

WVU Sigma Alpha Alumni Meeting
West Virginia University
Davis School of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences
Armentrout Study
April 3, 2004
11:00 am

Our President Monica Maxwell called the meeting to order. The minutes of the November 8, 2003 meeting were read. Kerri Linton moved to accept the minutes as read. Chris Reed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Officer Reports

President- Monica Maxwell

- Monica reported that Alumni President Alison Squires has not received our annual report. She is working on report. Our money for chapter dues was received. Monica asked about any newsletters that were mailed out in the last year. Secretary Anne Walker is to mail Monica a copy of the newsletters she has.
- The dates of National Convention were announced. It is to be held in Buffalo, New York, October 14-16th.
- The National Board has announced the creation of some new awards. These are awards for the most new alumni (new alumni recruits), most alumni members at convention, and the Golden Mouse Award (best website). The National Board has discussed creating an application to apply for the awards.
- The National Board is also brainstorming ways for people to be involved in Sigma Alpha. They have developed a travel club and have become affiliated with American Agriculture Women.
- Common Interest list on website
- The Sigma Alpha Alumni Membership Form can now be email to the National Board.
- The active chapter has recently had a bonfire at Monica's. Monica had a great time socializing with the actives. She stated she impressed with the family atmosphere and camaraderie of the group.
- Jean Woloshuk commented that she enjoyed the socializing with the active chapter and shared the same feelings as Monica.

Vice President-April Christopher

- April was not present for the meeting. She had no report. Monica stated April and Steve are doing okay after their car accident.

Secretary-Anne Walker

- Anne reported that she had updated the website. The URL is <http://www.geocities.com/chichapteralumni>

Treasurer- Michelle Mouser

- Michelle reported that we currently have \$589.85 in checking and \$1887.00 savings. As of the day of the meeting, Michelle has not invested any money in CD's.

Historian- Heather Ireland-Molessa

- Heather had no report.

Communications-Lisa McCutcheon

- Lisa requested that anyone who has news for the newsletter, please email it to her by April 23, 2004. The next deadline for the newsletter will be in mid august for articles. She will include updates on members in the newsletters.

Active/Alumni Liaison-Chris Reed

- Chris stated she had not been able to go to meetings very often due to other obligations.
- The Calendar Party went pretty well. Alumni had difficulty with selling tickets. Shannon Boswell stated the active chapter is considering a progressive dinner where each person would do a different part of the dinner. She thanked alumni for the door prize donations. Chris suggested that an active paired with alumni would be better. Monica stated that alumni could provide one food or drink for all tables.
- Chris reported that Sisterhood week went very well for the actives. They held a different activity every night.
- Shannon Boswell stated that the active chapter formal is coming up on April 17th at the Westvaco Center. The cost is \$10/person and \$17/couple. It will begin at 7pm. The Emerald/Maize award will be presented to Rita Dudley and Dr. Debbie Boone will be inducted as an honorary member.
- On April 27th, the active chapter will be holding a graduating seniors social event/wedding shower/baby shower.
- Chris stated she has been approached by Leslie Buttermore, who wants to go alumni because she feels out of place due to her age and family obligation. Kerri stated that Leslie will need to write a written request to alumni.
- Another active member, Rebecca Frisbie wants to go alumni. Monica will contact Rebecca for further information.
- Shannon Boswell stated that an active member named Susanne just activated but she is a senior and wants to stay active. However, the National Board policy/bi-laws says graduate students are to be alumni. Shannon stated that she was told this is officially in the bi-laws. Monica suggested that the graduates pay alumni dues and be active with the active chapter activities.

Committee Reports**Recruiting-Anne Walker, Chairperson**

- Anne proposed that the annual mailing be sent electronically to save on costs of postage and copying that the Alumni Chapter would be responsible for.

Those people that either do not have internet access or we don't have an email address for will be mailed the annual directory.

- Kerri moved that yearly packet sent electronically to anyone who has email access, and mail directory to those who do not have internet access. Chris Reed seconded the motion. It was also suggested that Anne set up contact link on website.

Fundraising-Michelle Mouser, Chairperson

- Discussed in old business

Scholarship-Michelle Payne-Ryan, Chairperson

- Discussed in old business

Social- Kerri Linton, Chairperson

- Discussed in old business

Old Business

1. Scholarship/Leadership Award

- The committee has decided that the first leadership award is planned to be granted in the Spring of 2005. The committee will develop the format and determine the amount of the award. The committee will consist of Heather Ireland-Molessa, Michelle Payne-Ryan, and Lisa McCutcheon. The proposal for award will be due at our November 2004 meeting.

2. Fundraisers-

- Monica discussed information she received concerning the sale of Saris Candy. We would pay for pretzel rods up front and we keep \$1.00/pack.
- April Christopher gathered information on flags. We would charge \$20.00/large flag and \$10.00/mini flags. Our profit would be 50%.
- The group discussed selling Pampered Chef items again. April suggested passing on this right now due to the introduction of new items in the fall.
- The group decided to table the discussion of fundraisers indefinitely

3. September 18 reunion

Kerri-informal social gathering-no kids gathering-football game Saturday-go to game together-contact AGR to use their harding lot for a tailgate-Game on September 25th-kerri will email members for tickets deadline May 1 money due by June 1st.

Jean-attend alumni tailgate before the game

New Business

1. Active/Alumni Activity – The active wish to hold a social event with Alumni. Some possibilities are doing something fun, line dancing, etc. Ideas and possible dates will be discussed at the next meeting.

2. The next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2004. We discussed securing two separate rooms; one for the children and one for meeting
3. Michelle Mouser moved to establish separate savings accounts for each earmarked fund. Chris Reed seconded. Motion passed.
4. Kerri Linton moved to send yearly packets electronically to anyone who has email access, and snail mail a directory to those whose email is unknown, as well as set up a link on our website to the directory. Chris Reed seconded. Motion carried.
5. The group discussed graduate students being active with Lorrell Walter (national board member). She suggested submitting a by-law proposal to nationals for a change. It was decided that Anne & Monica will work together to develop an amendment to national bi-laws concerning graduate student acceptance as active members. Shannon McCutcheon (active chapter President) stated the timely receipt of information is a problem. Jean Woloshuk qualified Shannon's concern by stating that time limit conflicts with data due compared to when notification is received.

Announcements

1. Gwen Samms had another child in December – Rebecca Grace
2. Leslie LaRew is having baby in May.
3. Alecia Naugle is living in D.C. and riding the tram to work. Her husband Tim has gone to school to become a massage therapist
4. Monica's Niece has had a baby. Rob, her husband has been promoted to a new job. He's been offered a plant manager's job.

Adjourn

Kerri Linton moved to adjourn the meeting. Chris Reed seconded. Motion passed.