**THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL**

**CONNECTICUT STATE ORGANIZATION**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – New Britian Public Library and in zoom**

**Saturday, September 23, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 9:25 AM

President Lenore Martinelli welcomed everyone.

**Moment of Silence** (Marnee Straiton for Sandra Gammons)

A moment of silence was held in tribute of 3 DKG members that have recently passed.

Ruth-Ellen Hunt, Iota; Dr. Sally Swanson, Mu; Jeanne Morascini, Theta

**Secretary’s Report/Correspondence**. Linda Shea reported that the minutes were posted on the website stating the following corrections:

“There is a correction on page 3—line 4 should read *the chair does have a vote*”; page 6—line 4 under Discussion—change *and* to *to*, so that the line reads *from Greenwich to Hartford.”*

A motion was made by Pam Aubin and seconded by Linda Paslov to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Thank you notes from Ellen Festi, Carol B, and Lenore Martinelli were received and passed for all to see.

**Treasurer’s Report**. Pam Aubin reported that the treasurer’s report was sent by email; it is not on the website. She explained the following:

* Bank of America Checking and Savings account
  + The Travelers Insurance Policy cost has increased by $500 and now costs the organization $2,894. There is a total of $3,612.00 in disbursements which include convention subsidies, and disbursements from the Virginia S. James Fine Arts Fund for the Creative Arts Retreat so the balance of $4,938.76.
  + She noted that the loss of 26 members has impacted the organization’s income.
* The Working Capital Management Account is $252,000.00. The advisors will do a presentation to the finance and investment committees.
* The Merrill Lynch Operating Account $31,776.22

She also explained that all chapters had submitted form 15 and the organization has received a thank you from the IRS which is commendable.

Kathleen Peters-Durrigan commended Pam for her work to make this report more understandable.

**President’s Report** Lenore Martinelli

* Attended leadership training in Ft. Worth, Texas June 23-25. Strong emphasis on (declining) membership.
* Attended conference in Detroit July 11-16. Workshops for personal growth, DKG information, parliamentary procedure, teaching strategies, and author presentations in addition to ticketed luncheons and dinners. Strong emphasis on (declining) membership.
* Attended summer meetings with Beta, Mu, Rho, Iota, Curriculum of Hope, Zeta. (by invitation) She asked chapters to consider inviting Linda and her to one of your meetings.
* Have spent considerable time going through president’s file boxes. I am continually impressed by the work done by past members and members who are here today. The thought and dedication that went into creating Ambassadors, the Curriculum of Hope, updating the Bylaws and Standing Rules, and many other actions to keep our state organization strong are inspiring.
* Thanked all who agreed to continue or to join our CTSO executive board.

Ann Grosjean thanked Lenore for working to get the items organized.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Archives** - Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean by zoom.

President Martinelli notes that the reports are on the website: “I trust that members have read through Ann’s report on the archives. She did an enormous and meticulous job putting this together. She has all keynotes digitized and they have been given to UCONN. She will continue to work with keynotes, minutes from Spring Conventions and changes to By Laws, etc. Ann notes that the last books end in 1989 so the organization needs to create a book from 1989 – 2029. To accomplish this, we will need chapters to create their history by using end of the year reports, etc to create their own biennium.

* A motion was made by Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean to form an Ad Hoc committee for the creation of a chapter history update book. The committee would take the lead in this project and work with chapters to get information, etc. The motion was seconded by Kathleen Peters-Durrigan

Motion passed unanimously with 25 members in favor (14 in person and 11 online)

* A motion was made by Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean to have a second committee to work on the DKB CTSO Biographies of Our Leaders book. At this point the founders’ section is complete but the state presidents section needs updating and it is necessary to decide if the organization wants to continue to include achievement award recipients and honorary members. The goal is to place one book in the archive at UCONN and give one to the state president. The motion was seconded by Kathleen Peters-Durrigan

Discussion followed regarding whether 2 separate committees were needed.

