

Epsilon Sigma Phi

Pi Chapter

Board Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2009 -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon

Pi Chapter Board meeting via teleconference

Present: Neil Broadwater, Gwen Gmeinder, Toni Smith, Neil Broadwater, Phyllis Onstad, Shirley Anderson-Porsch, Marcia Woeste, Jerry Tesmer, Kay Stanek, Kia Harries, Heidi Haugen, Tim Dolan, Janet Beyer

Proposed Agenda:

1. Additions to agenda

Motion to approve agenda as sent by Kia Harries, seconded by Marcia Woeste.

2. Secretary's Report –

Minutes for March 3 minutes were approved as sent.

3. Treasurer's Report –

One person went from regular to life member. One person became active member from inactive member status. Very little activity has occurred and includes regular expenses and reimbursement for national JCEP workshop.

Marcia Woeste moved, Phyllis Onstad seconded motion to allow Jerry Tessmer to use his discretion and select the best rate available for the certificate of deposit for the ESP fund to be renewed in the near future.

4. Committee Reports

a. Awards and Recognition

Neil sent out a memo asking for help reaching the ESP platinum level at the national level. The last newsletter article asked for nominations but no responses have been received.

b. Fundraising

No activity. If we have an annual conference, this would be the year for the silent auction. We may want to look at contributions to MEWS and life donations.

Any thoughts or ideas can be sent to Shirley Anderson-Porsch.

c. Global Relations

Tim Dolan stated that an article about the Minnesota group that traveled to Brazil has been submitted to national ESP.

For those wanting to access more exchange information, sign-up information in on the ACDI-VOCA website. Use this site to explore overseas opportunities.

d. History and Archives

Kent is interested in scanning more files to electronic documents for historical storage.

e. Legislative

Toni Smith briefed the board on recent actions.

AMC Extension Committee unanimously accepted the 0 percent increase for MOA and went to three months for termination of all contracts.

State budget is dependent on the MN legislature which has one more week to complete their work.

NARFE Minnesota conference is next week at Detroit Lakes. Some additional parental leave for federal employees is working its way thru the system.

Toni encourages everyone to join the legislative network for current information and also continue to thank legislators for their support.

f. Life Members/Retirees

Gwen Gmeinder said that 196 Extension Retirees will be receiving the electronic UM Extension newsletter that will be sent out next week.

The Dean's retiree reception, usually held in the spring, has been postponed and will likely be held in September in connection with the state fair. Aimee Vinard Weidemann is planning the event.

g. Membership

Three new life membership and three new associate members have joined this year.

All recent retirees will be contacted about continuing life membership in ESP.

Suggested retiree gift for a colleague or friend's retirement may be a life membership to ESP.

h. Newsletter

Heidi Haugen asked for board preference of one column versus two column newsletter.

The next newsletter will be sent in August or September prior to the annual meeting.

i. Professional Improvement

No plans yet until the annual conference is known.

j. Scholarship – guidelines report

One request for an ESP scholarship came from Liz Templen. The committee has had a conference call and did accept the scholarship application.

The committee is working to determine the amount of dollars that are available for scholarship.

The committee is working to record the current policies that the committee is using.

5. Old Business

-- Does each committee have more than one member at this time?

There is only one person on life retirees, membership and awards committees at this time. More committee recruiting will be done.

6. New Business

a. *Chapter web site discussion (see attachment sent last Friday, May 1).*

Overall the website has a great look. The Board looked at the website draft and made suggestions for changes that may make the site easier to access or read. Neil Broadwater is continuing to update the draft website.

b. *ESP annual meeting –*

Marcia Woeste said that MAEE suggested that an alternate meeting in the St Cloud area be planned for the same dates as the annual conference for the week of October 12 to 15 should the annual conference not be held. Dean Durgan will be making an annual conference announcement in May about the annual Extension fall program conference.

c. *Strategies for a membership campaign for late summer/fall --*

Neil Broadwater has been searching for information about the membership campaign that the chapter is using to clearly help the chapter reach the platinum level. The membership committee is currently using e-weekly to solicit membership to make the membership available to all employees. A Minnesota Pi Chapter brochure was suggested. Kia Harries will be drafting a brochure for the board to review.

7. Announcements

The national ESP meeting will be in Fargo in September. Details are on the national ESP website. Kay Stanek moved, Shirley Anderson-Porsch seconded the motion that the Pi Chapter provide an item for the silent auction at the national ESP meeting in Fargo.

8. Adjourn

Moved by Gwen Gmeinder, seconded by Jerry Tesmer to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 AM.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, August 13