most” focus on becoming a better you by becoming a better you, changing your mindset and figuring out what is most important in life. Chapter Spotlight-The Charlotte Alumnae Chapter was recognized for their fundraising efforts.

#### Treasurer-Soror Walker

- Submitted for information only
- Dues for the 2021-2022 fiscal year will be due March 31, 2021. Trying to get the amount lowered from \$250.00 (local)
- Reimbursements: MIT, Turkey Day, Academy & Gems, and Education
- Motion made to use money (\$100.00) allocated for Gaston County Community Concerns to go towards African American Museum at Loray Mills was made by Soror Williams; seconded by Soror Richardson. Motion carried with a vote of 43.
- Reconciling books due to outstanding checks

#### Financial Secretary-Soror Frierson

- Submitted for information only

#### **Committee Reports-5 min each, please**

***NOTE: Committee Reports need to be submitted prior to the Executive Board meetings each month.***

#### **Arts & Letters- Soror Green**

- The book for this month, and we will read the first 150 pages, is a Nonfiction book recommended by Soror Jennifer Joyner called *Perfect Peace* by Daniel Black. We will also read the 9 page book by Soror Cherie Feemster called: *A Walk Down Phonics Lane*.
- The Spotlight for this month is an Amazon Original, on Prime Video, called “*All In The Fight for Democracy*.” How the right to vote went wrong, featuring Stacy Abrams, the first Black Woman to become the gubernatorial nominee and founder of voter suppression advocacy group Fair Fight Action. We asked the chapter to look at this film last month and in November, but we are going to ask the chapter again to take a look at the life of Stacy Abrams, what is happening in Georgia, and what Stacy has done to help Georgia in so many ways.
- The next featured film we will watch is called: *SOUL* on Disney Pixar and *Sylvie’s Love* is on Amazon Prime.
- We discussed buying books on Audio on Amazon. There are several reasons to use audio. One reason is the narrators can hold your attention because the narrator's expressions and other effects bring the books to life. Audio is cheaper than buying books and you can sit still or walk around, work while listening.
- We discussed when the weather gets warmer to exercise more, walk together, with masks and social distancing of course, and find something you do just for YOU!
- Our next A & L Committee Meeting will be February 4, 2021 at 6:30 pm and our last meeting for this fiscal year will be May 6, 2021 at 6:30pm.

#### **Courtesy-Soror Crawford**

- The following courtesies were extended:

## December

- Soror President, Michelle Pettiford received Congratulations card for graduating on December 12, 2020 & received her Doctoral degree.
- Soror Janet McCullough received Sympathy card due to the passing of her uncle, Mr Robert McCullough
- Soror Katrina Corbett received sy

## **Delta Academy & Gems-** Soror Knight & Soror Brewer

- The Delta Academy and GEMS committee and participants met on Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 10:00am. The title of the workshop was “Realizing your Leadership Potential: The Power to Lead.” Our very own Soror, Soror Donyel Barber, was the keynote speaker. Soror Barber did an awesome presentation that focused on “becoming leaders in your community.” The workshop was engaging, as the girls were able to ask and answer questions about leadership. Soror Barber also touched base on African-American women who are currently in leadership, as the girls named Kamala Harris, Michelle Obama, Oprah Winfrey, Viola Davis, and many more. They were also given opportunities to express how they view leadership and how they are already showing some type of leadership, whether it's at home, school, church etc.
- The Delta Academy and GEMS participants were able to wear “holiday clothing” as they drank hot chocolate from their mugs that were gifts provided by the committee which were labeled Delta Academy or Delta GEMS. At the end of the workshop, the girls expressed that they enjoyed and learned so much about leadership from the workshop. We had a total of 19 Delta Academy/GEMS, and 9 Sorors who attended the workshop. Pictures have been emailed to the technology committee.
- Saturday January 16th, the Academy and GEMS virtual meeting topic will be “College and Career Planning”. It will be led by Soror Mildred Denise Coley.
- The Gaston Foundation Virtual Run-February 1st Sign-up and donations. April 17th event day and one volunteer per non-profit

## **Emergency Response Taskforce-**Soror Gibson

- “Sisters, Service, and Safety”
- Soror Gibson attended a webinar on Delta Emergency Response. Beginning with the 2021-2022 sorority year, Emergency Response will be a chapter compliance item, with documentation to be completed in the red zone.
- Each chapter must have an Emergency Response chairperson at minimum, and ideally an ERT committee. Each chapter must submit a yearly emergency response plan, including providing Sorors with red envelopes with personal demographic/medical information.
- Sorors should have a red envelope in each of these places: their vehicles, at work, and when they go out in the community/attend events.

