

Minutes of Pi State New York 71st General Session
April 29, 2017 (Saturday) 10:18-11:52 AM



Pi State -- New York
Minutes of General Session
The Otesaga Hotel, Cooperstown
April 29, 2017 (Saturday) 10:18-11:52 AM

Present: (51 voting members) (See Attendance)

10 Past Presidents
9 State Officers
25 State Chairs
44 Chapter Presidents/Representatives
1 International Guest

Chapters Absent (N=11):

#5-Epsilon	#6- Zeta	#11-Lambda	#12-Mu
#28-Alpha Delta	#31 Alpha Eta	#35 Alpha Lambda	#46 Alpha Chi
#65-Beta Rho	#69-Beta Phi	#75-Gamma Gamma	

[1] **Call to Order**

President Bedard called the Pi State 71st General Session to order at 10:18 AM.

[2] **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Deborah Bedard.

[3] **Welcome**

Convention Co-Chair Jean Sekel, *Pi*, shared greetings with those in attendance on behalf of herself and Convention Co-Chair Suzanne Patrick, *Rho*.

[3.1] Jean welcomed all to the Convention in Cooperstown, home to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

[3.2] She recognized that TEN, Past-Presidents were in attendance, the highest number present in many years.

[4] **Introductions and Recognitions**

President Deborah Bedard introduced the women seated on the dais:

To her right:

Convention Co-chair – Jean B. Sekel

Immediate Past President – Dr. Joyce Tang

Second Vice-President and Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award Chair – Sue Kenoyer

First Vice-President and Bea Small Award Board of Trustee Chair – Karen Butters

Secretary – Jennifer Lee-Alden

To her left:

Editor and Ad Hoc Website Committee– Mary-Martha Harvey

Nominations Chair – Dr. Valerie Legakis



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Our International Guest, DKG First Vice-President – Dr. Barbara Whiting
Alpha Epsilon Chapter member and Pi State Past President (1997-1999) Dr. Margarethe McCurry
Parliamentarian – Eleanor (“Ellie”) Robinson
President and Gladys L. Mersereau Grant(s)-In-Aid Chair – Deborah M. Bedard

President Bedard also introduced the women in front of the dais in reserved seats:
Music Representative – Bridget Bishop
Treasurer and Co-Convention Chair– Suzanne Patrick
Past Pi State President (2007-2009) and Executive Secretary – Karen Crumley
Pi State Past President (1991-1993) and Committee of Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) Chair Anne-Marie Carlson
Pi State Past President (1993-1995) Catherine Olinger
Pi State Past President (2001-2003) Jane Tanner
Pi State Past President (2005-2007) Dr. Andrea Morris
Pi State Past President (2009-2011) and FDF Administrator Joan Slagle
Pi State Past President (2011-2013) and Leadership Development Chair Jeanne Schenk

Behind the State Presidents:
Carol Frost, Communications and Publicity Committee member, who will be reporting for Chair Maria Weimer
Noreen LeCann, Finance Chair
Melanie McDonald, Membership and Expansion Chair
Shelia Brady-Root, Personnel Chair
Virginia Dudko, Pi State Educational Foundation Chair
Erin Merrill, Awards Chair
Agnes Becker, Pi State Achievement Award Chair.
Rosemary Van Wart, Scholarship Chair
Patricia Turner, Travel and Study Stipend
Barbara Keis and Susan Norris, Educational Excellence Co-Chairs.
Lochie Musso, United Nations-Non-Government Organization Representative
Arlene Ida, Native-American Grant(s)-in-Aid Chair.
Patricia Turner, Travel and Study Stipend Chair.
Emilie Stris, World Fellowship Chair.
Diane Battaglia, Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund Chair.
Harlene Gilbert, Verna Mulholland Friend of Education Award Chair.
Barbara Bostwick-Quinn, Ad Hoc Strategic Action Plan Committee Chair and U.S. Forum Representative.

