

Grand Council Regular Meeting

Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity

January 27-28, 2017

Attendees

Phil Buckberg, Worthy Grand Architect
Hao Phung, Worthy Grand Associate Architect
Emily Lewis, Worthy Grand Estimator
Christina Anderson, Worthy Grand Scribe
Risa Schoenfeld, Worthy Grand Lecturer
AJ Kessinger, Worthy Grand Inspector
Vicki Horton, Grand Advisor

Meeting called to order January 27, 2017 at 1:55 PM CST.

Old Business

None

New Business

Baltimore Welcome Reception

- WGAA: We have a quote from the National Aquarium in Baltimore for next year's convention welcome reception.
- WGAA: The cost would be \$3200 (before catering) for approximately 200 guests, which includes aquarium admission for the evening.
- WGAA: dedicated space as well as aquarium access from 6:15pm -11pm.
- The WGAA recommends that we move forward with the contract.

Future Conventions

- Milwaukee declined our RFP.
- For Detroit, 2 hotels accepted our RFP but are not within our budget.
- The WGAA looked into Grand Rapids and found \$115 for Airport Crowne Plaza which is not close to downtown.
- Received a proposal from Omaha Downtown Hilton for \$119 per night.
 - Airport to hotel is about 7 mins
- Received proposals from St. Louis either near the Arch for \$149 per night or near the airport \$109 per night.
- Convention was last in St. Louis in 2009.
- The WGAA recommends we either move forward with St. Louis or Omaha for the 72nd National Convention in 2020.
- WGAA moves to award contract to Omaha, NE for the 2020 host city.
 - GA seconds the motion.

- The motion passes, 7-0

Convention Update

- Thursday
 - Grand Council will work in shifts to run the check-in tables from 10am-5pm.
 - WGE to run delegate check-in.
 - Catherine Berry will lead the Roberts Rules Workshop.
 - March 15 is the deadline for chapter dues to be submitted to the WGE.
 - Alumni Credentials will be submitted via DocuSign, chapters will still receive paper copies.
 - The Welcome Reception will start at 6pm at the Armory at Portland Center Stage.
- Friday
 - Business starts at 8 am, and there will be a lunch presentation from JR Favor
 - Keynote speaker, Nico Larco will speak after lunch.
 - We have several workshops slated for the afternoon. WGA suggests asking JR Favor about additional workshops so we can get the most out of Marc's attendance.
 - Business sessions will continue at 4pm to help lighten Saturday's schedule.
- Saturday
 - We are planning a bigger breakfast Saturday since lunch will not be provided.
 - Business will start at 8 am, and should be a shorter session.
 - The APX marketplace will be at 12 pm.
 - The convention team is planning something a little different for the Annual Banquet. There will be mixed seating and space between awards. We will have the photobooth, and will try to utilize lawn games like giant jenga to encourage mingling. Dinner will be buffet style.
 - Awards
 - Gold Medal
 - So Whitten - Nikon Chapter
 - Community Service- Olynthius Chapter
 - Foundation Scholarships
 - Singers to lead the Hymn

Gold Medal

- Dinocrates has submitted a petition to nominate University of Texas faculty member, Elizabeth Danze. (see attached nomination packet)
- The WGA motions to accept the petition.
 - The GA seconds the motion.

- The motion passes 7-0-0
- The WGA will prepare a docusign ballot go out to all chapters and alumni associations.
- The WGAA will approach Dinocrates Chapter for a presentation video for convention.

Grand Council Convention Report

- The WGA requests that the Grand Council members submit their sections of the report by 2/15

Awards Coordinator

- The WGA is putting together a job description to help manage and track awards submissions and plaque orders.
- The coordinator could also be responsible for extra outreach to the chapters to increase submissions for the So Witten and Community Service Awards.
- WGAA is putting together physical award for the Community Service Award this year. In the future this would be something the Awards Coordinator could take on.

Alumni Days

- WGAA to move forth with Alumni Days 2017 in Los Angeles and Orlando for new alumni regional targets
- Alumni Directors will assist in planning. Will contact local alumni for ideas.
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Membership Certificates

- The WGE found that there was a backlog of certificate orders going back to fall of 2014.
- All orders through spring of 2016 have been sent to the calligrapher.
- WGE will send fall 2016 and spring 2017 orders over the summer.

Badges

- The last order for badges was submitted in March of 2016
- There will be an order this week and another in March.
- The WGE is working to make sure orders for badges are only going out when there are students at schools to receive them, avoiding summer months when they are more likely be lost or misplaced.
- Callimachus never received a badge order that was sent last spring, we suspect the order was stolen in this case and are sending the badges with a signature verification so that we can better track when they are received.

New Database

- We will set a cut off at the end of spring for the CRS and Database entries to help prepare to move all of the information into the new system.

Future Travel Inventory

- The WGE and WGS are both interested in doing more travel and outreach with the students as it pertains to their roles. This might include a WGE visit to a chapter that needs a refresher on chapter record keeping and finances.
- The WGL has travel planned for the Theodorus installation in February as well as a ritual workshop later on. The Amenophis installation is also on the horizon pending their petition submittal in March. The WGL would like an additional GC volunteer to assist with this installation.
- The WGAA plans to visit 1-2 metro groups in early summer.
- The WGI will be visiting Senenmut for a self defense workshop in February and will likely visit Sostratus for their spring initiation once everything is in order with the school and their suspension is lifted.

Inventory of Stuff

- The WGAA currently has the projector.
- The WGL currently has the photobooth items.
- The WGA has various office supplies.
- The projector and photobooth items will be shipped to convention

Website

- Is it time again to pursue proposals for a reorganization and possibly new hosting?
- Items are still a challenge to find
- Adding some key links to the main page could alleviate some issues.
- We are unfortunately not very mobile friendly, which would be a key aspect to any redesign.
- The WGS will work with Webmaster to make the resources section more intuitive.

Internal Document Dtorage

- The WGA would like to look into other options for Grand Council members to store documents and collaborate.
- Currently some of us are hitting out storage limits with Google Drive.
- The WGAA suggests converting to Google for Business. The would also provide us with standardized gmail accounts and file sharing that could be easily transferred during officer transitions.
- We looked into this before and there is a cost associated, but it may be worthwhile since we are no longer paying for Dropbox.
- The WGS and WGAA have both used Google for Business and found the set up easy.
- The WGAA will continue to look into this so we can make a decision in the future.

Incident Response Training

- At our meeting with JR Favor they gave an in depth presentation on sexual assault incidents on campuses and how Professional Fraternities have seen and felt the impacts of incidents.
- The WGS and WGL suggest that we look into response training for Regional Directors and GC members so that we can be equipped to respond appropriately if a student comes to us.
 - JR Favor can put us in contact with Suzette from the Fraternal Health and Safety Initiative

Meeting adjourned January 28, 2017 at 11:55 AM CST.