

Homecoming minutes

October 19, 2024

Meeting started at 12:20PM

The meeting started with an Adytum On High for recently deceased alumni brothers Marlin Evans, Phil Farace and Reed Miller. Jeff Bruno started by reminiscing on Marlin's contributions to the continuance of the Beta Psi Chapter during our rebuilding from 2007 to our re-chartering in 2012. Comments by other alumni brothers Ron Steckel, Bill Horvath, Jeff Miller, and Eric Koch on their memories of Marlin were added. Jeff Miller then read the Sigma Pi Adytum On High in remembrance of these deceased alumni.

Presidents report: Jeff Bruno

Working with the current group of actives has been inspirational. They are the best group of actives he has worked with. They are always present at work parties (15 – 20 actives present at each work party). There is a work party on the 3rd Saturday of each month. We need alumni mentors with tools and expertise to lead these inspired actives. The actives are very involved in campus activities and won all Greek events this past year. They hustled to get the house filled with brothers when the University imposed housing restrictions on the student body at the eleventh hour, requiring all students to live on campus for their first two years. This greatly impacted our housing of younger brothers who had already made the commitment to live at 12 Smith Street.

Treasurers report: Jeff Bruno

Covid made things very difficult for us to fill the house because of the restrictions placed upon us by the AUTHORITIES. Due to these restrictions we did not have full house occupancy and the fraternity was not allowed to grow or replace graduating brothers. Cash flow was extremely limited while bills continue to rise. We only had 7 brothers living in the house which generated \$23,000 in rental income. We continue to recover from that shortage.

We have had some crazy high expenses this year that could not be avoided, or were necessary to generate more rental revenue.

"Margie Tree" removal	\$ 1900
3 rd floor room addition	\$ 500
2 nd floor room addition (old small bathroom)	\$ 990
Sewer line replacement	\$ 5000
Property tax	\$ 18000
Mortgage (700/month)	\$ 8400

We now have 11 brothers living in the house which will generate \$34000 in rent. We still need more money for utilities, flooring, a kitchen remodel, repairs to the badly sagging front porch, staircase repairs and numerous everyday upkeep expenses.

Our budget to run the house this year is \$62000. There is \$10000 remaining on the mortgage. **We need alumni donations to make up the shortfall or the house will continue to decline!**

Actives report:

Incoming Current Actives Sage: Steve Telez

Thank you for coming and showing your support alumni. We are very grateful for your support.

Outgoing Actives Sage : Jack Spohn gave us an update on what the chapter has been doing this past year.

New college rule: Only Juniors and Seniors can live in the house.

3 of us drove 15 hours to convocation in Indiana. While there we received the **Grand Chapter Award** for our continued improvement over the past two years under the guidance of former sage Hendrix.

2 Active Sages ago: Hendrix was instrumental in changing the fraternity attitude. He made National aware of all the chapter accomplishments on campus. Success academically, athletically, and all things Greek. Sigma Pi is the leader on campus. Winning all things during Greek week and throughout the semester. Hendrix made certain chapter report were submitted on time and complete. The Grand Chapter Award is the result of the communication lines he made with National and changes he implemented in the running of the fraternity and a renewed sense of self respect among the chapter actives. Hendrix will continue to guide the chapter as our New **Chapter Advisor** with national.

Vice presidents- Outgoing VP Eli ? and new VP Jordan ? Thanked the alumni for coming today and for their support in the past. We encourage Alumni presence to build relationships between the actives and Alumni. Alumni should feel welcome to visit and interact with the actives. As VP he is in charge of establishing committees for various projects and keeping them on track. He has a membership committee with a table on campus weekly to promote fraternity awareness.

Pledge Master- Logan ?

We had 28 Rushee's this semester, but 25 of them were first semester freshmen who cannot pledge until spring semester. Check out our website there are lots of pictures of recent activities.

Old business:

The oldest of the old business:

We own an old house. It requires a lot of love, money, time, and donations to keep it going.

All of your alumni donations/dues go into the general fund and are spent in order of priority.

Kitchen- We need to remodel the kitchen- stove, sink, flooring.

Flooring-We need to replace some worn flooring throughout the house.

The front porch-We need to jack it up and add support. It has sunk 4-6 inches and needs new steps.

John Gudikunst Scholarship

The new actives VP Jordan was last year's recipient of the scholarship. Logan thanked alumni for this much needed scholarship and said it really appreciated it. He has great respect for our alumni for bestowing this scholarship. It inspired him to be more involved in the fraternity which is why he has assumed the VP position where he hopes to grow the alumni relationship. Please continue to the John Gudikunst Scholarship fund.

Directors of the Scholarship fund

Allie Urban, Sumner Bossler, and Howard Evans were re-elected to the board

Michael Echstien, Casey Shaw and Ronnie Eith were elected to the board

New Business:

Darren White has assumed the upkeep of the Kevin Carrol memorial flagpole in the front yard.

We need an IT guy. That's Internet Technology for you old guys. This will facilitate communications and donations and record keeping.

Alumni Donations/All donations

Ron Steckel made a motion that "Recognition of all donors names should be published per year in Alumni and Active newsletters.

Elections

Casey Shaw- 2024 NOMINATE-ELECT

Mike Eckelston-2024- NOMINATE-ELECT

Ron Eith-2024- NOMINATE-ELECT

Closing comments: Bill Horvath spoke for the alumni-Congratulations for joining Sigma Pi. It has been a lifetime of friendships and association. May you enjoy the same long term relationships and new relationships that we continue to enjoy here at Sigma Pi.

Meeting Adjourned 1:15 PM

And then about a hundred AOPi's showed up and affirmed why we joined this fraternity in the first place. Good times, friendships, and relationships. Quite a few of us have found a lifelong friend at 12 Smith Street.

Minutes taken and presented by

Eric Koch, as best as I remember them.