President Bedard then introduced the Timekeepers seated at the side table:
Jane Crosby, *Alpha Tau* (EC)
Marie Fabray, *Alpha Eta* (E)
Kathleen Sprague, *Beta Epsilon*, (SW)

- [5] **Convention Registrar’s Report – Lisa Huyck, Registrar**
Lisa informed us there were 178 registrants on site. 195 have registered to attend, with some



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coming in later today.

President Bedard thanked Lisa for her tireless efforts in helping to make the 2017 Convention a success.

- [6] **Quorum Call and Rules of Debate – Ellie Robinson** **Appendix A**
 Parliamentarian Eleanor Robinson informed us that 178 registrants were eligible to vote. 90 will be needed for a simple majority, and 120 for a 2/3 majority. She dispensed with the reading of the "Rules of Debate" since a copy of the rules were included in the Red Book. She also explained that Pro and Con cards were available at the table if debated occurred. Cards are also available for filling out a motion.
- [7] **Adoption of Agenda** **Appendix B**
 Andrea Morris, moved to adopt the agenda as published. Anne Marie Carlson, seconded. **Motion passed**
- [8] **Approval of April 28, 2015 General Session Minutes** **Appendix C**
 The Minutes of the April 28, 2015 General Session held at the Long Island Marriot in Uniondale, NY have been approved by the Committee to Approve the Minutes and have been published in the Red Book. *Minutes were accepted as printed*
- The members of the Committee to Approve the Minutes for the 71st General Session are:
 Joanne Carroll, *Alpha Pi*, (EC)
 Michelle Cole, *Theta Epsilon*, (NW)
 Rise Messmer, *Nu*, (NC)
- [9] **Thought for the Day - Past President Maggie McCurry**
 [9.1] Maggie McCurry referred to Pi State members as gems – whether a diamond or an opal, we are precious! We sparkle as a present member, we shimmer with commitment, and we shine when we achieve fulfillment by doing things that adhere to our DKG purposes.
 [9.2] As we consider how to continue serving our Chapter, State, and maybe International organization, whether it is through supporting DKG initiatives, or seeking personal or professional development, we can continue to Sparkle, Shimmer and Shine!
- [10] **Reports and Actions and Recommendations from Executive Board – Jennifer Lee-Alden**
 [10.1] Jennifer announced the newly elected members of the Nominations and Finance committees.
 [10.2] The Executive Board approved the budget recommended by the Finance Committee for the 2017-2018 year.
 [10.3] By Laws #1, 5, and 7, as listed in the packet, were approved by the Executive Board. All of the proposed changes to the Standing Rules, including the changes to Vouchers, were approved, with the exception of #6. All of the changes approved by the Executive Board will be going forward for discussion and vote in the General Session.
 [10.4] The Executive Board approved the Strategic Action Plan document, with thanks to the Ad Hoc Committee for their efforts.



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[11] **Executive Committee Reports**

[11.1] **President – Deborah Bedard**

Appendix D

[11.1.1] **Recognition of Chapters Celebrating Special Birthdays in 2017**

President Bedard, with the assistance of First Vice President Karen Butters, presented certificates to Chapters celebrating 40-80 years of existence.

[11.1.2] President Bedard announced her Biennial report can be found in the Red Book, and can be read by members on their own.

[11.1.3] Deb filed the Pi State Chapter Presidents' reports with International by the March 1, 2017. A summary of this report has been distributed at this meeting, and will be posted on the Pi State website.

[11.2] **First Vice-President Karen Butters**

Appendix E

[11.2.1] This Biennium has included emotional and physical challenges, but she was able to complete the tasks of the Pi State 1st Vice President.

[11.2.2] She chose to not run for President because she felt her life has taken a different path. She thanked those who offered her support should she have decided to run for President.

[11.2.3] Karen looks forward to additional work in her church, as a choral conductor, and spending time with her daughter and family in Alaska.

[11.3] **Second Vice-President Sue Kenoyer**

Appendix F

[11.3.1] Her favorite part of being an officer this Biennium has been getting to know more members of Pi State. She has always wanted to know more about DKG beyond the Chapter level.