The motion was amended by have 1 Ad Hoc Committee to complete the book of biographies of Ct State Founders with 3 subcommittees which are:

CT State Presidents

State Honorary Members

State Achievement Award Biographies

**Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean amended the motion** to include the changes with Pam Aubin seconding the motion.

The motion passed as amended with 28 members voting in favor (16 in person and 12 online)

**Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean** volunteered to chair the committee for the purpose of getting it started.

* Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean made a motion to donate $500 to UCONN Archives for the purpose of setting up of the archive with $200 annually to update and maintain the collection. She stated that they have now saved $2,000 as they took everything out of the storage unit to fund this. Pam Aubin seconded the motion.

Discussion followed with a friendly amendment to not include the $200 annual amount at this time so that the group could determine the amount annually.

Ann C-G accepted the amended and the motion was passed unanimously with 28 members voting in favor (16 in person and 12 online)

Lenore commended Ann and Pat O’Connell Buckley and Joan **Konareski** for their work

**Bylaws/Standing Rules** - Terry Azoti and/or Marnee Straiton for Deborah Sorensino President Martinelli noted that this report was on the website. The first part of the report is a clarification of our bylaws regarding a minimum number of members in a chapter.” She then turned the discussion over to Terry and Marnee

It was explained in article V, section B, the organization section of the by-laws, it states that a chapter can have no fewer than 12 members to exist as a chapter. In the constitution it states that a new chapter must have 12 members but existing chapters with a charter can continue if they fall below the number.

* A motion was made by the By Laws committee to add the word, charter, in the By-laws as a conforming change which aligns with international language so that it does not need to be an amendment.

Motion passed unanimously with 28 members voting in favor (16 in person and 12 online)

The change in Article V, section B will be in writing in the Fall Keynote.

Motion was approved unanimously with 28 members voting in favor (16 in person and 12 online)

Rational for second motion,

Membership voted to approve a balanced budget which resulted in neither the Treasurer nor the Executive Secretary receiving remuneration. Both officers are appointed, not elected, but language differs. The following amendment is proposed so that both offices are described in identical language.

The committee presented a motion to amend the CTSO Standing Rules, I. Duties of Officers and Related Personnel Executive Secretary I, 6. The new language would read:

NEW: CTSO Standing Rule: Article VI, Section 1, I, 6

1. Duties of Officers and Related Personnel

I. **Executive Secretary (recommended by the president, selected by the executive board)** 6. Shall serve as a member ex-officio, without vote if under remunerative contract for her services on the CTSO Executive Board.

Motion passed with 28 votes in favor (16 in person and 12 online)

The By Laws committee referred to the By Laws Duties of Officers section, Article VIII, A1 stating that the offices of Executive Secretary and Treasurer have the same language which states that they are ex-officio with no vote. This verbiage speaks to a contract. Recommended new language would read:

* A. State Executive Board
* 1. The voting members of the Executive Board shall be the elected officers, the immediate past state president, the standing committee chairs, elected committee members, and state members of International Committees for the length of their term on those committees. Each chapter is also entitled to two votes on the Executive Board. The chapter president casts one vote. The additional chapter vote is cast by a second member of the chapter. **The parliamentarian shall be an ex-officio member without vote. The state offices of treasurer, assistant treasurer, and executive secretary shall be ex-officio members, without vote if receiving remuneration.**

The committee proposed that the Executive Secretary serve as ex-officio if there is a remunerative contract, and they are appointed and not elected. At this point the offices do not have a stipend/honorarium, so they should vote. If the organization should reinstate a monetary honorarium, then the positions would lose a vote.

Motion passed with 28 votes in favor (16 in person and 12 online)

**Communications**. Emily DelPiano – no report

**Publications**. LeAnn Hinkle – no report

**Website**. Emily DelPiano – no report

**Photographe**r Ann Grosjean – no report

**Finance** - Ann Novotnik

Ann Novotnik made a motion that the CTSO donate $100 to the Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World in memory of Jean Morascini, past CTSO president and founder of Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World.” The motion was seconded by Marnee Straiton.

