

**Virginia State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha
Minutes of March 25, 2023 Meeting**

The VSC Meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. on March 25, 2023 at Vision of Hope United Methodist Church in Harrisonburg, VA by President Beverley Wright.

Beverley verified all voting members had a voting card, gave instructions to silence cell phones, and led the attendees in the opening ritual. She also noted a guest speaker would be arriving and that she would break into the agenda sequence when he arrived.

Lou Ann Wyer gave the Chaplain's message and led us in prayer.

Beverley welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting. She gave an informative explanation of the building and mission of Vision Hope United Methodist Church.

The Credentials Committee, Theresa Morris, reported:

Chapters on Roll:	16	Officer Votes:	7
Chapters Present:	16	Delegate Votes:	18
Members Present:	33	TOTAL VOTES:	25
Officers Present:	8		
DESA's:	0		
Guests:	3		
MALs:	0		
Total Attendance:	44		

(Full Report Filed)

A quorum was confirmed present, as according to the VSC Bylaws.

Beverley stated the Rules of the Meeting are a part of our Standing Rules and do not need to be read at each meeting.

At this point in the meeting, our Guest Speaker was introduced by Bev Scott, Hope for Heroes Chair. Bev introduced Retired Marine Corporal Larry Bailey. Corporal Bailey is a Purple Heart recipient and also a recipient of a Tunnel to Towers Smart Home. Corporal Bailey brought his daughter, Aiyla with him. Corporal Bailey gave an informative explanation about the process for receiving a T2T Smart Home. He explained the features in the home which ease some of the physical challenges he faces. The presentation concluded with a question and answer period. Corporal Bailey was presented with a gift of appreciation by the VSC.

Recognitions

Ruth Clatterbuck from Delta Rho introduced two new VSC members; Pam Henry-Sieveret and Tineke Kern. Beverley and Marie gave gifts to these new members.

Beverley asked her "Ring of Fire" Executive Board to share something that gets them fired up. She asked her "Sisters of the Round Table" Appointed Board and Special Committee members to name someone they like to have around. The "Circle of Trust" VSC PPA members were asked to share a memory from their year as VSC President. Lastly, the "Circle of Friends" 22-23 VSC Chapter Presidents were asked to name the ESA sister they have known the longest.

Brenda Orebaugh and Sue Foy reported that the minutes from the 2022 VSC Fall Meeting were approved as published. Beverley dismissed the committee.

Doris Hood reported that the 2022 VSC Convention minutes have been approved as corrected by herself and Pam Cook. Beverley dismissed the committee.

The Minutes Approval Committee for the VSC Spring Meeting are Beth Sherron, Alpha Delta and Tammy James, Beta Kappa.

Brenda Orebaugh reported no correspondence to share.

Financial Report: Stephanie Hess presented the financial report summarized below. It was asked that the members save their questions regarding the \$500.00 deposit from Assured Partners Bond Company until the New Business portion of the meeting.

Checking Account

Balance Forwarded from 9/17/2022	\$2,610.19
Deposits (dues, lucky numbers, disaster fund, bond payment return)	2,535.00
Disbursements:	1,036.28
Balance on Hand	\$4,108.91

Savings Account

Balance Forwarded from 9/17/2022	\$4,829.81
Deposits (interest)	0.24
Balance on Hand	\$4,830.05

The report will be filed for audit.

Officer Reports

First Vice President, Priscilla Browning, gave an informative report of her attendance at the Leadership Conference in Denver, CO in February of this year. She shared the knowledge she received from the various workshops attended. Priscilla also reported on her efforts to secure an Executive Board for the 2023-2024

VSC year. The offices of Second Vice President and Recording Secretary remain open at this time. Priscilla is also working to fill the Appointed Board and asked that those willing to serve contact her.

Second Vice President, Marie LaDuke, gave the VSC membership many ideas for membership recruitment events. We are encouraged to share our ESA stories and encourage others to join in the good works of our organization.

Recording Secretary, Katrina Saunders, no report.