[11.3.2] To Sue, DKG stands for Dialog, Knowledge, and Growth. That is what the last two years have been for her.

[11.3.3] Sue shared her journey from Chapter President to Pi State officer. She feels the organizational skills and motivation we have as teachers can help any Pi State member become an officer.

[11.4] **Immediate Past President, Dr. Joyce Tang**

Appendix G

[11.4.1] Dr. Tang did not submit a report for the Red Book.

[11.4.2] Dr. Tang shared the Strategic Action Plan with members of *Alpha Phi* Chapter. She shared their comments with those in attendance at the General Session.

[11.4.3] She shared how she supported the Awards Committee in raising funds for Scholarships.

[11.5] **Executive Secretary Karen Crumley**

Appendix H

[11.5.1] A supplement to the 2016-2018 Directory will be published next fall. The items going in the Directory will include the new Pi State Officers, new Committee Chairs and members, a list of recipients of Scholarships, Grants, and Awards that will be presented at the Awards Brunch on Sunday. Chapter Presidents are asked to complete the Supplemental Directory form to include any changes to Chapter Officers, 2017-2018 Programs, and new Chapter initiatives. Order forms for the Supplemental Directory are in registration folders, and are due to Karen by July 31, 2017. The directories will be mailed in the early fall. Pdf's of the supplemental will be emailed after the paper copy directories have been mailed.



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[11.5.2] Please check the Pi State website in mid-July for a new list of Important Dates. The Spring Executive Board meeting will be held on April 20-21, 2018, at the Century House in Latham. Check the Summer Important Dates for information on the room block for this meeting. The room price will be \$112++.

[11.6] Pi State Treasurer Suzanne Patrick

Appendix I

[12.6.1] Treasurer Patrick shared that the Treasurer's Report for this Biennium can be found in Appendix 1. She truly appreciates the hard work of all Chapter Treasurers.

[12.6.2] Please help your Chapter Treasurer by paying your dues on time.

[11.7] Pi Lights Editor Mary-Martha Harvey

Appendix J

[11.7.1] Editor Harvey reported that this has been a terrific year! She has had a close up look at the activities of Pi State Chapters, and considered it a privilege to be the State Editor for seven years. Our organization is strong due to the efforts of past and present members.

[11.7.2] Mary-Martha has particularly enjoyed highlighting the many accomplishments of Pi State members and Chapter events. She has learned a lot about Pi State by collaborating with Judy Wadsworth, Sue Genthner, and others to compile the Fourth 20 Years of Pi State. This publication is available for pre-sale through FDF for \$6, including postage. Each Chapter will receive a free copy for their records. She thanked all for the wonderful work done for Chapters and educators in our communities.

[12] Committee and State Reports

[12.1] Awards – Erin Merrill

Appendix K

[12.1.1] Erin thanked her committee for their hard work. She thanked the Pi State Officers for their support.

[12.1.2] She expressed her appreciation to the Chapter Presidents for their efforts in fundraising, to support the many awards that will be presented later.

[12.2] Educational Excellence – Sue Norris and Barbara Keis

Appendix L

[12.2.1] Sue Norris thanked the committee, many of whom attend CTAUN, and, together with President Bedard, planned and presented 17 workshops for the 2017 Convention.

[12.2.2] Barbara Keis mentioned the form that can be completed for Professional Development credit.

[12.2.3] Workshop presenters were given a small gift and a certificate.

[12.2.4] Barbara also thanked Bridget Bishop, Music Representative, for her efforts in gathering musicians to provide music for our Convention.

[12.3] Membership and Expansion – Melanie McDonald

Appendix M

[12.3.1] Melanie thanked the committee for their work in planning the Hour of Remembrance for 2017 Convention, designing PowerPoints, sending condolence cards, etc.

[12.3.2] The recommendation for the incoming committee is to continue to support the Strategic Action Plan as it pertains to Recruiting, Retaining, and Reinstating membership.