- There should be a communication plan and a “drill” at least twice per year for Sorors to be prepared to respond to an emergency, evacuation, natural or man-made disaster, or other event. Each chapter should submit documentation and pictures of their training.
- During and after an emergency, evacuation, a natural or man-made disaster or an event, a situation report (new) will need to be submitted to the state ERT coordinator who will then forward the information to the regional ERT coordinator, who will then forward the information to the national ERT coordinator. The SITREP will describe the situation and the post incident. This report will generate information on whether Sorors are accounted for, and will determine whether a rescue phase and/or a recovery phase is necessary.
- During an emergency, a natural or man-made disaster or an event, chapters are to activate their chapter phone list.
  - ERT
    - Emergency Plan for your family
    - Red Envelope in your purse and care
    - Talk & tell a Soror (or family member/friend) the time and location of where you’re going to be.
  - Helpful websites/Resources
    - cdc.gov
    - hhs.gov
    - sba.gov
    - State & Local Agencies
    - DREF (has a disaster assistance application)

#### **Nominating Committee- Soror Leach**

- The Call for Nominations
- The following officers and positions are up for election: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Chair of Nominating Committee, Core members of the Nominating Committee, and Chair of the Internal Audit Committee.
- The responsibilities and duties for these positions can be found in Article 3 Section 1 in the Policies and Procedures Manual
- The Candidate Profile application will be sent out after the meeting. The completed profile is due on or before midnight on March 18, 2021 and will be returned to [nominating@gastoniaalumnaedst.org](mailto:nominating@gastoniaalumnaedst.org)
- Candidates for nomination should have attended one State Meeting, Regional Conference, and/or Nationals Convention prior to her nomination. Candidates for President and Vice President should have attended all three.

- The slate of Chapter officers and positions will be presented at the March Executive Board meeting for information purposes only. The slate of Chapter officers and positions will be presented at the April Chapter meeting. Voting will occur in May.
- There will be no campaigning
- Two members recuse themselves from the committee; Soror Reynolds and Soror Duggins

#### **Physical & Mental Health-** Soror M. Davis

- Items for the Mira Via Services are still needed; pampers and sanitary supplies. This Saturday January 16<sup>th</sup> Soror Davis will be at her office from 12pm-2pm. Please reach out to Soror Davis to make further plans. Her contact information is: [crendavis@aol.com](mailto:crendavis@aol.com)

#### **Founders Day-**Soror Hillard McCray

- GAC Founders Day will be Jan.24, 2021, at 1 p.m. South Atlantic Regional Director Dr. Trish Johnson will be the speaker with the theme, *Celebrating the Legacy of 22 with Class and Elegance*

#### **Social Action-** Soror Ballard

- Due to the pandemic we are encouraging those over 55 years old get vaccinated
- Promote attendance virtually of governing bodies. Work to prepare candidates for elected government offices. Get status of the effort of the Gaston County Commission to remove the confederate monument and remove the fence from the Unity Plaza.
- Tom Keigher (the new chairman of the County Commission) said the issue of removing the Confederate Monument did not have the votes. He said the best chance would be after a qualified organization agreed to take possession.

#### **Fundraiser-** Soror Maxwell

- Sales thus far-\$258.65, seven people have placed an order
- Goal is \$10,000.00 in sales-\$100.00 per Soror
- Challenge is for each Soror to Purchase a box of cards and send a card to a Soror.
- When an order is placed use the code "GASTONIA in the Fundraising comment field OR it could be placed in the comment field." If you have any questions, please reach out to Soror Dawn Maxwell. <http://www.artfulgreetings.com/>

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Risk Management concerns in regards to social media needs to be addressed

#### **New Business:**

- Audit is coming up for periods October-December 2020
- Dues can be mailed to P.O. Box

#### **Announcements:**

- Soror Granita Boyd has been diagnosed with cancer and hospice has been called in. Prayers are needed during this time.
- Education Committee meeting Thursday January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM
- Dance Committee will brainstorm ideas
- Concerns about Google Docs not being received by all members. Suggestion for a phone tree to be used to deliver important information.
- Birthday shout-outs: Soror Williams, Soror Ballard, and Soror Guthrie

**Adjournment:**

Motion made to adjourn made by Soror Richardson; seconded by Soror Harris. Motion Carried with 38 votes. 8:25 p.m. with closing prayer and inspirational word by Soror Harris

**Present:**

Michelle Pettiford  
Deardre Gibson  
Treva Johnson  
Johnsie Richardson  
LaShannda Walker  
Andrea Frierson  
Yolanda Burris  
Lisa Reynolds  
Faye Harris  
Karita Duggins  
Wanda Grier  
Marilyn Green  
Renee Knight  
Lillian Williams  
Priscilla Brewer  
Williette Herring  
Africa Otis  
Cheryl Perkins  
Joylette Hillard McCray  
Erica Berry  
Deb Bowden  
Jannelle English  
Cherie Feemster  
Steffani Ford  
Kandice Horton  
Jennifer Joyner  
Robin Leach  
Tabatha Lynch  
Dawn Maxwell  
Janet McCullough  
Rekita McDuffie  
Vontina McGrant  
Tasha Roberts  
April Spruill  
Tamara Thomas  
Angela Wilson  
Betty Worthy  
Brenda Ballard  
Mildred Coley  
Mary Connor  
Katrina Corbett  
Tega Crawford  
Maya Davis  
Elizabeth Sido

**GAC Sorors:**

Jamie Brooks  
Tasha McCluney  
Sherry Smith