

EPSILON SIGMA PHI
BOARD MINUTES
April 25, 2000
Sedgwick Co. Extension Center
Wichita, KS

Libby Curry, president, called the spring board meeting of Epsilon Sigma Phi to order at 10:20 A.M. There were some opening announcements. She announced that she will send the National Strategic plan out soon. Libby distributed a form for committee chairs to use for writing down the responsibilities of their position and their committee.

There was brief discussion and general agreement that tacking the Epsi Board meeting on to another meeting, in theory, seemed a good idea. However, the reality is that not very many of the board made this meeting nor have they attended well at other times when the board has met in conjunction with another state meeting.

Secretary, Lois Carlson, distributed the minutes of the February Board meeting. They were reviewed and approved as corrected.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

President Libby reported on the PILD conference in Washington D.C. which she attended. Dr. Flood, speaker from North Carolina strongly encouraged working with advisory committees. Dr. McDowell from VA Tech also spoke. His whole concept was if extension keeps doing what they are doing they are dead. Local clientele are saying there needs to be more programming for families. If there are no federal funds, how will extension function. We are going to look much different in the future. Same old way isn t going to get it.

Vice President - Roger Terry - No Report

Secretary - Lois Carlson - No report

Treasurer - Stacey reviewed the Treasurer s report. Total assets are \$22,865.68. The number of voting delegates Kansas gets is based on paid membership as of 3-1-00.

Stacey sent a letter to retirees still paying regular annual dues. All but one has opted to take out life membership at the lower rate.

Since 1992, our chapter has paid out \$15,477.00 in grants for program innovations and professional development. Since 1994, \$21,000 has been given in financial assistance.

Historian - Bob Furbee sent a report. He continues to collect past annual banquet programs for the archives at Hale Library. He also needs ideas for possible articles for our newsletter.

Editor - Laurie Chandler reminded everyone about the deadline for the next newsletter. Any information for annual meeting needs to be in the next newsletter.

NW Area - No Report

SW Area - Jean reported there had been some progress in getting people to pay dues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Retirement Equity Committee - Dave Schafer sent the following report:

The Retirement Equity Issue was moved forward as per the plan devised in mid-to-late 1999, but reached a hold point in late March due to an unfavorable political climate in the state legislature for law changes relating to any fiscal matters.

The goal which was agreed to last fall is still to provide a supplemental 4 + 4% employee-employer matching contribution for actively employed CSRS plan participants. Funding was to be from internal Extension fund sources. However, for this small exception to the State's retirement statute, minor language changes are required in the statute. Hearings needed to be held to receive legislative approval.

Those language changes have been proposed. Hearings were about to be held in the House Appropriations Committee/Subcommittee in late March at which Steve Fisher and Dave Schafer had been asked to present background info on this issue. At the last moment, those hearings were canceled. Director Johnson's comments below summarize well the current situation.

On advice of the subcommittee chair, with a warning that with the present mood of the Legislature we would likely lose the \$280,000 and not get the retirement program, we withdrew our request for the bill. It will not come up again this year. The representative has promised to run the bill next year first thing if we still want it, and we do, given better conditions.

Dave Schafer, Chair, Retirement Equity Comm

Recruitment and Retention - Nadine Siegel attended to represent John Forshee who was unable to attend. The committee is visiting with the Treasurer on membership responsibilities and will have more to report at the next meeting.

Endowment Fund - Steve Fisher, Endowment Fund Chair. He outlined plans for the Alpha Rho Endowment Fund Campaign, 2000. Co-chairs Ann Domsch and Clarene Goodheart and committee have been meeting and have planned some promising strategies to move our current principal of about \$55,000 dollars to our goal of \$100,000. This should allow us to nearly double the number of grants we give each year. Since our beginning in 1992, we have awarded 37 grants for a total of \$18,697.

Plans for 2000 Campaign:

1. Condo vacation opportunity-Clarene and Loren Goodheart have graciously donated a week's vacation at either Branson, Mo or Williamsburg, VA for the spring of 2001. Contributions for tickets for this opportunity are \$5.00 for one, or 5 tickets for \$20, and are available now from

your Area EPSI council representative, or endowment Fund committee. Member Jack Lindquist, has supported this drive by putting together a brief promotional video about the condo vacation. It is being shown at the 3 agent association spring meetings in April, 2000 and tickets are available now through Annual Conference, when the lucky ticket will be drawn.

2. Committee member Jack Lindquist has approached Dean/Director Marc Johnson, and Marc has agreed to allow us to auction two seats in the College of Agriculture's press box for a home football game this season.

3. The third and most significant long-term strategy is to again offer the payroll deduction plan, where members can automatically have an amount withheld from their paycheck and it will automatically be deposited in our Endowment account with the KSU Foundation. The committee is soon going to be putting out a letter with sign-up sheets to begin this process.

4. The committee also talked about an auction at Annual Conference which would be a way to involve the retirees.

Memorial Committee - Eric Otte - No retirees to report so far this year.

Annual Conference Committee - This committee has met once and will meet again in May. The committee needs help. The majority of the committee is made up of researchers who don't attend. County people need to share their thoughts on what they want to have with Donna Martinson or Vicki Overly.

Strategic Plan - Highlights will be listed in the next newsletter and members of the Epsi Council will receive a complete plan. Roger will work with Laurie to get it in the newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS

The I m a 10 Campaign : Kansas collected \$2,455.00. We fell short \$1,055 of the \$3,510 we were supposed to collect.

Walter Barker moved that the 10 Program contribution be taken up by the Resource Committee. Seconded by Lois Carlson. Motion carried.

DUES - Possible dues increase scenarios were discussed at length. Fred DeLano's committee needs to prepare a proposal by the July meeting.

Roger Terry moved that discussion of dues structure be turned over to Resource Management Committee; that they report to the council, with recommendations at the July meeting and that membership be informed in the August newsletter. Seconded by Jean Clarkson-Frisbee. Motion carried.

Roger briefly mentioned by-law alignment and the need to look into it. Need to check out Article III.

We had to conclude the meeting as we ran out of time.

Eric moved and Roger seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion Carried and meeting adjourned at 12:10 P.M.

Lois Carlson
Secretary