

**HALL COUNTY ALUMNAE CHAPTER
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
North Georgia Community Foundation
340 Jesse Jewel Parkway, Suite 600
Gainesville, GA 30501
Minutes of the November Chapter Meeting
Held on Saturday, November 18, 2023**

Pre-Meeting Safety Briefing: Soror Melanie Floyd presented the safety briefing via PowerPoint.

Chapter Members Present: Denise Arnold, Vallorie Coley, Sue Davis-Westmoreland, Kenya Ficklin, Melanie Floyd, Erica Glenn, Natasha Iszard, Sheriah Johnson, Gloria Maddox, Angela Middleton, Alisha Moore, Georgette Riggans, Francia Tolbert, Shirley Vereen, Deborah Washington, and Lisa Williams (**A quorum was present for the transaction of business.**)

Visiting Sorors: Ashley Jacqueline Sullivan, Shiela Tabron, and Neisee McArthur-Williams

Call to Order: Soror Sheriah Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The meeting proceeded with the ritualistic opening.

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was adopted as printed. (General Consent)

Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes were approved as printed. (General Consent)

Correspondence: In the absence of the corresponding secretary, Soror Sheriah Johnson reported that the following items were received from the post office mailbox: bank statements, and a thank-you card from Soror Shirley Vereen for the Peace Lily the chapter sent during her bereavement. Soror Sheriah Johnson relayed that all regional and national correspondence is emailed to every chapter member. Chapter members were sent an email concerning the Omega Omega Ceremony for Soror Sonya Perry, a member of Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter.

Chapter Reports

President: Soror Sheriah Johnson expressed a happy Saturday and a welcome to all. Soror Sheriah Johnson reported the following concerning the **Southern Region Monthly Executive Committee Meeting (October 17, 2023) with the Regional Director:**

- Soror Amaris Johnson referred sorors to go back and watch the membership **Fireside Chat-Membership Intake recording**. The delay for alumnae chapter approvals is that the conference and attendance reports in the Red Zone were broken. Soror Amaris Johnson could not see past the year 2017. National Headquarters has fixed the report. Soror Amaris Johnson will start looking at data to see which chapters will be approved for intake. Soror Amaris Johnson discussed eligible and ineligible packets and the final vote. She looks over all the packets and has done her due diligence to make sure everything is in order before the information is released. The **Georgia State Cluster** registration link has been released. Upload 80s and 90s pictures to the link that was sent out.
- **Regional Secretary's Compliance Update:** Sixty-three percent of chapters in the Southern Region have completed compliance. Presidents should check the dashboard to see what is missing from their chapter.
- **Scholarship and Standards:** Soror Sabrina Polote announced the following upcoming webinars:

- A Nominations and Elections Regional Recap Webinar was held on October 25, 2023, which was intended for Nominating Chairs and committee members, chapter presidents, and collegiate advisors.
- A National Policies and Procedures Webinar will be held on February 5, 2024, at 8 p.m. ET.

Scholarship and Standards is doing a service area review and reconciliation. The committee will review service area definition on P&P/ROOF with National Headquarters' records. Discrepancies require proof of the approved service area modification. Documentation began on November 1, 2023. Soror Sabrina Polote provided an update on quorum. A quorum is the minimum number of members who must be present at the meeting for business to be validly transacted. Twenty-five percent is the minimum for Executive Board meetings, committee meetings, and chapter meetings.

- National Finance Committee Update: Soror Toni Johnson gave a reminder to pay corporate fees. National and local dues for FY 2024 are payable July 1, 2023 – October 15, 2023. The \$10 late fee period is October 16, 2023 – December 31, 2023. The \$15 or \$30 reinstatement fee period begins January 1, 2024. The chapter budget needs to be approved before December 31, 2023. The 2022-2023 Short-Year Annual Financial Report (July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023) is due by February 28, 2024.
- The Awards and Recognition Committee: Applications were released on November 1, 2023, and the deadline is November 30, 2023.
- Collegiate Updates: Soror Jailyn Martin presented the updates.

Soror Sheriah Johnson shared that she hopes everyone was able to register for the **Georgia State Cluster** when registration was opened for host chapters. If not, please try and register with the general link that was sent out. Soror Sheriah Johnson reported that up to 2,200 members have already registered. **Hotel Accommodations Update:** Soror Sheriah Johnson relayed that leadership is aware that some sorors may have experienced challenges securing hotel lodging. They are working diligently with the hotel booking company to provide additional options. Once additional rooms are secured, it will be communicated. There are alternative housing options available in and around Athens, Georgia, that members may find of interest, i.e., other hotel options, short-term rentals such as Airbnb or Vrbo. Soror Sheriah Johnson read a letter from the **North Georgia State Coordinator** concerning the 2024 Georgia State Cluster updates, fundraising, and sponsorship opportunities. The letter included information concerning the prices and inclusions for each sponsorship level for the cluster. She also gave information concerning digital ads and the designer bag giveaway. **Alumnae Sponsorship Levels** are as follows: “Raheem the Dream” Platinum Level (\$1,000), “TLC” Gold Level (\$500), and “Kris Kross” Silver Level (\$250)

Soror Sheriah Johnson stated that a recommendation by the Executive Board is to purchase the “TLC Gold Level” sponsorship. There were nine (9) chapter members in favor of the recommendation and two (2) in opposition. The chapter will purchase the “TLC” Gold Level sponsorship.

Please be reminded that the monthly Exec Check recordings are emailed to chapter members.

Soror Sheriah Johnson submitted a detailed report that is on file.

