

Phi Mu Delta National Council
Meeting Agenda

October 9, 2019

8:00PM

Call In Number: (605) 472-5542

Access Code: 856626#

I. Call to order

- President Grogan called the meeting to order at 8:01pm.

II. Roll call

Ryan Grogan, President

Ronnie Brown, Vice President

Joseph Thompson, Treasurer

Jose Rosario, Secretary

Richard Winter, Member-at-Large

Paul Kittle, Member-at-Large

Jake Roebuck, Undergraduate Representative

Jonathan Guaetta, Undergraduate Representative

Thomas Murphy, Executive Director

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

- Brother Roebuck motions, Brother Winter seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

IV. Reports

a) Executive Director's Report

- There has been a delay in dues from two chapters that has caused a past due balance. The National Office is working with the chapters, universities, and Greek Bill to resolve the issues.
- Recruitment: 11 chapters are returning with 62 members and we will return with 349 Brothers in total membership. Six chapters have not reported their new membership; however, these groups expect between 4 to 11 members per chapter.

Sigma Gamma has taken one new member and the National Office is working with them and their advisor to address the issue.

- Cornerstone Institute to be held on November 2nd at RMU, November 9th at Stevenson University, and November 16th at the University of New Hampshire.
- Challenges at the National Office due to reduced staffing. There have been communication challenges with chapters as they have not been responding to email or phone calls. However, two chapters have requested weekly updates. This will not be possible at this time due to Executive Director/Brother Murphy needing to prepare for Foundation Institute and oversee the daily operations of the Fraternity.

b) President's Report

- Brother Grogan reports that three chapters attended the Presidents Council meeting and feedback was limited. The undergraduates in attendance had inquiries about alumni engagement during the strategic planning process and the sweetheart process. Brothers Rosario shared that the strategic plan draft has been shared with a committee of alumni for feedback. The chapters shared that they enjoyed weekly emails and Brother Grogan reiterated that this will need to wait for more staff. He hopes that with more attendance, these meetings will continue to provide useful feedback.

c) Officer Reports

- No officer reports at this time.

d) Committee Chair Reports

- i) Strategic Plan Update from Council (Brother Rosario)
 - Tabled until the winter meeting due to staffing
- ii) Future Strategic Plan Directions (Brother Grogan)
 - Tabled until the winter meeting due to staffing

V. Old Business

a) Summer Meeting (Brother Grogan)

- No additional report at this time.

b) Dues Structure (Brother Murphy)

- Executive Director/Brother Murphy has run this structure by some chapters and received some pushback. The brothers are concerned with upfront costs and how this may impact recruitment. Retention of membership and delays in distributing bids are issues that could impact the structure. Executive Director/Brother Murphy hopes to engage with Alpha Sigma Phi to discuss the feasibility more deeply. Brother Brown inquired whether Alpha Sigma Phi experienced a drop in retention before seeing benefits. Executive Director/Brother Murphy will ask.
- c) Event Risk Assessment (Brother Brown)
- Executive Director/Brother Murphy is concerned about the potential liability for chapters and the larger fraternity as this requires more supervision than we can feasibly provide at this time. Brother Brown suggests providing this to chapters for internal use and for professional development about event planning and mitigating risks. Brother Kittle supports this idea and utilizes something similar within his discipline. The National Council supports this idea and Executive Director/Brother Murphy suggests combining the two documents. Brother Roebuck inquired about submitting this form to chapter advisory boards but Brother Grogan is weary about overworking our volunteers. The chapters will be expected to complete the assessment and will be responsible for maintaining well-being. A draft is to be provided for the next meeting.
- d) Collegiate Advisory Board Update (Brother Murphy)
- This has transitioned to the new Presidents Council and the Constitution committee will look at the wording.
- e) Board Expectations (Brother Grogan)
- The document has been received via email. Brother Brown has concerns about exceptions regarding meeting attendance when due to extenuating circumstances. Brother Grogan clarified that under Standard 2; Section B, it states that exceptions can be made for these circumstances and that the National Council will be understanding.

VI. New Business

a) Chapter Sweethearts Process

- The National Council has concerns about how the current practice promotes behavior that is not representative of the values of the fraternity, does not align with policies the fraternity must abide (i.e. Title IX), and allows nonmembers to represent the fraternity via branding without providing membership rights. The

National Council has deemed this behavior inappropriate and will provide chapters with a letter documenting future procedures. All current sweethearts will end their term at the end of the Fall 2019 semester with no exceptions. The National Council understands that future conversations may need to be had regarding bylaws. At this time, the National Council would like to give chapters the autonomy to independently engage in the appropriate practice once they have been made aware.

b) 72-hour initiation process

- Tabled to the next meeting.

VII. Adjournment

- Executive Director/Brother Murphy planned not to attend AFA but he has been asked to speak by another organization. This will be at no cost to the fraternity and Brother Grogan and Brother Dubois will provide coverage. Motion for Executive Director/Brother Murphy to attend made by Brother Winter; seconded by Brother Roebuck. The motion passes unanimously.
- Brother Guaetta asks where we are with Delta Force. Executive Director/Brother Murphy is waiting on induction reports and navigating working with specialists who have not completed their duties. Even still, there is concerned about the absence of chapters using Chapter Builder
- Brother Roebuck shared that Sigma Alpha will be having their ritual on November 1st. All are welcomed.
- Motion to adjourn made by Brother Winter; seconded by Brother Roebuck. The meeting is adjourned at 9:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JR', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

José R. Rosario
National Secretary