Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Meeting

Delta Sigma Chapter

November 15, 2018

Boger City United Methodist Church, Lincolnton, NC

Following refreshments Linda Yoder opened the meeting on behalf of the Communications/Publicity Committee. Connie Savell Eta State President greeted members and shared updates of Eta State business. Ms. Savell shared that 28 counties and a total of 30 chapters in the eastern part of the state suffered damages from Hurricane Florence this fall. Twenty-seven teachers had homes that were either totally destroyed or severely damaged by rain waters. Ms. Savell told of opportunities that were available for these teachers that received emergency funds and gift cards. She informed members of Emergency Fund application from International that is available for any member who sustains losses from natural disasters can be recommended to receive $500. She recently signed paperwork for 16 members who have received these funds.

At the summer meeting it was voted and approved to begin inducting collegiate members. They must be in an institution offering an education degree, have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education, and be enrolled in the last two years of their undergraduate education degree or in a graduate program. If the chapter wishes to invite collegiate members, the chapter rules must be amended to address the change.

Planning is underway for the Eta State Convention May 3-5 and will be hosted by Region X. Ms. Savell encouraged members to mark your calendars and prepare to volunteer. Ms. Savell shared that nominations were needed for recognition at the Eta State NC 85th Birthday. Consider those who past or present have made a notable contribution to education or to DKG on the local, state or international level.

Ms. Savell reminded us of our purpose to advance women in education by serving in leadership. Encourage and mentor women by giving them roles to help them learn their leadership skills. Ms. Savell shared that discussion networking is how women solve problems and overcome obstacles. She encouraged us to continue to come to meetings and contribute to the conversations to provide support and encouragement to others. Her closing remarks were “Be Active and Keep Sparkling!”

A gift was presented to Ms. Savell of a picture from the state convention luncheon 20 years ago.

Kesha Ruppe led the “Meet and Greet” holiday traditions activity.

Vice President Kennan Eaddy introduced speaker Barbara Hallisey, Associate Clinical Service Director at Partners Behavioral Health Management on the topic of the impact of opioids on schools. Ms. Hallisey shared that Lincoln County does have an opioid problem. A Department of Social Services roundtable identified pressing community issues and the opioid crisis rose to the top. More than 80% of those in the county jail have a substance abuse disorder. DSS is being crippled by the problem as they have seen more than a 25% increase of children coming into custody with 85% having one or both parents with a substance abuse disorder. Narcan training has been provided by EMS for law enforcement and the fire departments. The epidemic is manmade with prescriptions driving the problem as patients believe that they are safe if prescribed from a physician. The crisis spans across all socioeconomic status. In the 1990s pharmaceuticals developed high pain relievers and hoodwinked the public into believing there were no risks to these medications. The North Carolina stop act has made the initial prescription harder to get and requires a repeat visit to the doctor for more medication.

Ms. Halisey shared many examples of how the opioids have impacted children and families and how events are being held to provide education for parents and kids. There is a community effort to educate the public and provide solutions. A medication systems recovery program has been established through a grant with Gaston County. Lincoln County previously did not have a provider that was providing the medication and treatment for the opioid use disorder. Brochures, magnets and pens were provided by Ms. Hallisey with the information from Partners. Signs and symptoms of opioid addiction are listed in the brochure. Ms. Halisey shared alternative treatments in reducing pain and increasing function such as physical therapy, acupuncture, or chiropractor. Alternative to opioids is taking Tylenol and Ibuprofen together. Ms. Halisey encouraged everyone to look at your medicine cabinets at home to see what opioids you have gathered. Drop off boxes are located in Lincoln County at the Sherriff’s Department inside the door and Sentry Drug also takes unused opioids.

President Rhonda Hager called the business meeting to order by thanking the Communications/Publicity Committee for hosting the meeting. Rhonda thanked Connie Savell for joining us and providing Eta State updates and thanked Barbara Hallisey for her presentation on the Impact of Opioids on Schools.

Brenda Kinney made the motion to accept the minutes from September 25, 2018. Elaine Boysworth seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

Laurie Sellers presented the general budget and Grants-in Aid (Scholarship) budget. According to the treasurer’s report, as of November 9, 2018, the general budget had an ending balance of $3,948.74 The Grants-in-Aid or scholarship budget had an ending balance of $4,500.58. Kennan Eaddy made a motion to accept the budget and Jennifer Huskey seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

Committee Reports:

* For the Membership Committee, Brenda Kinney reminded members that prospect cards are due today. If members forgot to bring prospect cards you can email them to Kristen or Brenda by the end of November. The committee will meet in January.
* For the Education Law and Policy/Leadership Development Committee Kennan Eaddy provided laptops for members to complete the legislative survey.
* The Beginning Teacher Support Committee provided 26 goodie bags to beginning teachers with the message, “Stick with it. You can make a positive mark.” Thank you to Sheila Wright.
* Communications- Jenny Dellinger has updated the website with compliance seal. The yearbook information has not been published and any pictures need to be sent in soon. Jennifer Luper has done a seamless job with the newsletter.
* In an update on the Fashion Show the committee is currently working on vendors. Talley Ho will not participate this year. The committee is seeking new leaders to train.
* Program Committee-The January program will be techy time with the district media specialists.

In her closing remarks, Rhonda Hager gave special thanks to Laurie Sellers for collecting all dues and preparing the IRS 990 before the end of October. For those interested, Rhonda reminded members of the Eta State Convention celebrating the 85th birthday May 3-5 in Hickory.

There being no further business, Rhonda adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**Members Present**

Frankie Beam

Elanie Boysworth

Pat Carpenter

Jill Eaddy

Kennan Eaddy

Libby Fletcher

Nelva Goodson

Rhonda Hager

Jennifer Huskey

Melanie Huss

Judy Jones

Brenda Kinney

Jennifer Luper

Sara Miller

Wendy Mosteller

Heather Myers

Tammy Price

Gayle Reid

Kesha Ruppe

Laurie Sellers

Phyllis Tallent

Cindy White

Sheila Wright

Linda Yoder