



Omega Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, January 24, 2015
St. John's Episcopal Church, Canandaigua, NY

Members Present: Helene Goodberlet, Mary-Martha Harvey, Laura Hill, Judy Kiehle, Mary King, Della Ludwig, Adelle Miller-Wadsworth, Sharyn Powell, June Renner, Dawn Scales, Deb Trombino

Absent: Gail Burr, Susan Cunningham, Mary Cherniss, Julie Hadyk, Lynda John, Bev Lanoue, Mary Shelley, Peg Snyder, Katja Stevens, Christine Taylor, Linda Upchurch

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Mary-Martha Harvey at 1:00pm.

Approval of Minutes: Della Ludwig moved, seconded by Mary King to approve the minutes of the August 15th, 2014 Executive Board Meeting. Motion carried.

President's Report: President Mary-Martha Harvey shared the new "Hold Harmless" agreement required by International and Pi State regulations.

Mary-Martha gave reports for members of the Executive Board who were unable to attend:

* **First Vice President** Mary Cherniss has programs ready and will confirm panelists and format for April. Mary-Martha and April Hostesses will meet with NYWCC for April Tri-Chapter Meeting. Mary-Martha will secure caterer for March at St. John's Episcopal Church and May at Trinity Church, Geneva. Deb Trombino will check with K&R Catering from Waterloo as a possible for May. Mary-Martha wants registrations for April Meeting from *Alpha Tau* and *Beta Delta* to come to *Omega* since we are responsible for the payment to NYWCC. We will have Gleaner's dry soup available for sale in March. Mary will check with Dr. Pierce to see if he needs mike system and powerpoint/projector/screen.

* **Secretary** Mary Shelley has injured her knee. Mary-Martha will be Acting Secretary for this meeting.

* **Communications/Publicity** Chair Gail Burr continues to do an outstanding job with media.

* **Webmaster** Katja Stevens continues to update our website and needs action photos of Chapter Meetings and projects as well as any photos to update the Chapter Directory. There are currently 5 *Website & Print* Forms that have not been returned. The new *Omega* website is linked on the International site.

* New **Auction** Committee Chair is Susan Cunningham.

* **Legislation & Nominations** Chair Lynda John has nothing new with Legislation and Nominations.

* **Personal Growth & Services** Co-Chairs Julie Hadyk and Christine Taylor are working on updating projects information about Midlakes One Room School House and the Little Red Bookshelves and planning service projects for *Omega*. Linda Coons is the Canandaigua contact for Little Red Bookshelves and will deliver books to Canandaigua locations, including the Gleaners Community Kitchen, where we will be meeting in March. The Committee will provide Red Book Bins to collect new and gently used books at future *Omega* Meetings and will drop off donations at all locations. The Committee has researched various personal health and wellness plans and is hoping to offer a "Health & Wellness Experience" to members in the near future. The *Omega* Book Club continues to meet the third Monday of each month and Chair is Linda Coons.

* **Scholarship/Grant(s)-in-Aid** Chair Peg Snyder has heard from Alaina Palmer, Grant(s)-in-Aid 2014 recipient has received her residency and will attend spring semester at Arizona State University. FLCC will handle the tuition payment. The Committee wants to change Section H. p. 14 #1 of the *Omega Chapter Standing Rules* to read "high school" (instead of "FLCC") and adding "from *Omega's* respective school districts." The rationale is that in recent years there have been few applicants from FLCC and they were not always representative of our school districts. This change would ensure that we know the student applicants from our districts. Further this would bring knowledge of *Omega* to our school districts.

The Executive Board discussed this proposal. The Committee needs to decide the procedure of notification of school districts, ensuring that all our districts will have consideration, and will contact them. Forms should be updated and qualifications reviewed. Will the selection be done by the school districts? One idea was to require students to send their grades and then receive payment at \$500 per semester (\$1000 total) after they declare their education major.

Della Ludwig moved, seconded by Judy Kiehle, to make a change to the Omega Standing Rules Section H. p. 14 #1 to read Monetary grant(s) will be awarded to a qualified high school student(s) pursuing a degree in education from Omega's respective school districts. Motion carried. None opposed.

Peg Snyder will present the approved motion at the March Dinner Meeting for Chapter vote.

Second Vice President: Laura Hill has locations contracted. She would appreciate suggestions to add to our list of possible locations. Wegman's was mentioned as well as Gateway Grille in Canandaigua. Deb Trombino and Susan Cunningham can assist with the contact for Gateway Grille. Laura and Mary-Martha will meet with Tom Carter, Manager of Gleaners Community Kitchen about the March Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Kiehle reported for Linda Upchurch. She will handle checks and finances while Linda is away. The Financial Reports are filed with the Minutes. There is \$108.04 in Pink Pig, \$3430 to date raised in Auction, \$8342 balance in checkbook and \$1014 in Shirley Crosby account. \$2300 has been designated for Scholarship Fund.

