

ALPHA THETA CHAPTER OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY, INC.

Alpha Theta Chapter
founded 1882

M.I.T.
founded 1861

January 19, 2002

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity, Inc. held November 18, 2002.

The meeting was called to order at 7:24 PM in the Chapter House Library.

Present: Mark Curtiss (Board, Corp. Member), Karl Büttner (Board, Corp. Member), Michael Kahan (Fall Board Rep.), Doug Bailey (Corp. Member), Ben Wang (Quaestor, Board), Danny Craig (G.Z., Board), Herb Mower (Board, Corp. Member), P. K. Hadley (Board, Corp. Member), Tom Faust (Board, Corp. Member), Jay Krone (Board, Corp. Member), Mike DeLaus (Board, Corp. Member), Adam D'Amico (Corp. Member), Tae Won Kim (Work Week Mgr), Raudel Rodriguez (Consul, Board), Neelesh Kantak (Fall Board Rep.), Josh Littlefield (Board, Corp. Member).

Minutes of the November 14, 2001, meeting were accepted as distributed by e-mail.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Consul – Raudel Raudriguez

1. The Chapter expects to receive \$12,160 from MIT for the fall semester as reimbursement for nine empty beds as part of the ILG transitional assistance program.
2. The Chapter appealed its denial of a Peterson award, but that appeal has been rejected on the grounds that information included in the appeal should have been part of the original application. The Chapter will take care to include more information in future applications.
3. A faculty dinner was held last week. Ten faculty members attended. The Sweetheart Ball is scheduled for next week.
4. The Chapter is enjoying a good season of IM sports.
5. The pledges held their walkout recently. Since they don't live in the house, this walk-out was not as obvious, but the pledges pulled many harmless pranks to make sure the actives knew about the event. Despite living on campus, the pledges appear to be a cohesive group. They come to dinner from time to time, and they hang out in the pledge room (3LB) on weekends and do homework there. Dinner has been moved to 6:15 to make it easier for pledges to attend. The day-to-day interaction with the pledges is going well. The pledges are reported to all dislike Simmons Hall, the new dormitory where most of them live.
6. The Chapter has provided meals for free when pledges come for dinner. There will be a \$200 social fee after Initiation.
7. Planning has started for spring rush. Participation is required for rent subsidy, though the Chapter would participate anyway.
8. The Chapter expects a full house next year.

Quaestor – Ben Wang

1. The Chapter budget was passed last week. The Chapter will lose money this year. Budgets had to be cut for many offices. The shortfall will likely be about \$5000.
2. The Chapter recently purchased a new ice machine and is seeking corporate reimbursement.

CORPORATE REPORTS

President – Mark Curtiss

1. This has been a good year for the Corporation, with the highlight being the 120th Anniversary reunion. The Chapter won the Reed Weedon Alumni Relations Award, by unanimous vote, largely due to the reunion success. The Building Needs Committee has been very successful at framing the renovation project, gathering undergraduate and alumni input, and making some key decisions.
2. The recent AILG meeting focused primarily on rush. The majority of ILGs did well, but a minority did very poorly. Overall, pledging was down 20% or more. The administration is trying to throw resources at the problem, and is trying to be supportive of the ILGs. However, according to a study by Phi Kappa Sigma alumni, there may not be enough undergrads to go around. The study may be seen here:
<http://web.mit.edu/iggy/www/PKSbusinesses.pdf>.

Treasurer – Tom Faust

1. The Corporation has about \$16,000 in the bank. The recently approved \$100,000 line of credit has not yet been touched. Finances have been relatively stable since expenditures on architectural work last spring.

Building Needs Committee – Mike DeLaus

1. Mike has been working with the architect on a schedule, and working backward to determine the real start time if construction was to begin in the summer of 2004. He's been advised the permitting process may be slow because of the various hurdles to construction in Back Bay. The process would have to begin about a year, or more, in advance to avoid delays to beginning construction. The committee will begin to examine cash flow requirements.

Capital Campaign Committee – Doug Bailey

1. Doug spoke with Phil Clay, MIT's Chancellor for some fundraising and strategic advice.
2. Phil Clay wrote a letter to FSILG presidents, just before the start of the fall semester, on the current situation, trends, and pressures facing ILGs. Doug circulated this letter, a copy of which may be seen at http://web.mit.edu/chancellor/FSILG_letter.html. This letter recommends that Chapters form strategic plans for survival. Doug would like the Capital Campaign committee to also focus on a long-range strategic plan for ongoing success of the Chapter.
3. The committee is still forming, and there has been considerable alumni interest. Doug would like to have undergraduates involved as well.

Chapter Advisor – Adam D'Amico

1. A group of young MIT alumni is forming to discuss ideas about helping ILGs survive.

2. The general fraternity recently had 45 people at an alumni workshop in Nashville. Adam attended the Chapter Advisor's session, and found it very worthwhile. This will be turning into a regular training seminar for alumni and is paid for by Sigma Chi.

BUSINESS

Election of Corporate Members

1. Karl Büttner, Mark Curtiss, Jay Henderson, Herb Mower and John Piotti were reelected as corporate members for 3-year terms. Additionally, Ian Sigalow, Mads Schmidt, Nick Bogovich, Paul Shay, Manoj Viswanathan, and Chester Bai were elected to a 3-year term.
2. The number of Alumni Corporate Members was fixed at twenty until the next annual meeting.

Election of Corporate Member Representatives to the Board of Directors

1. Karl Büttner, Mike DeLaus, Tom Faust, Peter Hadley, Jay Krone, Josh Littlefield, Doug Bailey and Herb Mower were all elected to one-year terms on the Board of Directors.

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

The meeting of the Corporate Board was called to order at 7:17 PM.

Present: As above.

Absent: Brady Young (House Manager), Dennis Van der Staay (Spring Board Rep.).

Minutes of the October 7, 2002, meeting were accepted as distributed by e-mail.

BUSINESS

Work Week Report – Tae Won Kim

1. Tae distributed a final work week report.
2. Most of the expenses were for bath repairs.
3. Lots of things were accomplished, including new carpeting on the first and second floors, refinishing and sealing of the dining room, bar and zero floors, and extensive bathroom work.
4. The total came in just under budget at \$5282.28.
5. The Chapter would like to buy a new piano bench as part of the Work Week budget.
6. *The Board approved a motion* for payment of \$5283 to the Chapter for Work Week expenses, and reimbursement for purchase of a piano bench, not to exceed \$217.

The meeting of the Corporate Board recessed at 7:23 PM, to reconvene following the annual meeting of the Corporation.

The meeting of the Corporate Board reconvened at 8:58 PM.

Election of Officers

1. Karl Büttner was elected to a one-year term as President of the Corporation.
2. Josh Littlefield was elected to a one-year term as Treasurer of the Corporation.
3. Michael Kahan was elected to a one-year term as Clerk of the Corporation.

The Board approved a motion to recognize Mark Curtiss' five years of service as President.

Tentative dates for future Corporate Board meetings were selected as follows: 2/7/03, 4/16/03, 9/4/03 and 10/28/03 for the annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua B. Littlefield, Corporate Clerk