

**Alumni Corporation of Alpha Upsilon Chapter of
Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity**



Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2006

This was the second re-organizational meeting of the Alumni Corporation.. The last elected officers were the following individuals: Fred Schmehl – President; Jack Kiefer – Vice President; Tom Hill – Treasurer; Eric Louden – Secretary; Keith Sheppard – Chapter Advisor Fred Schmehl Tom Hill and Eric Louden were unable to attend but were notified of the meeting.

I. Call to order

Tony Noce called to order the regular meeting of the **Alumni Corporation** at 7:00 PM on June 29, 2006 in the Board Room of the Paul Peck Alumni Center.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Tony Noce; Steve Markley; Mike Imms; Phil Earley, John Goldschmidt, Wayne Baker, Dino Petrongolo, Bob Matcovitch, Keith Sheppard and Tom Donahue. Also in attendance was Vince Thompson, Pi Kappa Phi Area Governor, and Steve Rupprecht, the Dean of Fraternity and Sorority Life at Drexel.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes were approved by acclamation.

IV. Election of interim Meeting Chair and President Pro-Tem.

On Nomination by Steve Markley and Second by Mike Imms, and a unanimous vote of those present, Tony Noce was named interim Meeting Chair and President Pro-tem, until the annual election that is anticipated to be held at the regular October meeting.

V. Officer's Reports

- a) **Chair Report** – Tony Noce provided a historical perspective of the reason that the chapter house was shut down by Drexel in January of 2004. Keith Sheppard, who was the Chapter Advisor at the time, provided a detailed account of the events leading up to the shut-down. Although there was a hazing event that apparently

triggered the final action by Drexel and the National Office, the shut down was more a result of a series of events and incidents over past years that had the effect of placing the undergraduate chapter on probation for extended periods. Both Drexel and the National Office concluded that the direction that the undergraduate chapter was headed in, if left unchecked, would have resulted in a more serious problem for both the school and the fraternity and that the only way to stop this progression was to have a clean break for n number of years and then to re-colonize the chapter with new members that are brought into the fraternity under the current fraternity values and standards.

A discussion among those present considered the differences between the present definition of fraternity life, ideals and purpose and those which many of us present recalled them to be. Clearly, the new fraternity model stresses leadership, community service, sports and academics. The “Animal House” model of fraternity life is neither welcome nor tolerated by either Drexel or the National Office.

There was no conclusion to this dialogue, rather it was agreed to continue this discussion in future meetings.

- b) **Treasurer’s Report** – Tom Hill was not present

VI. **Old Business**

- a) Undergraduate Chapter Re-colonization: Area Governor Vince Thompson has been working with the National Office and Drexel regarding the re-colonization of the undergraduate chapter. Their goal is to develop a 60 member undergraduate chapter, with the first class of brothers to be initiated in the Spring of 2007. In the Fall of 2006, two Expansion Consultants from the National Office, under the direction of brother Thompson, will spend about a month on campus recruiting associates to begin the new undergraduate chapter. In the Spring of 2007, the associates will be initiated into the fraternity as “Associate Members” after which they will embark on a year-long re-chartering process that will include learning about the fraternity history and traditions, both local and National, drafting by-laws for operation of the local chapter, and preparing a chartering petition. The re-chartering will then take place in the Spring of 2008, concurrent with the 75th anniversary of the chapter.
- b) **Chapter House:** Steve Markley reported that he and other alumni toured the chapter house in early June. The house is in good structural condition, but will need substantial renovations in order to make it habitable. A first phase of renovations will include removal of all of the built-in bunks, lofts, bars and partitions that were installed ny the former residents of the house. Once these have been removed as well as the trash, debris, damaged carpeting, etc., the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems can be inspected, tested and repaired. Funds for the repairs are expected to come from 3 sources; (a) Treasury, (b) Insurance proceeds, and (3) fundraising efforts. Drexel has established an account for contributions to be directed that will grant tax deductible status. Keith Sheppard will coordinate with

Drexel for an audit of the account, since he believes there were allocated funds in the account from several years ago. All coordination for repairs of the house will be through Steve Markley, who will be the primary contact with Drexel for the repairs to the house.

- c) **Drexel Meeting Update:** Mark Timmes, Vince Thomson and Tony Noce met with Rita LaRue, the Associate Vice President in the Treasurers office and Steve Rupprecht at Drexel on June 20. Among other items, the ownership of the chapter house was discussed. While the title to the house is in the name of the university, Drexel understands, in principal, our position that we maintain a legal interest in the house. Since Drexel has not acted in any manner that is inconsistent with our interest in the house, it is not necessary to debate the issue any further. Steve Rupprecht stated that there are 3 models that are used on campus for operation of the undergraduate chapter houses; (1) where houses are run by an alumni housing corporation with little Drexel involvement; (2) where houses are fully owned and operated by Drexel, similar to a dormitory; and (3) where the house is operated by the Alumni Housing Corp, but Drexel collects the rents and pays most of the major operating invoices for a 5% management fee. The last model is the one that is preferred by Drexel and National. Drexel will require the chapter to have a House Director, which is typically a graduate student who lives in the house and acts, on behalf of the school and the Alumni Housing Corp to oversee the day to day operation of the house. We are also pursuing an insurance claim through the school since the water damage and vandalism that occurred in 2004 are both occurrences which we believe should have been covered by the insurance.
- d) **Chapter Database:** Steve Markley handed out color coded copies of the most up-to-date chapter database information. Steve asked everyone to review the list and contact any people on the list that they know and to provide him with updated contact info.
- e) **Dusak:** Eric Loudon was not at the meeting but he is working on preparing an issue of the Dusak for late Summer publication.
- f) **Social Committee:** Phil Earley is working on setting up the Pi Kap Open golf outing that will be held sometime in September. It was recommended by those present that the emphasis would be on keeping the cost low in order to get the most attendance. Also, the preference was to have the event open only to brothers.

VII. New Business

- a) **Meeting Schedule:** The regularly scheduled meetings of the Alumni Corporation are the third Fridays in May, October and February. During this re-colonization period, it is desirable to have more regular meetings, perhaps monthly, as necessary to accomplish the re-colonization goals. We will use the updated e-mail database to announce and publish future interim meeting dates.
- b) **Officers:** It was agreed that nominations and election of officers and board members will be held at the October Regular meeting. There are 12 Board

Member Vacancies, and Keith Sheppard suggested that we fill only 4 of the vacancies per year to allow for maximum participation and staggered terms.

- c) **Fund Raising:** We are seeking a volunteer to head up our fund raising program to assist in funding the renovations, furniture, scholarships, etc.
- d) **Other Campus Fraternities :** Mike Imms will contact the Alumni from Apple Pi and Theta Chi to get the benefit of their recent experience in re-organization of their chapters.

VII. Next Meeting Date: Friday, October 20 at 6:30 PM in the Paul Peck Alumni Center.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned 9:30 PM

Minutes submitted by: Tony Noce