

Virginia State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha Minutes of October 3, 2021 Meeting

The VSC Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on October 3, 2021 at the Skelton 4-H Conference Center in Wirtz Virginia by President Mindy Boyd.

Mindy verified that all voting members had a voting card, gave instructions to silence cell phones, and lead the attendees in the opening ritual.

Brenda Orebaugh gave the chaplain's message.

Mindy welcomed everybody to the sphere angels (messengers) and expressed the hope that everyone had enjoyed the Leadership. She thanked Carol Campbell for her efforts in planning a great day. She expressed the sentiments of all the attendees that she hoped we are at least partially finished with the COVID pandemic.

Sue Danielson reported the credentials

- Attendance: 19 chapters on roll, 17 chapters present, 8 VSC Officers present, 28 Members present for a total present at the meeting of 36.
- Votes: VSC Officer votes 7, Delegate Votes 13 for a total of 20 votes. A quorum was present.
- No guests or first-time attendees were present.

Mindy introduced the Head Table followed by the introduction of the Past Presidents, also known as Mindy's Guardian Angels (Protectors) who were asked to give their year(s) as VSC President and Theme. Chapter Presidents were recognized and thanked for their leadership.

Marie LaDuke reported the VSC 2021 Convention minutes were approved as published and distributed via email. The committee (Marie and Tammy James) was dismissed.

Judy Williams and Theresa Morris were appointed to review the minutes of this meeting.

Marie LaDuke read the following correspondence:

- Congratulations from Beta Kappa and multiple members
- Thank you from Alpha Omega for keeping them in your thoughts and prayers
- Email from Betty Allen expressing regrets that she is unable to attend the meeting
- Best Wishes on Leadership & Meeting from Carol Campbell & Bev Scott

Treasurer, Jenny Brunelle presented the financial report summarized below:

Checking Account:

Balance forwarded from 5/22/2021	\$2,954.11
Deposit of dues	528.00
Disbursements	67.37
Balance on Hand	\$3,414.74

Savings Account:

Balance forwarded from 5/22/2021	\$4,829.13
Interest	0.12
Balance on Hand	\$4,829.25

The Auditors, Theresa Morris & Margaret Schools reported that the State Project Books for 2020-21, VSC Treasurer Books for 2020-21, and the VSC 2021 Convention Books were accurate and in good shape. This committee was then dismissed by President Mindy.

Officer Reports

First Vice President Beverley Wright described the benefits and joy that we get from being members of ESA and the struggle that we have experienced over the last two years trying to get members to participate in the leadership of the VSC by being an elected officer or appointed officer. Each member was given a card at the beginning of the meeting and was requested to search their heart and fill out the card indicating the position or positions in which they would be willing to serve. Her report ended with a poem by Edgar Guest titled **Tomorrow**. Let's not wait until our Tomorrow's run out.

Second Vice President, Priscilla Browning expressed that ESA has been the Best Kept Secret for 90+ years. She expressed that there is no time better than the present to recruit new members. IC has the Ambassador Program that will give you free dues if you recruit 4 new members by May 31. If you recruit 1 new member, your chapter (including the new member(s)) will be invited to a Music themed Celebration Party on November 18 via ZOOM. She provided some of the ways that IC has provided to help with recruitment. They are found at epsilonsigmaalpha.org/Recruitment. A few of the ideas presented at this site are

- Football Party
- Choctober, a Chocolate Party held in October
- Taco Party
- Mom Prom
- Game Night featuring Bingo, Bunco, or Trivia

There are tips and tools on who to invite and ready-to-use graphics. Tracy Swanson at headquarters is available to assist in your endeavor.

Recording Secretary, Eveleen Harrison – No Report

Corresponding Secretary, Marie LaDuke reported that she created the VSC Yearbook which she distributed in September. If you need/want a “how to” fix the alignment, contact her. She will pass these on to next year’s Corresponding Secretary. Please let her know of any changes or corrections.

Treasurer, Jenny Brunelle – No additional Report

Parliamentarian, Beth Sherron presented the following bylaw change initiated by the VSC Executive Board due to the difficulty getting a slate of officers. Eliminate the following

ARTICLE VI ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 3. No member shall succeed herself/himself in office and no member shall hold more than one (1) VSC office at a time.

Jr Past President, Brenda Bowersox reported that she placed an article in the Last Lamplighter about the major changes in the application process for assistance from the Disaster Fund. The main emphasis is the application form should be sent directly to the International Council Jr Past President/Disaster Fund Chair (currently Lee Ann Wray). The forms and instructions are on the ESA website under Chapter/Council Management – International Forms. She encouraged each chapter to try to raise \$10 per member for the Disaster Fund this year. Checks should be made out to “ESA Disaster Fund” and sent to Brenda Bowersox who will track the donations by Virginia and forward the State report and monies to the IC Disaster Fund Chair.

President, Mindy Boyd thanked everyone for the honor to represent the state. She was proud to carry the Virginia state flag at the IC Convention. She placed information on the ELK’s club in the chapter folders. Mindy shared an article from the AARP magazine telling about some of the recently minted quarters that had errors and were worth more than face value. Check your change! Mindy also reported on an experiment conducted by some TV personalities that found it made them feel better to give a complement than to receive one. Try it, you might like it! She encouraged everyone to check out the new VSC website. She ended with a message from Kindred Spirits, “Forever Waky Friend”.