First Vice President/Membership Services (Hospitality and Courtesies): Soror Denise Arnold reported that there are 34 financial chapter members. First-time visiting sorors were asked to introduce themselves. The Thanksgiving luncheon will take place after the meeting today. Soror Denise Arnold shared information concerning the following: Sunday worship service at St. Paul UMC; brunch at Avocado's; Delta Internal Development (DID) Workshop held on Nov. 4; Reclamation Challenge; recognitions for Delta Dolls, Delta Divas and Delta DEARS; and S.P.O.T. Awards.

Second Vice President (Program Planning and Development): Soror Erica Glenn thanked everyone who participated in the Habitat for Humanity Women's Build. A review of the program calendar for the remainder of the year was given as follows:

- **December 3, 2023:** Christmas on Green Street (The fee is \$60. The number of sorors who sign up to participate will be the determining factor of chapter participation for the event.)
- **December 9, 2023:** Red Kettle Campaign (SignUp Genius)
- **December 12, 2023:** Executive Board Meeting
- **December 16, 2023:** Chapter Meeting (Adopt-a-Family gifts and budgets are due. SignUp Genius will be used for Adopt a Family. There are three families from each of the school districts in Hall, Gainesville City, and Forsyth. There is a total of nine children.)

Soror Erica Glenn shared volunteer dates and times of the Gainesville Community Thanksgiving Feed event.

- **Hours:** 1-3 p.m. or 3-6 p.m.
- **Monday, November 20, 2023:** Wash chicken and make sauces.
- **Tuesday, November 21, 2023:** Chop vegetables.
- **Wednesday, November 22, 2023:** Mix dressing and prepare rice pans.

Soror Erica Glenn submitted a report that is on file.

Note: Soror Sheriah Johnson relayed that the Habitat homeowner was thankful for the build. The chapter is invited to work again.

Financial Secretary: In the absence of the financial secretary, Soror Sheriah Johnson read the financial secretary's submitted report for October 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023, and November 1, 2023 – November 14, 2023.

- 2024 Membership Dues (25 sorors financial): \$9,500
- DG Popcorn Fundraiser (17 sorors participated): \$3,742.29
- November Luncheon (20 sorors paid): \$400

Treasurer: Soror Sheriah Johnson reported that the treasurer's report has not been submitted. Soror Patricia Lee is out of the country.

Budget and Finance: In the absence of the committee chair, Soror Sheriah Johnson read the email that Soror Patricia Lee sent to the chapter, which follows: It is time to submit budget requests for the 2024 fiscal year. A detailed budget request form is attached to the email. Committee chairs need to think about activities for next year and request funds accordingly. This will be the budget for fiscal year 2024. Budgets are due to the Budget and Finance Committee by November 17, 2023. Send the completed budget request form or any questions you may have to treasurerhallcountydst@gmail.com. Please be advised, if you do not submit an official budget request, the committee will decide on what funds will be allocated to your committee for activities. While I am out of the country, please contact Soror Johnson for answers to any questions.

Fundraising: Soror Erica Glenn read the email that Soror Jasmine Mays sent to the chapter concerning the Double Good popcorn sale. A total of \$6,247 was raised. Double Good takes half of the proceeds and the chapter receives the other half. While online sales have officially ended, people can still donate via PayPal, cash, check, or money order. To ensure that the finance team record accurate numbers for the fundraiser in a timely manner, the team is asking that everyone please be ready to turn in donations (PayPal, cash, checks, or money orders) by the chapter meeting on November 18, 2023. A spreadsheet will be maintained of everyone who participated in order to keep track of how much each soror raised. Soror Jasmine Mays

thanked sorors for their hard work in promoting the fundraiser. A final number will be given once all monies have been received.

Policies and Procedures: Soror Vallorie Coley shared that the chapter website will be posted soon. Until then, please refer to the first chapter email reminder that was sent by Hall County DST on September 15, 2023, to locate the Chapter Policies and Procedures in the Google Drive folder link. Proposed amendments are due on December 16, 2023. Soror Vallorie Coley submitted a report that is on file.

~~Georgia State Cluster Committee:~~ Soror Denise Arnold relayed that 2,200 sorors have registered for the cluster thus far. The committees are actively planning. The program booklet may be purchased for \$15, and the T-shirt for \$25.

Unfinished Business

- There was no unfinished business.

New Business

- There was no new business.

Announcements

- Congratulations to Soror Sheriah Johnson on her job promotion at NCR Atleos! She is now the Deputy Chief Compliance Officer.
- The Tau Eta Chapter of Brenau University will hold its Initiation Ceremony today, November 18, 2023, at 5 p.m. The attire is black, NO PANTS. Arrive 30 minutes early and bring your membership credentials if you plan to attend. The ceremony will be held at the Brenau Downtown Center, 301 Main Street, SW, Gainesville, GA 30501. The New Initiate Presentation (NIP), which has been moved to the gym, will begin around 7:13 p.m. If you plan to attend, send a confirmation email to Soror Jailyndrick at mitauctadst@gmail.com.
- Soror Lisa Williams shared that she was appointed to the National Emergency Response Team.
- Soror Denise Arnold shared that her daughter will be graduating from the University of North Georgia in December.

Adjournment

- **MOTION:** Soror Whitney McDowell-Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. **SECOND:** Soror Alisha Moore **ACTION:** Motion carried with no opposition.

Soror Sheriah Johnson closed the meeting and proceeded with the ritualistic closing.

Respectfully submitted,

Vallorie Coley

Vallorie Coley, Recording Secretary

APPROVED: *Sheriah Johnson*

Sheriah Johnson, President

DATE: 12/16/2023