

Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity
Meeting of the National Board of Directors
September 17, 2016
Miami, Florida

National Directors in attendance:

Richard W. Bennet III, Central Missouri '74	Grand President	2017
Christopher L. Bittman, Colorado '85	Grand Treasurer	2017
Thomas B. Jelke, Ph.D., Florida International '90	Grand Secretary	2017
David R. Calderon, CalPoly-Pomona '88	National Director	2017
Garry C. Kief, Southern California '70	National Director	2019
Cynthia Love, Ph.D.	National Director	2017
Billy D. Maddalon, North Carolina State '90	National Director	2021
Daniel W. McVeigh, Texas Wesleyan '90	National Director	2017
Bradley C. Nahrstadt, Monmouth '89	National Director	2021
Victor K. Wilson, Georgia Renaissance	National Director	2017
Jeffrey A. Back, Cincinnati '18	National Director	2017
John L. Emery, Arizona '17	National Director	2017
Riley D. Shearer, Montana State '17	National Director	2017

Headquarters staff in attendance:

Brian C. Warren Jr., Virginia '04	Chief Executive Officer
Andrew J. Parrish, Georgia '13	Strategic Communications Director
Kyle F. Sutton, Cincinnati '12	Fraternity Managing Director
Joseph M. Toth, Maryland '14	Chapter Services Director

Guests in Attendance:

Dr. Edward H. Hammond, Emporia State '66	Educational Foundation President
Representatives from SigEp at Huntingdon College	

Call to Order

Grand President Richard W. Bennet III called the meeting to order on September 17, 2016, at 8:32 a.m. EDT.

Approval of Minutes

Grand Secretary Thomas B. Jelke moved the Board to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2016, meeting.

Seconded by National Director Garry C. Kief.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Positioning Statement

Chief Executive Officer Brian C. Warren presented revised versions of the positioning statement for approval by the National Board.

Grand President Bennet took a poll of all attendees to understand which of the proposed statements had consensus approval. The Board discussed likes and dislikes regarding each version and arrived on a consensus around the B. version of the statement from the September 17 meeting as shown below:

“SigEp is redefining fraternity on college campuses across the country. We complement a man’s education by delivering a premier student experience in one of the most formative times of his life. Through SigEp, men strengthen their character, build leadership and interpersonal skills, and learn to develop healthy, lifelong relationships that are essential to a successful and fulfilling life.”

Student Director John L. Emery moved the Board to approve the above statement as the Fraternity’s positioning statement.

Seconded by National Director Bradley C. Nahrstadt.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Substance-free Housing

CEO Warren opened a discussion regarding substance-free housing.

Cindi Love joined the meeting via phone at 8:47 a.m.

CEO Warren invited Dr. Ed Hammond, chairman of the NIC’s Commission on Alcohol Use to provide an update on the work the NIC is doing in this area. The Board’s consensus was to support the NIC’s work, but move on an independent path more rapidly to investigate substance-free housing.

The Board instructed the staff to develop a plan to move the Fraternity to implement substance-free housing. This plan shall include consultation with Beta Theta Pi and Phi Delta Theta, consultation with SENH on the impact, and tactical implementation and support methods. The staff was tasked to recruit a task force as resolved by the Grand Chapter at the last Conclave to explore the issue.

The Board asked the staff to ensure the task force understands the Board’s bias and desire to proceed with substance-free housing.

A behavioral path is to be developed by staff to inform the task force’s report.

Insurance

CEO Warren led a discussion on insurance and a proposed change to the fee structure and amount of the Spring Member Safety and Insurance bill.

Grand Treasurer Christopher L. Bittman moved to increase the fee amount only and that the structure change be tabled, pending a report from the finance committee at a future meeting after further investigation and discussion.

Grand Secretary Thomas B. Jelke seconded the motion.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Huntingdon College – AL Zeta

Members and volunteers of the Huntingdon College Chapter of SigEp presented an appeal of the Board's closure decision in January of 2016.

National Director Kief moves approval of the appeal and reinstatement of the Alabama Zeta Chapter.

Seconded by Grand Treasurer Bittman.

Motion passed by unanimous approval.

Executive Session

The Board entered executive session at 12:07 p.m.

Adjournment

Grand President Bennet adjourned the meeting following executive session at or about 1:00 p.m.