

DKG MINUTES

Tuesday, May 2, 2024

Cedar Grove High School

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 by President Theresa Messineo.

Theresa welcomed everyone and introduced the past presidents in attendance: Jan Paxton, Cindy Sokoloff, Megan Connolly, Cathy Cleenput, Claire Swanson, and Debbie Hoeflinger.

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT: Kim Heilig offered a poem from "Journey through Heart Songs"

Theresa explained the evening's events: Grant-in-Aid recipient, The Program: Teachers Supporting Teachers and Induction of the New Officers for 2024-2026.

SOCIETY'S BUSINESS (Part 1)

Grant in Aid: Patty Caruso introduced this year's recipient, Riley Darlington, from Kinnelon High School. Riley is president of many school organizations and involved in many extracurricular activities. Riley received a \$1,000 scholarship. This year there were only twelve applications for the scholarship. This is alarming. It was suggested that we follow up with scholarship winners about our future DKG meetings.

PROGRAM: Kristen Massotto presented an excellent program, Teacher's Supporting Teachers.

BUSINESS MEETING:

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes of the previous minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Cathy Cleenput to accept the minutes, seconded by Joan Oehm.

Correspondence: Irene Maskaly, State President, sent a note of gratitude for the invitation to our last meeting. Barbara Ann Ellert's daughter, Jennifer, sent a card of thanks for the lovely tribute we gave Barbara Ann at her viewing. Evelyn sent a sympathy card to Roger Ellert.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Cathy Cleenput reported we are doing well. Alpha members donated \$150 and the party room at the Convention was covered. Our baskets were a hit; however, the silent auction was not a success. It was decided that we will go back to the "tricky tray" format for the 2025 Convention which was more successful. Cathy noted that Alpha had members extremely active at Convention. Cathy was the State Motivator and gave several inspirational moments, Theresa and Megan conducted the inductees' orientation, Joan handled the finances, Jan acted as Convention registrar, and Laura served as State Music Director and accompanist. Laura was also the state co-chair for the Convention Arts Festival

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Theresa Messineo thanked everyone for their support during her biennium. She reminded officers about the State Meeting on June 1, 2024. She encouraged all officers to attend even if they have held the office before.

SOCIETY'S BUSINESS

Membership: Laura Perrius welcomed our new inductees, Tamisha McKoy and Diane Blazier, who were inducted at the Convention. She encouraged members to bring a friend to the meeting.

Grant-in-Aid: \$183 was collected.

Hoitsma: Cindy Sokoloff encouraged members to read about Hoitsma Fund on the Alpha Website and apply if you are participating in an educational activity that your district isn't paying for in full.

Convention: Jan Paxton reported that Convention would be held April 4, 5, & 6, 2025.

Necrology: Barbara Ann Ellert will be remembered at the 2025 Convention. Please let Laura Perrius know if you want to read or add to her biography.

Program of Work:

Red Hawk Pantry: We will support it through Amazon donations.

NEW BUSINESS:

STRENGTHEN OUR SISTERS: We will continue to support this program.

Cathy Cleenput thanked all the past officers for their great work.

Claire Swanson notified us that proposed amendments to the international constitution and standing rules will be voted on during the International Convention this summer. One of the proposed amendments is to change the name of the Society.

Claire realized there was a vague statement in the Chapter Rules and asked permission to change a sentence to say, "A candidate for active or collegiate membership shall be approved upon the nomination of a member of the chapter."

An ad hoc committee was formed to see if we wanted to change our grant-in-aid for graduating high school students going into teaching to something else since we were not getting many applicants. The motion was approved by Kim Heilig and seconded by Laura Perrius. The committee will consist of Cindy Sokoloff, Emily Hoeflinger, Pattie Caruso, Suzette Given, and Tamisha McKoy.

CLOSING: Meeting was adjourned at 6:15. The motion was made by Joan Oehm and seconded by Jennie Villanueva.

The attendance was 26.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Oberndorf, Secretary