The motion passed unanimously with 28 votes in favor (16 in person and 12 online) The funds will be taken out of the gifts account

**Investment** Marnee Straiton – no report

**Historian**. Judy Cody – no report

**Leadership Development**. Roz Etra - no report

**Membership** -Ann Grosjean by zoom

Ann explained that they are working on a new State trifold and she asked if there were any people that would be able to help with this. She also noted that information was found for 1946 and she prompted chapters to look for any information that they could add.

**Nominations** - Kathleen Lozinak – no report

**Revitalization –** Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean

Chapters should be working on action plans. Each chapter was given a copy of the strategic plan at last year’s spring conference. A meeting was held in August where chapters shared their plans and progress for an increase in membership at this time There will be a workshop on November 4th as well with a follow up at the state meeting in the Spring. It is vital to the organization to increase membership which helps support us financially.

**SOCIETY MISSION AND PURPOSE**

**Educational Excellence**. Linda Paslov

Linda discussed that she attended leadership training in Texas. She also explained that they are working on the November 4th workshop and are looking for people to present. If interested in presenting a workshop, please contact her by sending a description of the workshop that will be 45 minutes in length, with materials needed, and a photo. Emily DelPiano will work out the technology for the breakout sessions.

Lastly, she noted that the Spring fundraiser tickets will be available with 6 tickets for $5.00 with all profits being used for grants and the Curriculum of Hope program.

**Achievement Awards** - Kathleen Peters-Durrigan

Kathleen presented an updated list for all to check.

**Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World** - Sue Moon

**Educational Impact –** no report

**Fine Arts** - Linda Paslov

She then noted that the Fine Arts Retreat was a held om August 9th and was a success with 24 members in attendance from 3 states. (CT, MA, and RI)

Linda stated that January 15th – February 15th is the period for Fine Arts submissions. She encouraged members to submit work and stated that there have been many members from our state that have had their work included.

I did not get a report, but she may want to speak.

**International Funds** - Terry Azoti

**Margaret Croft Honorary Fund** - Rose Marie Mikasauskas

**Non-dues Revenue**

**Outstanding Service** - Anne Brandt

**Professional Affairs** - Susan Carpenter

**Scholarship.** - Mary Ellen Ulatowski

**Sunshine**. - Linda Amarante

**Legislative** - Dot Logan

She explained that she had posted a report on the DKG website stating that the Connecticut TRB will begin the election to add two additional retired teachers to the Teachers Retirement Board on September 28th. Voting will continue through November 2nd. Ballots will arrive by email or by USPS. The vendor for the election is YES Elections. Please be on the lookout for your ballot, it is the official ballot, not an advertisement. There are four candidates, two of whom are endorsed by the ARTC.

Information on all the four candidates is available through the following link: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/TRB/Content/Retired/RT\_23EL\_CAN.pdf

This is an important election. The TRB deals with a variety of issues near and dear to our hearts: a strong pension, a fair and stable COLA, and protecting retired teachers’ fair and equitable choice of health insurance plans. Please make your voice be heard. Please vote for two candidates.

**Special Assignments**

**Convention Booklets**

**Ad Hoc Committees**

**Next Gen** - Allison Fay

**Chapter Ambassadors/CSO Past Presidents**

**International Committees**

**Educators’ Book Award - Pat O’Connell-Buckley –** no report

**Communications and Marketing – no report**

**NGO/UN CSO Representative** - Ann Grosjean

**Unfinished Business** – Announcement was made regarding the Spring Meeting for April 27th 9:00 – 2:00. It is being planned to be held at Wilcox Technical High School, which will accommodate 40 people with a cost of $175 for 5 hours.

**New Business**

**Evelyn Barese** noted that there was an international meeting on Zoom. She recommended that people attend if they can, in order to get an understanding of ways to have State as well as international members joining DKG

Next meetings – 11/7/23 5:30 – Inside International DKG

12/5/23 12:30

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn D. Proto

Secretary, CT DKG