Committee Reports

Association of the Arts – Brenda Bowersox asked if you had taken any pictures this weekend of the beautiful surroundings or at the D-Day memorial, if you knit, sew, or do other needlework, paint, or any other craft, or write. If so, she wants you to showcase your talents at the convention in the Association of the arts. Encourage your chapter do enter something.

Chaplain – Brenda Orebaugh stated that she has been shown the reality of the saying “Life is Short” with the passing of several members. She would like to receive some HAPPY news from the chapters as well.

Convention 2022 – Ginger Hodges reported that the 2022 VSC convention will be held in Roanoke May 20-22 at the Hilton Garden Inn on South Peak Boulevard with a theme “Southern Starts Here”. Registration is \$130.

Disaster Fund – Brenda Bowersox stated that all of the disaster fund information is in the Jr. Past President’s Report.

Easter Seals – No Report

Educational Director – Doris Hood has received a **new** reporting form from the IC Educational Director which is on the IC website. A copy was placed in each chapter folder. The form will be placed on the Virginia Website. Please direct any questions to Doris at Hooddoris@gmail.com or call 703-491-5078.

ESA Foundation – Debbie Langfitt has been attending the virtual training sessions given by IC. There are a lot of scholarships available, so we need to get the word out. Don’t forget to pay your Foundation dues.

ESA for St. Jude – Susan Caldwell reported that the IC St Jude Coordinators Lauren Ryan (senior coordinator) and Heather Hoey (junior coordinator) have created a private coordinators face book page where the state coordinators can get updates and ask questions. She has attended a Zoom meeting and is sharing the following:

- The booked event form has been discontinued but the Completed Event form will still be submitted as usual
- You will need to contact your ALSAC representative or ESA HQs for the Tier Level on the Completed Event form
- The Completed Event Form and the St Jude Donation Form are on the ESA website under Chapter/Council MGT-Forms-St Jude forms

She gave the St Jude totals from 2021 IC:

- Virginia - \$1,108,140
- ESA - \$14,784, 109
- ESA Lifetime total - \$327,310,940

Susan then lead a celebration of the many different projects that Virginia has had over the years.

Richmond will not be hosting a Dream Home in 2021 due to the fact that the planned home was a condo and the land would not be owned by the winner. Richmond will have a Dream Home in March 2022. Norfolk has completed their Dream Home valued at \$650,000 and Lynchburg had an outstanding sale –selling out in just 8 days! That home is valued at \$856,164.

Finance Director – No Report

Historian – Diane McLane’s report was presented by Marie LaDuke. Simply being at the Leadership and Fall State Council meeting, you are making history. All you need to do is write it into your report. Every time your chapter does something document it, add a picture now and then, put it into a folder, and send it in to be added to Mindy’s history.

Hope for Heroes – Ginny Hatchell provided information on the Elk’s Lodge who have asked for help with their program “Welcome Home Vets”. The program provides supplies for Veterans who moving from homeless into a home. A list of the items needed was placed in the chapter folders.

Lampighter – Theresa Morris thanked all for their articles and kind remarks. She hoped that the membership found the new format easier to read.

Philanthropic Director – Sue Stone’s report was presented by Marie LaDuke. As of today I have received philanthropic reports from five chapters – off to a good start. Chapters do not have to wait until year end for reporting. It’s much easier for chapters to keep track of the accumulated hours, monies and miles for the current year by reporting after they have completed a philanthropic project.

Philanthropic Report Forms have been placed in the chapter folders. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Scrapbook/Photobook -- Lou Ann Wyer reported that Mindy requested to have a digital book this year. Please send your pictures and a description digitally.

SERC - Sue Foy gave some background information about what is SERC. The states that are members are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. SERC meets once a year at its annual Conference. This year that will be Oct 28-30 in Nashville TN. Mary Smith has asked the SERC states to help a Nashville Charity by providing toiletries, clothing, entertainment and other items to help children moving into a foster/adoptive home. Candidates for SERC offices have been placed in the chapter folders. Marie LaDuke and Susan Caldwell are on the Finance Committee this year and helping to raffle off wreaths and a quilt.

State Project – Judy Williams reported that \$1,643 was sent to both ASK and Special Love last year. Judy will be selling raffle tickets for an opal and diamond angel with a retail value of \$100. Ticket prices are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Social Director – Gaynell Krista, no report.

VSC Webmaster – Lou Ann Wyer reported that Rusty has updated the VSC Executive and Appointed Boards. If you want anything added, you need to send the information in the exact format that should be displayed. Pictures should be in jpeg or png extension. **Do not send** pictures in word format. Send your requests to Lou Ann at l.wyer@cox.net.

Unfinished Business

- Auditor's – Theresa Morris & Margaret Schools reported that the State Project Books and the VSC Treasurer's Books for 2020-2021 were audited and found to be accurate and in good shape. The VSC 2021 Convention Book was audited and found to be accurate and in good shape.
- The PPA Bazaar made \$472
- Lucky numbers made \$260

New Business

- The election of SERC officers will be left to the discretion of the members in attendance at the SERC Conference.

Announcements

- Next Lamplighter articles are due to Theresa Morris by January 14, 2022
- Mindy's next Spirit Newsletter will be published October 15th. Chapter information should be submitted by the 10th of October and each month thereafter.
- Second half VSC membership dues must be mailed on or before April 1.
- The Spring meeting of the VSC will be March 19, 2022 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Roanoke
- The VSC Convention will be May 20-22, 2022 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Roanoke
- The Chinese auction will be held in the hall following the closing ritual.
- The Closing Ritual will immediately follow adjournment of this meeting.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 and was followed by the Closing Ritual.