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[12.4] Communications and Publicity – Carol Frost for Maria Weimer Appendix N

[12.4.1] The report can be found in the Red Book, p. 21.

[12.4.2] Carol Frost thanked the group who worked on the Fourth 20 Year Booklet.

[12.4.3] Judy Wadsworth can send members emails about education issues in NYS

[12.4.4] Members are encouraged to sign up for the Pi State Facebook page.

[12.5] Bylaws and Rules – Jean Wagner

Appendix O

[13.5.1] By Laws and Standing Rules Chair Jean Wagner moved to approve proposed By Law changes #1 (Article IV, Section A.1), 5 (Article IX, Section C.3.1), and 7 (Article XII, Section A) as published. [13.5.2]

Motion carried.

[13.5.2] By Laws and Standing Rules Chair Jean Wagner moved to approve proposed changes to Standing Rules and Vouchers as published, omitting #6.

Motion carried.

[12.6] Finance – Noreen LeCann

Appendix P

[13.6.1] The Finance Committee report can be found on p. 22 in the Red Book. Noreen reported that the Pi State accounts have been rebalanced to more effectively handle current market activity. As of April 26, 2017, the accounts total \$600, 694, representing a 12.5% gain.

[13.6.2] Noreen expressed her gratitude to all committee members who have served with her for the past two Biennia.

[12.7] Audit – Ruth Ann Fultz

Appendix Q

[13.7.1] The Audit Committee Report can be found on pp. 18-19 in the Red Book. The new Area Council form has been very “user-friendly” for both the Area Councils and the State Treasurer. This new reporting process has expedited the work for both parties.

[13.7.2] The Audit Committee recommends an increase in the number of members to ensure that there is adequate representation should someone be unable to attend of the meetings.

[12.8] Bea Small Leadership Speakers’ Fund– Diane Battaglia

Appendix R

The Bea Small Speakers Fund is used to provide leadership opportunities for Chapter and Pi State Officers. The full report can be found on p. 43 in the Red Book.

[12.9] Personnel – Sheila Brady-Root

Appendix S

The Personnel committee reviewed applications and recommendations for Webmaster, Executive Secretary, and FDF Administrator.

[12.10] Leadership Development – Jeanne Schenk

Appendix T

[12.10.1] The LDC report can be found on pp. 25-26 in the Red Book.

[12.10.2] The Leadership Development Committee is hosting a workshop for Chapter Presidents as part of the Convention.

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[12.11] World Fellowship – Emily Stris **Appendix U**

[12.11.1] The report can be found on p. 41.

[12.11.2] Emily thanked the committee for their efforts.

[12.12] Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award – Sue Kenoyer

Appendix V

No one was nominated for this award again this year. Next year please consider nominating someone for her contributions to education, so that we may have several Key Women Educators to consider for this award.

[12.13] Verna Mulholland Friend of Education Award – Harlene Gilbert

Appendix W

The full report can be found on p. 46 in the Red Book. Harlene reported that we did not have a nominee this year for the award.

[12.14] Pi State Educational Foundation – Ginny Dudko **Appendix X**

[12.14.1] Due to time constraints this morning, the Educational Foundation meeting will be rescheduled to 4:45 p.m., immediately following the last workshop session.

[12.14.2] The full report can be found on pp. 31-32.

[12.14.3] The Educational Foundation awarded more than \$8,000 in grants this year, but received only \$3,500 in donations. Please consider donating to this fund so we can offer additional awards in the future.

[12.15] Nominations – Dr. Valerie Lagakis

Valerie presented the Slate of Officers for the 2017-2019 Biennium:

Mary-Martha Harvey, President

Sue Kenoyer, First Vice-President

Jennifer Lee-Alden, Second Vice-President

There were no additional nominations for these positions from the floor. Anne Marie Carlson moved to have Secretary, Jennifer Lee-Alden, cast a ballot for this slate as there was no opposition. Leah Extner seconded.

Motion carried.

No candidate for the position of Secretary was nominated by the November 15, 2016 deadline. Jo Sala, *Rho*, nominated Lisa Huyck, *Rho*, for the position.

