

Gamma Alpha ZOOM Meeting October 15, 2020 Minutes

Call to Order

Virtual Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Carole Lower and Amy Wright

Presidents' Report

Items will be discussed in **New Business**

Minutes

There was a correction to the minutes. The current dues are \$85, not \$80. Motion made to approve the corrected minutes was made by Jackie Smart and seconded by Lynne Elsesser. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Cindy Dietz sent the 2019-20 Financial Report and 2020-2021 Proposed Budget. Pam Sayre made a motion to approve the Financial Report and it was seconded by Jackie Smart. Motion carried. After an open discussion, there were changes made to the Proposed Budget. It was decided to include the website fee, increase printing, postage, special projects, Gamma Alpha's annual donations to International and State projects: Schools for Africa, DKG Education Foundation, World Fellowships, and the state's Members Supporting Members (\$100 each). Amy efficiently made changes to the Proposed Budget in real time for members to review and emailed copies to everyone after the meeting. Jackie Smart made a motion to approve the updated Proposed Budget and it was seconded Fran Saenz. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Corresponding Secretary Report – Jackie Smart reported that the yearbook has been sent in for judging as well as two newsletters. Both are posted on the chapter website. Have a look at the yearbook. Members may want to consider updating their biographical information. The yearbook is password protected. The password can be found on the cover of the chapter calendar/phone booklet. The Strategic Plan has been sent in to J-Jay Pechta for review. Liz Frazier reviewed the last newsletter. Switching hats, in my role as State Executive Secretary, the State Convention for 2021 is still being discussed, but may be cancelled.

Grant in Aid

Be sure to encourage new women educators to apply for the grant. The application is found on the website. Cindy will send the second part of the grant-in-aid to Jessica Walker. Jessica bought Kami (a digital classroom app built to transform any existing document into an interactive learning experience,) Screencastify (enables teachers to make learning more personal in their blended and flipped classrooms by recording full and/or bite-sized lessons, assignment solutions and explanations, verbal student feedback,) Math Posters, a plug-in white board, and PPE.

Seedlings- Judi Fischer reported that a Seedlings email was emailed to the membership featuring a virtual open house. This was an "Under the Radar" segment for a couple of years ago. They are also having a virtual silent auction as a fundraiser.

Beverly House- Judy Morante gave them the money for the take-out meal and Disney + for the year. She was able to set it up on their television. Lynne Elsesser and the girls planted some fall flowers.

Annual Auction- Jackie reported the annual auction is not happening this year. We are requesting a donation of \$50-\$65 which is less than you would spend if you attended. About five people have already sent donations. Send your checks to:

Cindy Dietz
7329 Gilman
Westland, MI 48185

Membership- Continue to seek out women educators who may be interested in joining Gamma Alpha. Our website is full of helpful information: Gamma Alpha Chapter Brochure, DKG and New Member Orientation, Gamma Alpha and the Community, Gamma Alpha Strategic Plan, New Member Prospect Card, Recommendation for Membership form, Orientation and Induction information. In Ranae Beyerlein's State President newsletter, she included information for the World Fellowship Drawing. Also, our own Amy (tech wiz) volunteered to assist in facilitating Zoom Meetings for chapters who need some help. Linda Clark and Lynne Elsesser will meet with Carole Lower about membership.

Old Business- None

New Business

- **DKG's Virtual Fall Workshop** was held 9/25 and 9/26. Jackie attended two of the three sessions. "Putting Me First" was presented by International Speakers Fund, Cynthia Moore (Canadian member.) She helped show attendees how we can adapt our schedules to make time for personal wellness. We experienced ways to relax and exercise through accessible movement activities, like relaxing through breathing, cardio exercise, strength training, yoga, and meditation. She shared current wellness research, personal reflection, and self-care resources! The second session was "Experiencing International Education as a Curriculum Director and Teaching Consultant in Hong Kong, Qatar, and UAE." Carla Gipson, Beta Gamma, shared personal stories about her educational adventures traipsing the world and meeting people from a myriad of nationalities. She said the tragedy of 9/11 and its aftermath-the quest for a new 'enemy' compelled Carla to put to test her belief that people were beautiful (heart, soul, and, mind) everywhere. Attendees were able to glean ideas for discussing issues of cultural diversity in the classroom and in their personal lives.
- The state is hosting a workshop "**Cooking Healthy and Delicious Food**" on Zoom Wednesday, November 11th- 7:00-7:30 pm. The invitation was emailed. The email has a link to register. You must register at least 24hours in advance to attend.
- Gamma Alpha's **Holiday Get Together** is December 10th Holiday Happy Hour Meet. Margie has a large living room and dining room so we can social distance and wear masks. The decision to cancel or proceed can wait till November and we can do a vote by email since things keep changing.
- January 21st Zoom Meeting- "Cruising into January." Please send photos to Amy or you could share your screen when talking about your cruise or tips for cruising.
- February 3rd- "Virtual Happy Hour." Send Trivia Questions to Amy with multiple choice answers.
- Birthday Celebrations
October- Lynne Bemer, Alice Duke, Lisa Austin

November- Linda Dobrzeniecki, Amy Wright, Sherry Green, Sarah Elsesser, Jose Engle, Pam Emerson

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn the business meeting was made by Jackie Smart and seconded by Margie Sievert. Motion carried. Business meeting adjourned at 7:35.

Our program for the evening was “**Education in the Time of Covid.**” The traditional classroom setting has vanished. It has been replaced by distance learning and hybrid distance learning (class combines a traditional class with some students attending in person and instruction captured in the classroom that is then shared with students viewing the class and completing coursework remotely.) Teachers' adaptability and dedication have been tested. Pam Sayre, Jennifer LaRose, Jessica Walker, and Joanna Eiwen shared their experiences teaching in this crazy, ever evolving time. Each had similar and different challenges to face. Our hearts go out to these incredible educators.

Joanna Eiwen, Recording Secretary

Linda Dobrzeniecki, Recording Secretary