Treasurer, Stephanie Hess, - no additional report; further information will be shared under new business

Parliamentarian, Nicole Lewis, had no report, further information will be shared under new business

Jr. Past President, Mindy Boyd, reported on her efforts to receive bids for the 2024 VSC State Convention. While a written bid has not been received, Mindy reports that the Richmond Chapters will host the convention with Beth Sherron and Pam Cook serving as co-chairs. Mindy also requested that Chapter Presidents review the information that was shared regarding a Policy and Procedure manual. She would like suggestions for clarifications or additions to this manual as she plans to present an updated manual at this year's Presidents' Workshop. Mindy also reminded chapters that the Lucy Davis Outstanding Chapter President forms were placed in chapter folders with a due date of April 15, 2023. These can be e-mailed or mailed.

President, Beverley Wright, reported on her experience at the SERC Convention held in Orlando, Florida. Beverley also mentioned her fond memories of the Prayer Breakfast hosted by Alpha Xi for many years. She reminded us not to let the opportunity pass by to be a part of a gathering of ESA members.

General/Appointed Board Reports

Association of the Arts, Pam Cook - AA forms were placed in chapter folders with a due date of 4/15/23. All items except literature should be brought to convention. Pam asks that literature submissions be sent to her by 4/15/23.

2022-2023 Audit Committee, Gaynell Krista - no report

Audio/Visual Tech(s), Nicole Lewis asked that any media needs for convention be conveyed to her ahead of time along with any flash drives. Brenda Bowersox (Convention Chair) reported a screen will be available at convention along with power outlets.

Awards Director, Pat Holtsclaw reminded us that we are all encouraged by receiving awards. She asked that we keep good records and remember to consider Pallas Athene and Gold Links as well.

Budget Committee, Jenny Brunelle - no report

Chaplain, Lou Ann Wyer, reported she has been busy keeping everyone updated on news. She asked that you send her news of chapter members/families who need an extra boost of ESA love and prayer. Beverley

presented Lou Ann with cardinals that were given to her at SERC in memory of Mildred Edwards, Judi Brigg, June Burke, Eveleen Harrison, Diane McLane and Brenda Underwood.

Credentials report was filed by Theresa Morris.

Disaster Fund report was filed by Mindy Boyd. She reminded us of the purpose and procedures for accessing disaster funds. Mindy reported that to date she has received \$1,695.00 for the disaster fund.

Easter Seals, Lou Ann Wyer reported the following:

A total of \$671.50 has been collected for Easter Seals during the 2022-2023 year. She also shared that Camp Easter Seals had sent a letter thanking the VSC for a donation.

Educational Director, Sheen Childress, - no report

ESA Foundation Counselor, Debbie Langfitt, has filed a full report which includes information on the following: Board of Director Nominations, virtual Foundation Workshop on April 11, 2023, Foundation Fund Fest at IC Convention, Texas Toast Fantasy Event, Endowment Contact Information, and ESA Annual Foundation Meeting. Debbie also included information about the benefits and highlights of using Turnaround Funds. Beverley presented Debbie with the First Place Thelma Waggoner ESA Foundation Award which was presented to Virginia at the SERC Convention.

ESA for St. Jude Coordinator, Susan Caldwell, filed a full report which included the following:

- VSC Chapters totaled 56 donations of \$50 each making our donation \$2800.00 - certificates were presented to participating chapters.
- Dream Home Campaigns
 - Central Virginia (Elaine Prillaman) reports 12,000 tickets will be sold this year.
 - Richmond Dream Home (Susan Caldwell) reports 13,000 tickets will be sold this year.
 - Hampton Road Dream Home (Lou Ann Wyer) reports 14,500 tickets will be sold this year.
 - Each Dream Home report included specific information regarding dates for sales and prizes.

Beverley presented Susan with the following awards won by Virginia at the SERC Convention:

Virginia won Third Place for the Joan Mason St Jude Award and the Barbara Riley Circle of Life Award.

Finance Committee, P-Nut Schools reported she still has 8 envelopes left. Total raised from Lucky Numbers was \$220.00

Historian, Lynn Keffer, - reminded of the deadline for submitting entries. She suggested having a chapter get together to pull memories of the year.

Hope for Heroes, Beverly Scott reported the following:

Bev reported \$1,989 has been received. Our goal for the year is \$2,640.00. Bev also encouraged VSC members to send cards to Corporal Bailey and his daughter Aiyla for their time spent with us. Corporal Bailey's address was sent out to the VSC membership by Lou Ann Wyer, Chaplain. Bev also reported that Zeta Nu will have their annual Christine Williamson Easter Seal Benefit on June 10th - more information will be forthcoming.