Motion carried.

[13] Special Committees and Pi State Representatives

[13.1] Ad Hoc Committee to Organize Pi State Headquarters – Joan Slagle

Appendix Y

[13.1.1] This committee is willing and able to help with information requests.

[13.1.2] Paraphernalia from dissolved Chapters is stored at Headquarters.

[13.1.3] Chapter Charters from dissolved Chapters should be sent to International.

Everything else can be given to this committee.

[13.2] Ad Hoc Website Committee – Mary-Martha Harvey

Appendix Z



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A reference sheet for the new website can be found in your participation folders.

President Bedard announced that the work of this committee is now finished, so she hereby dissolved the committee, with her deep appreciation for their efforts.

[13.3] Ad Hoc Strategic Action Plan Committee – Barbara Bostwick-Quinn

Appendix AA

[9.5.1] Barbara was pleased to report that the committee achieved the goals set by the Strategic Action Plan in the 2013-2015 Biennium.

[9.5.2] A copy of the final draft of the Strategic Action Plan has been included in Convention folders. This document will serve as a road map to guide our leaders in the next Biennium. Special thanks to all of the committee members.

[9.5.3] This morning the Executive Board voted to approve the Strategic Action Plan as written.

[13.4] US Forum Representative – Barbara Bostwick-Quinn

Appendix BB

[14.4.1] Barbara announced the upcoming US Forum workshop that will be presented at the NERC in Windsor, Ontario.

[14.4.2] Pi State members are encouraged to stay informed on upcoming legislation as it impacts education world-wide.

[13.5] UN-NGO Representative – Lochie Musso

[14.5.1] Lochie announced that five of the nine DKG United Nations representatives come from Pi State.

[14.5.2] Please look for UN-NGO announcements and newsletters on the Pi State website.

[13.6] CTAUN – Anne Marie Carlson

[14.6.1] Many Pi State members attended the 2017 CTAUN conference on refugees.

[14.6.2] The next CTAUN conference will be in early April 2018 at the United Nations. The likely topic will be protecting our youth.

[14] New Business
None

[15] President-Elect's Acceptance Speech
The President Elect's Acceptance Speech will be given at the Presidents' Banquet.

[16] Announcements and Reminders
[16.1] Due to time constraints this morning, the Educational Foundation meeting will be rescheduled to 4:45 p.m., immediately following the last workshop session.
[16.2] When you leave the Convention, please leave your name badge holder in one of the baskets, so that we may reuse them in the future.
[16.3] A rehearsal for the Hour of Remembrance will take place this evening after the President's Banquet. The ceremony will begin promptly at 9 AM on Sunday morning in the Iroquois room.
[16.4] Chapter Presidents or designees need to sign the attendance list, please see



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State Secretary Jennifer Lee-Alden after the meeting. Committee Chairs should submit copies of their reports to Jennifer for inclusion in the General Session minutes.

[16.5] Pi State members interested in serving on State Committees should complete the Volunteer Request form that can be found in the Convention folders, on the Pi State website, and in the recent copy of *Pi Lights*. Please send the completed form to President Deborah Bedard as soon as possible.

[16.6] Please remember to fill out your Convention evaluation sheets. These can be returned to a box at the Registration table.

[16.7] White Tent Cards and Red Voting Cards

President Bedard thanked the Chapter Presidents and asked that white tent cards and red voting cards be left on the tables.

[17] Adjournment

As there was no other business, the Spring 2016 Executive Board Meeting and Seminar was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Jennifer Lee-Alden

Jennifer Lee-Alden

Secretary

Date

Deborah M. Bedard

Deborah M. Bedard

State President (2015-17)

Date

The Committee to Approve the Minutes:

Joanne Carroll

Joanne Carroll

Alpha Phi

7/18/17

Date

Michelle Cole

Michelle Cole

Beta Epsilon

7/18/17

Date

Rise Messmer

Rise Messmer

Nu

7/18/17

Date

