Beta Alpha Chapter

Delta Kappa Gamma Society

October 27, 2020

This meeting was held virtually through Zoom. The meeting started with a short presentation from the YWCA CEO, Erika Taylor, who reported on their event held in September. She reported that their auction netted $13,300 and donations netted $20,069 for a grand total of $33,069. She explained that the donations will help their residential program which has 20 beds and varies in the number of resident women plus family members. She discussed the programs which relate to children of moms with sobriety and domestic violence situations. She stated that during the times of this pandemic the Y provides flexibility regarding the length of stay requirements, all the while, preparing their clients for independent living.

The Live Y’ers program is a K-12 after school program which starts in 3rd grade (through 5th grade), for which girls are bussed to the Y. The program provides academic enrichment including STEM activities, hygiene, nutrition, dental health, programming on bullying prevention and building positive relationships. Girls in 6th grade are matched with mentors and the mentor provides a lunch for her mentor, where they meet and eat together in the school media center. This relationship builds slowly through just talking, life coaching and getting to know each other until the 12th grade. There is a dinner at the Country Club around the end of the graduation year of these girls, who are invited to attend the dinner with their mentor. They have a 100% graduation and 0% teen pregnancy rate for this program.

Covid-19 has dampened what they normally provided, but the Live Y’ers leaders have made home visits to provide at-home activity kits and books, which have reached more children than if they were at the Y. They have also provided food to those children through partnerships with Feed Evansville. They were just given permission from EVSC to take the girls to the school media centers and provide Zoom sessions with them. The schools are served at this time are Lodge, Bosse and Glenwood. The school determines the student and criteria for the program.

Dora Feagley, a Y board member, mentioned she is grateful for the community involvement. The Y appreciates our generous donations of school supplies, personal hygiene supplies and small gifts to give those girls who earn points from their prize closet. They will provide us a list of ideas for Christmas gifts and put us on their mailing list for newsletters.

\*\*The business meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Simone Nance. She reported that the minutes were sent out and she didn’t have a Treasurer’s report. The Book ‘Club’ will meet virtually on January 14 to discuss the book, “Unveiled Truth, Lessons I Learned Leading the International School of Kabul”, a DKG Society International Educator’s Award winner.

Simone stated that the Alpha Epsilon state convention will be in Plymouth, IN next spring and she is gathering pictures of our members’ donations to the YWCA, for our convention poster.

Angie Schonberger stated that we were planning to initiate a new member tonight (JoBeth Bootz), but the plan changed due to a family commitment by the initiate arising that afternoon. We will initiate our new member at the November meeting.

Gwen Barnett said that her program is planning to do the Thanksgiving food donations again, for which we have provided turkeys in the past. She said since Covid-19, we can’t enter the building but she thinks she can accept turkey donations outside her lab door. Gwen thought we should be able to provide turkeys through Friday Nov. 20. More details to follow.

Lorie Maltby will try to have the Standing Rule changes provided by the state incorporated into our chapter Standing Rules ready for the November meeting. Lorie is also working on the red book updates and Simone offered to help with whatever she could do.

Jeanine Minor provided a Legislative Committee report that the Evansville Teachers’ Association is backing Jeff Worthington and Amy Word for School Board.

Simone mentioned that Alpha Epsilon State is providing a virtual Leadership Academy, for which she sent an email to chapter members. The application gives details about who and what the five sessions will entail.

A discussion of the Pound Auction for the next meeting concluded with the need for members to provide a picture to Darlene Dycus of their wrapped item (weighing approximately one pound) before November 11th. Darlene will number the items and set up a place for members to view the items virtually and start bidding on Nov. 11th. Final bids will be taken the night of our Nov. 17th meeting. Details on getting the gift to the winning bidder will be worked out later. Also, members may invite friends to bid and purchase the pound auction items.

Stephanie Walsh, our Alpha Epsilon State liaison, was with us during the meeting and mentioned the convention in Plymouth. She said that the state chapter will go ahead with an in-person convention unless the governor won’t allow gatherings of a certain size. Otherwise, if Alpha Epsilon State cancels the meeting, they will lose their down payments on the building use. The state is looking for presenters. If interested in presenting, contact Stephanie Walsh. Also check out the Alpha Epsilon State Facebook page to which Stephanie contributes to find updates about our state activities.

Those members we haven’t seen in awhile were mentioned and Barb Nichols will send cards to them to let them know we are thinking of them. Mary Lou Winsett’s 60th membership year would be this year, but she is in an Alzheimer’s unit and her sister-in-law controls her affairs.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Submitted for Kerseclia Patterson, Secretary by Carolyn Bucko, 1st V.P.