

Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Mu Chapter
Minutes of General Meeting March 26, 2018

Members present:

Donna Donald	Kapil Arora	Kim Brantner
Jerry Chizek	Deb Sellers	Alan Ladd
Carol LaFaver Waters	Sandra McKinnon	Paul Kassel
Terry Torneten	Barbara Dunn Swanson	David Baker
Phyllis Zalenski	Barb Wollan	Sherry McGill
Mary Weinand	Lori Hayungs	Malisa Rader
Jeff Jackson	Rich Wrage	Mark Hanna
Dawn Dunnegan	Andrea Nelson	Barb Fuller
Steve Johnson	David Brown	Rachel Wall
Dennis Johnson	Annette Brown	

Guest present: Andrea Hobson

President Barb Fuller called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m., earlier than scheduled since the conference dismissed early.

Terry Torneten/Rich Wrage moved approval of the meeting minutes from the October 26, 2017 annual meeting; motion passed. Treasurer Mary Weinand presented an updated treasurer's report, noting balances as of 2/28/18: savings account, \$3,000; checking account, \$5,535.04; for a total balance of \$8,535.04. The balances are notably higher than prior meeting, because an amount in excess of \$4,000 was transferred to ESP with the dissolution of the ISUCEP organization. Sandra McKinnon/Carol LaFaver Waters moved that the treasurer transfer \$3,000 from checking to savings; motion passed. Lori Hayungs/Sandra McKinnon moved to approve the treasurer's report; motion passed.

Andrea Nelson, membership chair, reported on behalf of the membership committee, which also includes Dennis Johnson, Jim Harken and Sherry McGill; she noted that we still need a Life Member on this committee and on the board. She reported that we have 121 members, including 50 annual members and 71 life members. Mark Hanna, who recently retired, is a new life member. In response to questions about a reduction in the number of annual members, Andrea explained that seven individuals had retired or left Extension, and that several more had chosen not to renew their membership this year.

A highlight of the meeting was the induction of three new members: Dawn Dunnegan, Jeff Jackson, and Malisa Rader. The ceremony was conducted by the President and the Membership Chair.

Andrea led a moment of silence dedicated in honor of members who have passed away: George Peisen, Frank Schaller, Roger Lawrence, William Zmolek, Edgar Dorow, Stanley Davidson, and Marvin Julius.

The Resource Development Committee had no report.

Scholarship, Grants and Recognition committee: Jerry Chizek reported that our chapter awards were presented during the Extension Award Ceremony earlier in the afternoon. Member awards: Rachel Wall received the Early Career Service Award; Barb Fuller received the Mid Career Service Award; Sandra McKinnon received the Distinguished Service Award; and Wendy Wintersteen received the Distinguished Service Ruby Recognition. Friends of Extension Awards were also presented: April Hemmes, a volunteer from Franklin County; Farm Credit Services of America, Emmetsburg Office; and William (Bill) Northey, former Iowa Secretary of Agriculture and current U.S. Undersecretary of Agriculture. Bill Northey's nomination was submitted for consideration for a national Friend of Extension Award.

Jerry reported that we received 7 application for Friends of Extension, and reminded us that we have three categories for the award: Extension Volunteer/Lay Leader, Business/ Organization, and Elected Official. The Awards Committee

gave one award in each category this year, which is the intent of the category system, and recommends that we continue to make awards within the categories. Jerry and President Barb Fuller also reminded all members to look at the other scholarships and grants available through National ESP and take advantage of them!

For the Public Issues Committee, Alan Ladd encouraged all members to reach out to our legislators to tell Extension's story, in order to make sure Extension is not undervalued when funding decisions are made.

Jeff Jackson reported for the Professional Development Committee, which also includes Kim Brantner and Alison Boelman, encouraging members to plan to participate in the national ESP conference October 1-4 in Manhattan KS (drivable!). He mentioned that the annual PILD (Public Issues Leadership Development) conference is just a couple weeks away, and is a terrific experience to seek out in the future. He also noted upcoming webinars highlighted in a recent email:

Friday, April 20, 12:00 noon EDT: a panel discussion about Tips for a Healthy Transition into Retirement.

For more information and registration: [2018 Tips for a Healthy Transition into Retirement](#)

Wednesday, May 9, 1:00 pm EDT: Learning Digital Strategies to Promote your Programming.

For more information and registration: [2018 Learn Digital Marketing Strategies to Promote your Programming](#)

For the Global Relations Committee, Barb Dunn Swanson (who is not a member of that committee but is extending her role as part of the resource development committee) brought to the group's attention a Global Extension Initiative that was highlighted in the [February/March 2018 ESP national newsletter](#). The article describes a project sponsored by ESP National and the K-State Innovation Lab to develop and promote sustainable agriculture practices and a safe food supply in Cambodia. The ESP national goal is to raise \$5,000 to support the project; the national board will provide up to \$2500 in matching funds if members around the nation contribute \$2500. A [Go Fund Me page](#) is available for contributions. Members who were present expressed a desire to contribute NOW, so an envelope was passed around for anyone who wished to contribute on the spot; the treasurer will then submit the funds to national for the project.

Near the end of the meeting Barb reported that \$146 had been donated! Carol Waters/Andrea Nelson moved that the chapter match that contribution amount; the motion passed with a hand-counted vote.

David Baker reported for Virgil Schmitt on the Nominating Committee. They are seeking more nominees for President-elect; the Mary Weinand has agreed to stand for re-election as Treasurer, and Dennis Johnson as Member at Large. Carol LaFaver Waters also noted that there are several committees which would welcome new members; anyone interested should get in touch with Carol.

New Business.

David Brown explained that a committee made up of Carol LaFaver Waters, Jerry Chizek and himself will be working on proposed changes to the chapter by-laws, for presentation at the October annual meeting. The impetus to propose a change arose when the national by-laws were changed to delete the associate membership and remove any length of service requirement for membership. The committee will address how to change that aspect of our by-laws, as well as reviewing other membership criteria. In addition, they will review the by-laws overall to see if any other minor updates are needed. They may also pull some information together in a policy and procedure document separate from the by-laws, just for the convenience of new members and officers. Anyone with thoughts on any of these issues is encouraged to contact David, Carol or Jerry.

At about 5:00 Annette Brown/Kapil Arora moved to adjourn; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Wollan, Secretary