

GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
MAY 18, 2024

The Regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 9:05am at the Grand Chapter Office in Arlington, TX by Chairman Tamela Henington. The Chairman welcomed all present and those members attending by Zoom with a quote on by Harry S. Truman.

Board Members present: Chairman, Tamela Henington, District 2; Vice-Chaiman, Joe Gilmore, District 1; Secretary, Brenda McDaniel, District 4; Rick Taylor, District 1; Mary Medford, District 2; Beverly Plante, District 3; Donna Noe, District 3; Bill Henry, District 4; Oscar Hairell, District 5; and Karen Wright, District 5.

Members Attending by Zoom: Worthy Grand Patron, Mark Dieckmann; Grand Secretary, Ellen Pickrell; Associate Conductress, Glenda Klemm; Past Grand Matron, Phyllis Macon; Bob Royall, Tammie Andriack, Chris Elliott, Caron Joseph, and Ashu Kukreja.

Others present for the meeting were: Associate Grand Matron, Glenda Murphy; Associate Grand Patron, Terry Littlepage; Grand Treasurer, Greta Spradling; Past Grand Matron, Carolyn Martin; Past Grand Patron, Tom Murphy; Past Grand Patron, James Parker; Monette Littlepage, Xanthe Parker, Donna Hill Pope, Roy Parsons, Judy Parsons, Lyndon Westerberg, Jose Guerra, Jane Pyle and Janet Travers.

Donna Noe presented a devotional on origin of Memorial Day and seeking God. Scripture references were John 15:13 and James 1:5.

A prayer was presented by Donna Noe at the end of the devotional.

JP Morgan Chase (Bankers Presentation)

Lyndon Westerberg and Jose Guerra presented a Financial Review and Market Outlook for the Grand Chapter of Texas to the Board of Directors.

Questions by those present were addressed by the Bankers.

They provided copies of a detailed Financial and Investment Review for all Board of Director members and all Corporate Board members.

There will not be a presentation of the Bankers in July unless some significant issue arises.

Worthy Grand Matron Remarks:

Worthy Grand Matron was not in attendance as she was in traveling status.

Worthy Grand Patron Remarks:

Worthy Grand Patron thanked the Board of Directors for conducting the Business of Grand Chapter. Members attending meeting and by Zoom were welcomed and thanked for their participation.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

The following June and July Birthdays were recognized: Sherry Dieckmann, Molly Cliett, Mary Harvey, and Pete Sturgeon.

The following June and July Anniversaries were recognized: Rick and Addie Taylor, Mark and Sherry Dieckmann, Susan and Bill Dormady, Donna and Dan Noe, and Janet and Patrick Travers.

The Chairman presented the following Housekeeping Rules for the meeting:

- Only Board Members speak during discussions.
- If a guest has a question, the guest should present the question to a Board Member so it may be brought before the Board.
- If a virtual guest has a question, the guest should text the question to a Board Member so it may be brought before the Board.
- Make eye contact with members in the room during the Mizpah Benediction.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the April 20, 2024, Regular Board of Directors Meeting at the Grand Chapter Office in Arlington, TX were presented.

Joe Gilmore moved that the minutes of the April 20, 2024, Regular Board of Directors Meeting be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Karen Wright and adopted.

Email Vote Ratification:

The next item of business was ratification of the email vote conducted May 2024.

May 1, 2024 – Vote to keep the Past Grand Matron's jewel from 1894-1895 in the Grand Chapter Museum under the care of Grand Chapter.

Brenda McDaniel moved to insert the word "pin" after jewel in the email motion. The motion was seconded by Joe Gilmore and adopted.

The word "jewel" for Worthy Grand Matron's "pins" was dropped some time ago, thus the motion for the correction.

Amended motion: Vote to keep the Past Grand Matron's jewel/pin from 1894-1895 in the Grand Chapter Museum under the care of Grand Chapter.

Brenda McDaniel moved to ratify the amended email motion. The motion was seconded by Bill Henry and adopted.

Correspondence:

Cards sent by the Secretary, Brenda McDaniel, included: 8 Birthday Cards, 4 Anniversary Cards, 6 Get Well Cards, 2 Thinking of You Cards, and 3 Sympathy Cards, for a total of 23 cards.

Grand Secretary's Report was given by Ellen Pickrell.

Endowed Membership checks have been mailed to the Chapters.

The Educational Committee has met and approved 26 scholarships. The scholarships are in the amount of \$1,000.00 each.

Money for scholarships comes from Humanitarian Donations, Worthy Grand Matrons Special Projects, and Education Fund.

Grand Treasurer's Report was given by Greta Spradling.

The Board has been provided with the Financial Reports as requested. The reports included: Grand Chapter Account, Balance Sheet Entries, and the Profit/Loss Report.

Board was provided with a monthly funds' comparison for Grand Chapter.

Endowed Membership checks have been mailed to the Chapters. The amount this year was \$19.43 per Endowed Member. Endowed Members totaled 7,504 as the number used for calculations are the number of Endowed members as of May 31st of the previous year. The spreadsheet used to calculate Endowed Membership checks is over 300 pages in length.

