



**2020 Annual Alumni Chapter Meeting
04/18/2020**

10:00 AM Eastern

Phone 1 929 205 6099

Teleconference- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5077197721>

Meeting ID: 507 719 7721

Call to Order: The annual member meeting of the Alpha Rho Alumni Chapter was held via a teleconference call on Saturday, April 18, 2020 due to the coronavirus mandates. The meeting convened at 10:07 AM EST with Tom Begley, President & Chief Executive Officer presiding. Recording of minutes was taken by John George, Secretary.

Motion was presented by Patrick Folio, AP 147, seconded and passed assigning the role of parliamentarian to Andy Dun, AP 288, Executive Vice President for this meeting.

Members of the Board in attendance:

- Brandyn Alexander, AP 854 - Social Media Chairman
- Kienan Battin, AP 812 - Vice President - Recent Graduate Officer
- Patrick Farley, AP 67 - Historian
- Jordan Feathers, AP 438 - Vice President - Chief Risk Officer
- Randy Lapceovich, AP 175 - Vice President - Fundraising
- Jason Hyett, AP 466 - Vice President - Chief Information Officer
- John George, AP 385 - Secretary - Chief Communications Officer
- Patrick Folio, AP 147 - Treasurer - Chief Financial Officer
- Erik Baldwin, AP 412 VP- Chief Operating Officer
- Andy Dunn, AP 288 - Executive Vice President
- Tom Begley, AP 284 - President & Chief Executive Officer

Others in attendance:

- Allyson Cannon, Chapter Advisor, Alpha Rho Council of Advisors
- Dr. Matthew Richardson, WVU Director of Center of Fraternal Values & Leadership
- Denise Nelson, Pi Kappa Phi Assistant Executive Director of Alumni Engagement
- Michael Turner, AP 220, Chairman Emeritus & Housing Corporation President
- Eric Dyson, AP 355, Chairman Emeritus
- Robert Laughner, AP 68
- John (Jay) Marano, AP 120
- Mike Turner, AP 220
- Chris Vari, AP 279
- Eric Dyson, AP 355
- Chaz Tranter, AP 663
- Ian Faulconer, AP 814
- Cameron Vandermark, AP 815
- David Nichols, AP 816

- Josh Faulconer, AP 818
- Noah Weaver, AP 830
- Zack Schwehm, AP 861
- Arlie Hitt, AP 871
- Evan Penrose, AP 875
- Jaron Bragg, AP 880
- Connor Hiltwine, AP 897

Proxy Vote:

- William Russell, AP 122
- Matthew Reedy, AP 139
- Armando Bonilla, AP 169
- Theodore Katz, AP 253
- Kristoffer Scheponik, AP 357
- Ben Hanko, AP 434

Quorum was met and meeting is official.

Reading of Minutes from last meeting:

- Suspension of the reading of minutes from the last meeting was motioned by Brother Jason Hyett, AP 466 and it was seconded by Bob Laughner, AP 68 with no opposition.

Introduction of Special Guests

National Headquarters Update – Denise Nelson, Pi Kappa Phi Assistant Executive Director of Alumni Engagement

- Denise wanted to get on the call to learn more about what we are doing. She relayed that many of the events scheduled for the summer by the National Office will be reimaged as virtual. Also, Supreme Chapter events will be released later in the summer.

Center of Fraternal Values & Leadership Update – Dr. Matthew Richardson, WVU Director of Center of Fraternal Values & Leadership

- Alpha Rho – AP has receive composite award of excellence from IFC, Patrick Farley Greek Hall of Fame, Nolan Burch Fellow to award Zack Pell a medallion for leadership academy, Tom Begley services at president of FS Alumni Council awarded Meritorious Service Award and will receive a Mountaineer Statue, Ryan Robinson elected to IFC Executive Council, Chase Riggs and Jaron Bragg elected 2020-2021 SGA President & Vice President
- Office Renaming – with death of Nolan Burch in 2014; Since 2017 office was name Office of Greek life then changed to Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Office now manages 70 total organizations and 4,000 students; therefore, the Greek office has been renamed Center of Fraternal Values and Leadership.
- This year, WVU Greek Life turns 130 years old. Next fall, there will be some sort of recognition.
- WVU’s Response to COVID-19 – visit coronavirus.wvu.edu to learn more about what is happening on campus. A recent call with Big 12 colleagues indicated funding has been cut across schools, so there is concern. We will continue to monitor the situation regarding the fall semester.

- WVU will be doing some town halls with students to share information and focus on challenges on the next academic year regarding the fraternal system as a whole including recruitment, organization size, alumni support, etc. Fraternity membership on campus is looking to be around 1,000 which matches the numbers from WWII. This will require a cultural change about what Greek Life means. Of note, the sorority life hasn't taken a member hit as much as fraternities.
- Greek Service is underway and students are encouraged to serve their communities. Ends on Earth Day. April 27 Greek Week, May 1 is Greek Service Recognition.

Council of Advisors Update - Ally Cannon, Chapter Advisor

- Recruitment – Tom Begley has assisted with three Vice Archons for strategy
- Financial – Patrick Folio took over this year and has worked with the Treasurer to provide guidance including 2020-21
- New Member Education – Chaz Tranter has helped with three classes in transitioning for new members.
- Ritual – Jay Marano is a certified ritualist and assisted with three rituals of initiation. Ally relies on him a lot with ritual
- There are now 915 Alpha Rho members and she is excited to see us hit 1,000 members
- Tom added praise for Ally's daily work and hours. She is the best advisor on campus.