Parliamentarian/ BYLAWS & Standing Rules: June Renner reported that changes will be considered this year. The Committee will meet in early spring 2015 to review *Chapter Standing Rules*. Revisions will be presented for a Chapter vote after Executive Board approval. The *Chapter Standing Rules* are due to Pi State *BYLAWS & Standing Rules* Chair and Pi State President by 30 June. June recommended that all Chapter members read the *Standing Rules*.

East Central Area Council: Deb Trombino reported that her term ends the end of June. There is a Council Meeting on March 25 at 4:30pm at Parker's in Geneva. She will advocate for an October date so that it won't interfere with the November Auction. The Conference theme is "Women's Wellness" and speakers are needed. Ideas include nutrition, mindfulness, yoga and meditation (labyrinth). *Omega* is in charge of publicity, programs, communication and flyers. Dee Katovitch from *Beta Delta* is Chair and Kebby Clute from *Beta Theta* is Recording Secretary. It was suggested that Jacquie Johnson would be an excellent speaker on meditation and labyrinth since her family has "Quiet Meadows" on their property and she may want to sell her books. Adelle will give Deb an article from last Sunday's Parade Magazine on meditation. Each Chapter is contributing \$35.00 toward our East Central basket for Awards Drawing at Convention in April.

Membership: Mary King reported that the Committee will meet in February and that the timeline for new members needs to be discussed and decided. **After discussion, the following timeline was adopted:**

March 2015: Introduction of New Membership Procedure at March Dinner Meeting

"Recommendation of Membership" Forms will be available.

Considerations include a mix of new and retired teachers, members in our schools and methods of contacting districts and faculty

Potential new members invited to April, May or June Meetings

June 2015: "Recommendation of Membership" Forms due at June Dinner Meeting and given to Mary King

Summer 2015: The Membership Committee meets to thoroughly examine the nominations and prepares a bio on each recommended new member for the September Dinner Meeting

September 2015: Chapter examines Nominee bios

Chapter votes by secret ballot

October &/or November 2015: Invite New Member Nominees – Meal costs are shared by District members.

January 2016: Informal Meeting of Membership Committee, Sponsors and New Member Nominees at location TBA

February 2016: Invitational Brunch for New Member Nominees at location TBA – Saturday, 7 February 2016
New Member Nominees receive informational folder and formal invitation

April 2016: Initiation/Induction of New Members and presentation of pins and certificates at Dinner Meeting

The Executive Board agreed that it is important that members understand our *Standing Rules* relating to member recruitment. Mary will write an article for Newsletter. To celebrate members, the Committee would like to create a Chapter quilt and poster featuring newer and experienced *Omega* members. Sharyn Powell volunteered to work on the posters. Mary will have copies of the *Recommendation for New Members* Forms at the March meeting. We will also place the form on the website. It was suggested that procedure used by Pal-Mac *Omegans* be considered – meeting with administration to receive input about faculty, personal invitations to an informal meeting and having the meeting at member's home for potential new members. This is a professional way to handle this.

Ceremonies: Dawn Scales stated that Sally Maxson is preparing a new Founder's Day program and has the pictures. The "*Celebration of Life*" Memorial for Claris will be held March 17. It was decided that the Memorial should occur first, then dinner and the program with Dr. Pierce. Dawn will contact the family and create the program. Claris' birthday is March 14th. Judy Kiehle will research materials for her message.

Historical Records & Scrapbook: Judy Kiehle reported that copies for new members need to be made as soon as Lynda John and Della Ludwig's reports are received.

Professional Affairs: Della Ludwig stated that her Committee plans to create a booklet for the April 2015 Meeting as soon as Program Committee decides what should be in the contents. The Committee is working on inspirational articles for each Newsletter. The Committee feels that the Early Educator's Seminar should not be an annual event. This will be discussed at the August Executive Board Meeting.

World Fellowship: Adelle Miller-Wadsworth will continue the "*Jewels for Schools*" sale of used jewelry to raise money for schools in Africa at March, April, May and June Meetings. Jewelry donations are still welcome. \$158.00 has been raised so far.

Arts and Music: Sharyn Powell has CDs for "*Decades of Music*" interlude for 30's, 40's, and Christmas oldies for members who request them. March will be 50's music. She is assisting Mary Cherniss in inviting high school musical groups for May. Deb Poplasky purchased a 3-part harmony book that Sharyn would like to use in June.

Cheer: Helene Goodberlet reported that the Committee has sent birthday cards to 24 sisters celebrating birthdays, 11 *Cheer*, *Thinking of You*, *Get Well* and/or *Sympathy Cards* to sisters needing *Omega Cheer* and sent a single red rose to 2 sisters who suffered the loss of Mothers.

Closing: Mary-Martha thanked all for their attendance and excellent work on behalf of our *Omega* Chapter.

Della Ludwig moved, seconded by Laura Hill to adjourn the winter Omega Executive Board Meeting. Motion carried. None opposed.

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

The next Executive Board Meeting is August TBA 2015 from 1:00-4:00pm at St. John's Episcopal Church, Canandaigua.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary-Martha Harvey
Acting *Omega* Secretary