Lamplighter Editor, Theresa Morris, - no report.

Nominating Committee, Priscilla Browning, - no report.

Philanthropic Director, Susan Graham, - no report.

PPA Leadership Chair, Brenda Bowersox, no report

Scrapbook/Memory Book Keeper, Tammy James - A reminder was placed in chapter folders to send photos of activities and events for Beverley's scrapbook.

SERC Director, Brenda Bowersox, - no report.

Social Director, Sandy Reed, reported two chapters have submitted social reports. The reports can be e-mailed or mailed to Sandy by April 15, 2023.

State Projects Director, Beth Sherron, reported she has been receiving checks from chapters for projects and donations. She asks that we think about working together to adopt families whose children are undergoing treatment at VCU to help with their Christmas celebrations. Beth shared the quilt that will be raffled off at the May VSC meeting. Tickets were shared and we are encouraged to sell these to get to at least the value of the quilt. Beth also asked for all Outstanding Chapter Award entries to be sent to her by April 15, 2023.

Webmaster, Lou Ann Wyer, reports the website has been updated with any content that has been provided. Forms will not include names of newly appointed chairs. That information can be accessed by referring to the Executive and Appointed Board pages on the website. She also asked that if errors are found on the website to please contact her directly.

2023 VSC Convention Chair, Brenda Bowersox - reported the following:

Hotel amenities were reviewed. Brenda stressed there is no complimentary breakfast but there is a coffee shop and a cafe where breakfast can be purchased. There will be a lunch after today's meeting which is a fundraiser for convention.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Financial Bonding Discussion

1. Financial Bond Discussion

- a. Stephanie updated the VSC on her efforts to renew our Commercial Crime Bond. It was discovered that the VSC has not been bonded for the past 3 years due to a change in ownership of the bonding company as a result of paperwork procedures not being followed. Stephanie has secured a refund from the company and has deposited that money into the VSC account. The particulars of a bonding contract were shared.
- b. Beverley reported she has researched the bonding issue with other ESA state presidents. It does not seem that many states are continuing to be bonded. Beverley also acquired the advice of a Financial Specialist who recommended not getting bonded due to the small amount in our treasury and our other oversight efforts that are in place.
- c. The Executive Board voted to present a motion to the VSC to discontinue the bond. As this is a board motion, no second will be needed. There was no discussion by the VSC membership. The motion was carried on a unanimous vote.

2026 IC Convention Bid

1. Marie and Beverley reported receiving correspondence from Linda Edwards regarding an IC Convention Bid for the 2026 IC Convention. Beverley and Marie have agreed to co-chair for Virginia if a bid is accepted with the following stipulations:
 - a. The VSC supports a bid offering
 - b. A convention site would be procured between the Richmond and Williamsburg area.
2. The convention bid was approved/supported by the membership with a show of hands.

ByLaw Changes

1. Nicole is advising that bylaw changes may be needed due to the elimination of the summer meeting to facilitate timely turnover of records. Additional bylaw changes may be needed due to the VSC vote to eliminate the need for a financial bond. The proposed bond changes were shared by Nicole to the VSC. Copies of the proposed bylaw changes have been placed in chapter folders with a final copy being sent to chapters 30 days before the May VSC annual meeting. Bylaw change voting will occur at the May VSC annual meeting.

Announcements

1. Second Half VSC Dues are due on or before April 1 – send to Stephanie Hess.
2. IC Chapter/council dues must be paid by May 1 for a chapter/entity to have a vote at IC.
3. Past SERC President, Mary Smith, will be our SERC Convention Representative. Her contact information is in “The Circle”.
4. Current IC President, Denise Holdaway, will be our IC Representative at convention. Her contact information is in “The Circle” as well.
5. “The Circle” will be out the first week of May with a submission deadline of 4/28/23.
6. VSC Convention will be held May 19 - 21, 2023 at The Hotel Madison in Harrisonburg VA.
7. Lucky Numbers will be a silent draw to facilitate preparation of the lunch fundraiser. The numbers will be posted next to the prize.
8. The 2023 VSC PPA Leadership Conference will be held on September 23, 2023 in Staunton VA at the Montgomery Hall Park Offices.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 and was followed by the Closing Ritual.

