

ALPHA THETA CHAPTER OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY, INC.

Alpha Theta Chapter
founded 1882

M.I.T.
founded 1861

February 26, 2000

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity, Inc. held November 18, 1999.

The meeting was called to order at 7:23 PM in the Chapter House Library.

Present: Jason Poff (House Mgr, Board), Rich Obert (R.A.), Sam Towell (Consul, Board), Mark Curtiss (Board, Corp. Member), Herb Mower (Board, Corp. Member), Paul Shay (Corp. Member), Ben Hellweg, Richard Yeh (Quaestor, Board), Tom Faust (Board, Corp. Member), Jay Krone (Board, Corp. Member), Roy Edwards, Dan Craig, Thomas Quealy, Josh Littlefield (Board, Corp. Member).

Minutes of the November 10, 1998, meeting were accepted as distributed by mail and e-mail.

BUSINESS

Election of Corporate Members

1. Karl Büttner, Mark Curtiss, Brian Hubert, Charles Markham, Herb Mower, John Piotti and John Wyatt were reelected as corporate members for 3-year terms. Additionally, Ben Hellweg and Jay Henderson were elected to 3-year terms.
2. The number of Alumni Corporate Members was fixed at nineteen until the next annual meeting.

Election of Alumni Representatives to the Board of Directors

1. Karl Büttner, Mark Curtiss, Jay Krone, Josh Littlefield, Herb Mower, Tom Faust and Ben Hellweg were all elected to one-year terms on the Board of Directors.

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

The meeting of the Corporate Board was called to order at 7:36 PM.

Present: As above.

Minutes of the September 29, 1999, meeting were accepted as distributed by mail and e-mail.

BUSINESS

Election of Officers

1. Mark Curtiss was elected to a one-year term as President of the Corporation.
2. Tom Faust was elected to a one-year term as Treasurer of the Corporation.
3. Josh Littlefield was elected to a one-year term as Clerk of the Corporation.

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REPORTS

Consul – Sam Towell

1. The Chapter was charged with hazing. The incident involved throwing water and egg on pledges as they exited the Baker elevator during a scavenger hunt. The Campus Police were informed and turned the matter over to the IFC for disciplinary action. The IFC charged six counts, including vandalism, hazing, and poor conduct. No charges were brought by any pledges. The Chapter acted to clean up the mess, pay \$200 for professional cleaning, apologize, and punish the actives who added the eggs. They also sponsored a seminar on hazing. They were found guilty on four counts, and innocent of breaking Sigma Chi hazing rules and Mass. State hazing laws. Their punishment will be to display a sign during rush indicating their guilt of hazing. The Chapter was planning an appeal of the decision, and wanted recognition of the restorative measures they took on their own. The Board expressed disappointment with the situation. Many indicated concern that the Chapter did not recognize the seriousness of their actions toward the pledges.
2. SAE has been forced to vacate one of their two houses, because of alcohol problems. They have been de-recognized by MIT for alcohol and probation violations, for a period of at least two years. The SAE alumni are upset and have expelled all non-pledge members. Kappa Sigma is also in trouble for an alcohol-related hospitalization.
3. The Campus Police “raided” fraternities looking for chairs stolen from Project Athena. Alpha Theta was the only house with no chairs.
4. The Sweetheart Ball was the previous weekend. A good time was had by all. Attendance was very high.
5. The Phi Kap’s house was found “uninhabitable” by the city during an inspection, which followed an accidental explosion on campus in a Skuffle publicity stunt. They were cited for building a maze, creating a fire hazard, improper storage of combustible liquids and signs of vermin. With Skuffle canceled as a result, the Phi Kaps held a fundraising rally for the Leukemia society and raised \$14 K. They have since moved back into their house and things seem back to normal.

House Manager – Jason Poff

1. The Chapter has had some problems with inspection services. They need to address a few things, such as better egress marking signs. They must also get an inspection from the fire department, which should happen around Thanksgiving. They also need to understand occupancy information for safe parties.

Quaestor – Richard Yeh

1. The Quaestor presented a list of expenses for which the Chapter requested reimbursement, totaling \$8995.84. Reimbursement of the expenses was approved.

“Couch Comm” – Roy Edwards

1. A Couch Committee within the house is proposing purchase of one naugahyde and two fabric couches for the library. Roy Edwards’ mother works at a furniture store and can get a good deal on the pieces, which would cost \$2168, plus \$150 for shipping. They would also like to

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buy a new carpet for the library, and can get a bound remnant for about \$200. The Board approved purchase of the couches.

Pledge Project – Dan Craig

1. The pledges would like to do a project in the music room. Dan proposes to rebuild the mantle, repaint the room, and replace the drapes. The current mantle is a very simple wooden frame, which was probably added in the 60's or 70's. Dan plans to build the new mantle in the MIT Hobby Shop. The Board expressed great happiness at having a pledge with carpentry skills.

Treasurer – Tom Faust

1. The Corporation has about \$80 K in the bank. Finances are OK. No formal report at this time.

Fundraising – Herb Mower

1. Last year we had about \$10 K in pledges. We are behind this year because we haven't gotten the letter out yet. The new letter will suggest some new, higher giving categories, which will have some special recognition associated.

BUSINESS

Renovation Planning – Mark Curtiss

1. Mark circulated a charter for a new Building Needs Committee. During December and January, the committee will review historic materials (capital needs reports, J-Com report, etc.). The proposed overall schedule, which leads to a final draft of the overall scope of work by June 2000, is aggressive and will require significant commitment by committee members. The involvement of undergraduates is very important.
2. Nominations were solicited for the committee. Nominated were: PK Hadley, Ben Hellweg, Dan Craig, Roy Edwards, Jason Poff, Herb Mower, Sam Towell, Mads Schmidt, Pete Warren, Karl Büttner, Chris Johnson, and Jay Krone.
3. The Board approved a motion to form the committee, with a budget of \$5 K, and the timetable suggested in Mark's charter. The committee membership will be at Mark's discretion, and people may be moved on and off. A core working committee of five to six committed members is desired.

New Housing News

1. MIT is building new housing north of Brigg's Field. There will be 10 houses to accommodate 350 people. Movable walls may allow for flexible partitioning as the residency needs vary among the houses.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua B. Littlefield, Corporate Clerk