



**Morrill Chapter of Alpha Zeta, Inc.
Minutes of the Annual Meeting**

November 8, 2020
Held Virtually via Zoom

In attendance (*bold denotes non-Corporation Board alumni attending*): Art Keen, Mark Lowery, Thad Will, Joe Leslie, Cara Itle, Joe Leslie, Donald Opp, **Michael Schlegel, David Gerstenlauer, Kenneth White, Patricia Wolff, Amy Leslie**, Claire Matson, Brendan Liebross, Luke Seipt, Vincent Good, Ryan Peckheiser, Oliver Prout, Alan Schaffranek, Luke Salter, Andrew Good

Meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by President Keen.

Secretary Lowery read the names of the following members who have departed since the last annual meeting: Clyde W. Mayer '49, Ivan S. Samarawira '55, Samuel C. Smith '55, J. Robert Nuss Jr. '60, Samuel Minor '60, Herbert B. Rothe '61 and Howard B. Wiggin '72, Robert E. Naugle '73

Secretary's Report, Brother Lowery:

Brother Lowery read the minutes from the March 23, 2019 meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report, Brother Will:

- Corporation net liquid assets \$17,038. There is \$15,141 in rent receivable from the active chapter.
- \$8,061 is current against the line of credit for property and casualty insurance and other immediate needs while cash flow was interrupted due to COVID-19.
- There is still a \$15,000 loan from the charitable trust. Brother Will recommends that we remain steady with that loan amount.

Charitable Trust

- Investments are generally static. Will need to address scholarship payments when that occurs in June 2021 and adjust payout accordingly.

Report filed for audit.

Committee Reports

Scholarship, Brother Leslie

- Scholarships are awarded annually by the Corporation Board and continuing charitable donations are sought for this purpose. The David A. Morrow III Scholarship, Alpha Zeta Lindley and Dorothy Dennis Memorial Award, Brown Scholarship and Corporation Board Scholarships are awarded annually in conjunction with the College of Agricultural Sciences Scholarship Banquet in October.

Alumni, Sister Itle

- In-person alumni events have been postponed given the COVID situation. Currently investigating virtual options through our Affinity Connections relationship.

Building, Brother Good

- Completed repairs to the Suite 6 porch and water damage. Approx. \$6,000 was completed prior to the Fall '20 semester start. Additional projects are planned to maintain the chapter's physical property.

Active Chapter

- COVID-19 has changed what the active chapter is doing drastically. About half of the membership is present on campus.

- Prior to the current situation, the chapter was very active with THON and other charitable causes, blood drives, etc.

Old Business *None*

New Business *None*

Nominating Committee

The following nominations were approved with unanimous consent:

- Brothers Art Keen and Joseph Leslie are nominated for new terms
- Sister Cara Itle (Trotter) to fulfill the remaining term of Sister Gwin
- Brother Andrew Good to fulfill the remaining term of Brother Daniel Frechen

Comments – Brother Keen

- Art thanked the board members that have served, and continue to serve, during his tenure. He was elected in Spring of 1988 to replace Stan Curtis as Vice President. He served in that role until elected President in September of 1999. The following individuals served as board members with Brother Keen:
 - Michael Schlegel
 - Matt Espenshade
 - Lisa Holden
 - David Beppler
 - Roy Prescott
 - Aaron Harpster
 - Eric Bengston
 - Mike Flinchbaugh
 - Chris Connelly
 - Joe Leslie
 - Emily (Caldwell) Gwin
 - Mark Lowery
 - Thad Will
 - Cara (Trotter) Itle
 - Andrew Good
- Another high point of Art's service occurred while looking for era captains for the Capital Campaign. He contacted Dr. John Cairns who, although Fraternity records stated otherwise, was not a member of the Morrill Chapter. Dr. Cairns was due to be initiated in 1944 but was drafted into the U.S. military during World War II. Subsequently, his initiation did not occur and afterward he transferred to Swarthmore College and earned a masters and PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. He became Professor of Environmental Biology at Virginia Tech and authored 56 books and was featured in 1,400 publications. Through connections with Matt Espenshade's fiancée at the time (*now wife, Charlene Shupp*), it wa determined to close the loop on Dr. Cairns' unfulfilled initiation. Charlene served as Chancellor of AZ at Virginia Tech and members from the Morrill Chapter traveled to properly induct Dr. Cairns after a 60-year wait. He was absolutely thrilled to finally become a member of AZ and a detailed article appeared in the Summer 2002 edition of the *Morrill Messenger*.

Brother Will/Leslie moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.