

Epsilon Sigma Phi – Alpha Rho Chapter Council Meeting
Thursday, February 16, 2023 – 3:00 PM

Call to Order – Rachael Clews called the meeting to order at 3:00pm

Roll Call: Nora Rhoades, Rachael Clews, Anna Muir, Cassie Thiessen, Debra Wood, Elizabeth Kiss, Jaime Menon, Jan Steen, Jennifer Wilson, Jill Martinson, Laurie Chandler, Patsy Maddy, Sharolyn Flaming Jackson, Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Marlin Bates

Officer Reports

- Treasurer’s Report: Deb Wood reviewed the documents posted under the MS Teams financial reports folder.
- President’s Report: Sarah Maass was not present, but provided a written report and Rachael Clews discussed the talking points.
 - Attended the ELC meeting last week in KC. Lots of great sessions and speakers. More will be written up for the newsletter for Jennifer (coming soon, Jennifer...I promise!).
 - Sarah is finishing up the committee assignments and emails will be sent out to the committee members soon with the responsibilities. We do need some committee chairs. Any ideas for: Professional Development Committee and Marketing & Communications Committee? Sarah is happy to recruit but wanted to see if anyone would know of someone that may be passionate about these areas.
 - Need to brainstorm names of members that are not on the Council, because the Council reps are already representing a committee. Share ideas to Sarah ASAP.
 - Looking for a group of 2-4 individuals willing to work on an ESP master calendar (deadlines, scholarship options, etc.). Anyone interested?
 - We discussed different approaches to accomplishing this. Deb and Rachael said they would help Sarah compile the dates. Jennifer shared a national calendar that we could reference and work off of. Discussion was had that a list-style of document would be most helpful.
 - Committee duties have been updated as amended at the meeting in October. By-laws have been updated. Will be working with Mary H to get our ESP website up to date. This will happen after the committees have been finalized.
- Other reports:
 - Rachael Clews shared that she received a PILD scholarship to help with the expenses of attending the conference on behalf of ESP.
 - Marlin shared that there has been work to improve dispersing the endowment funds. The applications were combined and there was a December opportunity added in 2022 to apply. There is still funding that needs to be awarded, so watch for another application opportunity.

Committee Reports

- Jennifer Wilson is working on behalf of the recognition committee to get our state award winners submitted to nationals by the March deadline.
- Discussion about the endowment auction that has not been included as part of annual conference for a few years. Instead, the committee has encouraged contributions in other ways. It is important to try to build the endowment and there are not very many professionals contributing through their payroll option at this time. The university campaign has changed in the last few years, making the promotion of payroll deductions less, so promotion needs to be done by our organization. It might be helpful to promote more than once per year to KSRE professionals. It was also suggested to talk to the KSU Foundation to hear their recommendations on how to rejuvenate the payroll deduction option. The 2022 retreat notes suggest that the endowment auction committee will merge with the resource development and management committee, and this committee will continue to focus on this topic.
- Marlin shared how the Council can be helpful in supporting the work of our committees as there is a representative from Council on each committee. This will help make sure that our committees are meeting, members understand their roles, and are helping ESP conduct the work of the membership.

Business

- Committee chair suggestions for Professional Development – see notes under President’s report.
- Committee chair suggestions for Marketing & Communications – see notes under President’s report.
- ESP Master Calendar working group volunteers – see notes under President’s report.
- KS-JCEP Survey Results/Feedback Requested – JCEP shared feedback from the survey that was conducted last fall and reported on at the Annual Conference JCEP meeting. Each association is asked to seek additional feedback from our membership specifically related to the questions of:
 1. How has this professional organization (ESP, KACDEP, KACAA, KEAFCS, KEA4-HA) supported your career?
 2. What are some ways our professional organization (ESP, KACDEP, KACAA, KEAFCS, KEA4-HA) can help new Agents coming onboard? What would this look like?

Discussion was had about how to gather membership feedback since we do not have a spring association meeting. Various options were considered such as seeking feedback by an emailed survey, during committee meetings, or having a full association meeting virtually. Nora Rhoades made a motion to use an emailed survey to seek feedback from membership followed by a full association meeting conducted via Zoom. Second by Marlin Bates. Discussion had about these happening in spring 2023, with the survey

possibly happening in March and the Zoom meeting in April. It was noted that the ag association will be meeting March 28-30, the 4-H association is meeting April 19-20, and the FCS association is meeting during United Associations Conference on March 2-3. The next ESP Council meeting will be April 20 by Zoom and the ESP Executive Board will be meeting on March 16. Motion was brought to a vote and passed. The Executive Board will organize the effort.

Announcements

- Discussion about how to increase promotion of the association to agents and encourage the value of being a member of a professional association. While sharing about associations has improved at new agent training, we need to have more strategies to engage new agents and experienced agents in the conversation about being a member of ESP.
- It was shared that there are 64 active members. There are 22 dues pending members, and it is the responsibility of the Regional Council Directors to reach out to pending members and encourage them to complete their enrollment for the year. Even if the national deadline has passed, we encourage them to enroll and engage at the state level. Deb Wood emailed Regional Council Directors lists of pending members earlier in the year.

Adjourn: Deb Wood moved, second by Jennifer Wilson. Passed. Adjourned at 3:50pm.