The Board thanked Greta Spradling and Jane Pyle for their work with the Endowed Membership Checks.

Greta Spradling has composed a book of the Grand Treasurers duties and responsibilities.

The Board thanked Greta Spradling for setting up and conducting the Zoom meetings.

Unfinished Business:

Legislation:

Legislation submitted by the Board is currently under review by Juris Prudence Committee.

Eastern Star Charitable Foundation Board Lunch:

The Eastern Star Charitable Foundation Board luncheon went very well. Past Grand Patron Paul Garner, his Board members, and the Corporate Board attended. Board was able to ask questions.

Brenda McDaniel has written synopsis of the meeting with the approval of Past Grand Patron Paul Garner that will be published in the Bulletin.

New Business:

2024-2025 Budget:

Associate Grand Matron Glenda Murphy will present her budget for the 2024-2025 year at the Budget Workshop at the end of the Board Meeting.

Board members will be the first to review the Budget.

Budget Workshop was held after the meeting.

Donna Noe moved to approve the Murphy/Littlepage Budget for the 2024-2025 year as amended. The motion was seconded by Rick Taylor and adopted. The vote was 8 in favor of the budget and 1 against.

Grand Chapter Van Report:

Bill Henry presented the Grand Chapter Van Report.

Code of Laws, Article 37 Motor Vehicle.

Maintenance and Safety Repairs are up to date as of April 2024.

Insurance for van is up to date.

Mileage on Van is approximately 85,000.

Van Replacement Meeting will be held in January 2025.

Committee Reports:

Benevolent Aid: Beverly Plante reported on Benevolent Aid for May 2024.

For the month of May, the Grand Chapter issued checks in the amounts of:

Long Term Aid	\$2,900.00	6 Chapters
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Temporary Aid	\$ 500.00	1 Chapter
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Emergency Aid \$1,500.00 1 Chapter
 A total of \$4,900.00

Museum and Facilities: Mary Medford reported on Museum and Facilities.
 No new information is available.

Titles, Deeds, & Properties: Rick Taylor reported on the Titles, Deeds and Properties.
 No new information is available.

Worthy Grand Matron's Special Projects: Karen Wright reported on the Worthy Grand Matron's
 Special Projects.
 All projects are showing a profit. No additional information is available.

TMRC Lady: Donna Noe reported on our TMRC Lady.
 Our TMRC precious lady is doing well. Status of Suzanne Walters health was shared.

Retirement Banquet: Donna Noe and Mary Medford reported on the Retirement Banquet.
 Information on retirement banquet has been published in the Bulletin.
 The banquet will be held at Southside Lodge in Ft. Worth on July 19, 2024.
 Tickets are \$35.00, and Mary Medford is collecting the money.
 As of this date there are 30 reservations.

Miscellaneous:

July Meeting: Retirement Banquet Report, and Brenda McDaniel will present devotional.

Board of Directors Guidelines for Grand Line Officers:

The Chairman, Tamela Henington, received a letter from the Past Grand Matrons and Patrons asking the Board of Directors to create guidelines for a timeline the Board will need for the Grand Line Officers.

An Ad Hoc committee was appointed to develop the guidelines: Karen Wright Chairman, Brenda McDaniel, Mary Medford, Beverly Plante, Donna Noe and Tamela Henington.

All members of the Board were invited to submit ideas to the committee.

Deadline for the Guidelines is the July meeting.

Chapter Fundraising Ideas:

The Board is doing a project to obtain fundraising ideas from each District.

The ideas will be published in the Bulletin by District.

The Worthy Grand Matron has given her approval for this project.

Each Board Member is to submit their ideas to Tamela Henington, and she will consolidate the ideas.

Information on "Best Practices" will also be included.

District Reports:

District 1: Joe Gilmore and Rick Taylor reported on the following happenings:

Chapters are preparing for Installation of Officers.

Member, David Preston, has had surgery for a broken leg.

District 2: Tamela Henington and Mary Bedford reported on the following happenings:
Chapters are preparing for Installation of Officers.
Preparations are being made for the Worthy Grand Matrons Roundup.
Tamela Henington's mother is doing well.
Member Margie Curry passed away.

District 3: Beverly Plante and Donna Noe reported on the following happenings:
Chapters are preparing for Installation of Officers.
Chapters have been having initiations and doing memorials.
The District 3 Banquet has been moved to Waco.
Past Grand Matron Joyce Gilbert will be receiving her 50 year pin.
There will be a TMRC event on May 30th.

District 4: Bill Henry reported on the following happenings:
Chapters have been having initiations.
Chapters are preparing for Installation of Officers.
Bad weather has been having an effect on the District.

District 5: Oscar Hairell and Karen Wright reported on the following happenings:
Chapters have been having initiations.
Chapters are preparing for Installation of Officers.
Ft. McKavatt #783 has initiated 6 people.

Executive Session Report: The Chairman reported on items discussed in the Executive Session: Ratified Benevolent Aid requests, legislation submitted, fund raising ideas, and the budget workshop.

All the visitors were thanked for attending the meeting.

There was no further business to be brought before the Board.
The Mizpah Benediction was repeated in unison.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38am.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Travers
Recording Secretary