Student Chapter Update – Jaron Bragg, AP 880 Archon

- Jaron added it is an honor to serve as Archon.
- It was a great first year in the house. We are looking forward to Homecoming Weekend. The graduating senior ceremony will now be that same weekend.
- Accomplishments
 - o First Fraternity on campus to start a Recycling Program
 - o Arlie Hitt, Warden now on the National Council of Advisors
 - o Ryan Robinson, philanthropy chair elected IFC Vice President of Finance
 - o War of the Rhoses Philanthropy Event will be reschedule to the Fall
 - o Three great new member classes with 31 new members
 - o Chase Riggs SGA President, Jaron Bragg SGA Vice President with 1500 votes (most ever in school history)
 - o Pi Kapp College Awards: Outstanding campus involvement award, recruitment excellence award, chapter newsletter of the year, master chapter, champion master chapter, Founders Cup
 - o Zero arrests and underage charges – only fraternity at WVU
 - o Arista Cup from IFC – best Fraternity on campus
- Tom added that what the Student Chapter did was remarkable and the best ever in the history of Alpha Rho.

Housing Corp Update - Michael Turner, AP 220, Chairman Emeritus & Housing Corporation President

- This is the best year we've ever had as the property is in great shape and finances are good
- Several projects for the summer: a) small decking the back lot, b) painting the siding, c) drainage problem fix, d) fix the kitchen/dining room floor. Another big project is redesign of the formal room by moving the four bedrooms to the front by the stairs with a hallway to a grand formal room. This new design would be a first class area locked up for only special events and house the composites, charter, special awards. Eric Dyson added that this will provide a special area to secure our awards, composites and other items. We have been given the green light to move forward.

- Everyone will be vacating by May 10 until August to allow for some of these projects to be completed.
- Tom mentioned that he has been talking with Mike & Eric about the new formal room design and expect to spend a good amount from our treasury. This will be a nice showcase for our Chapter.
- David Nichols, AP 816 asked about the size of the rooms by the new formal room. Mike added that the front four rooms expect to be identical in size and no smaller than what is originally there.
- Arlie Hitt, AP 871 asked about the existing platform in the back. Eric Dyson indicated it will be a new build replacing the old one. Jaron Bragg, AP 880 asked about the weed growth out back, and Eric mentioned we will have to find the weed source and remove before construction.
- There were 25 guys living in the house which is a good thing.
- Lawsuit of and SAE who had fallen at the house when they were occupying the house. We are still under litigation and waiting for resolution.

Officer Reports:

Regional Leaders

- Ken Berko (Charlotte/Carolinas Region) – not present
- Anthony Graley (Charleston, WV Region) – not present
- Tom added we need someone to handle the other three areas
 - NY/Southern Connecticut
 - Baltimore/DC Metro
 - Pittsburgh

Social Media Chairman - Brandyn Alexander

- Brandyn handles the posts the brief on the four platforms. Our largest platform is Facebook and is a good way of staying in contact. Second biggest is Instagram. We were recognized in December from National for our Test on the 10th efforts. We also use Group Meet, but don't want to intrude too much. Brandyn is open to ideas or any issues to please contact separately.
- Tom asked the new graduates to make the transition to the alumni accounts.
- Jason Hyett added that we have separate alumni accounts from the student accounts. Be sure to follow both student and alumni accounts.

Historian - Patrick Farley

- Patrick shared a history lesson form 1978-79 by showing Fire & Water glass which was used for the Push philanthropy. We sold those glasses for \$5.00. The second fundraiser that year was a beer stacking race at halftime of a basketball game. We won and got two 10-speed Schwinn bicycles that we sold for Philanthropy money.
- Patrick continues to pin historical elements in our archives which is always ongoing.
- Patrick will be connecting with Evan Penrose, current Undergraduate Chapter Historian as we move forward into the next semester.
- Tom asked Jason to show the history documents from the Google Docs.

Recent Graduate Officer - Kienan Battin

- Keinan congratulated the upcoming graduates which is expected to be online. Keinan will be in contact with graduates over the Summer and fall regarding upcoming events. It's important to check email regularly. All of the alumni events are powered by through Alumni Chapter funding so it is important to be an involved member.

VP- Chief Risk Officer- Jordan Feathers

- Jordan indicated there were no formal standards complaint. He got out some new member gear to new donors and will get new orders out as soon as possible.

VP- Fundraising - Randy Lapceovich

- Randy thanked Denise and Ally for joining us. Randy thanked those who have donated to the 2020 campaign thus far. Just shy of \$13,000 in fundraising. The success of the undergraduate chapter is outstanding. Randy asked us to continue to contribute their time, treasure and talents. Randy is looking forward to getting together soon in Morgantown.
- Tom added that Randy has one of the toughest jobs in the Alumni Chapter.

VP- Chief Information Officer - Jason Hyett

- Jason mentioned we are trying to get more traction on social. The virtual happy hour meetings via Zoom were super successful. We may try additional sessions.
- The website has been updated due to challenges, so we have a security subscription for GoDaddy to assist.
- We have the social media chair position filled with Brandyn Alexander.
- Jason asked everyone to keep their contact information up to date so the database can be continuously updated at wvupikapp.org. This information is also relayed to the national organization.

Secretary - Chief Communications Officer - John George

- As a reminder, there are Four Classifications of Alumni as set forth in the Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution and Bylaws:
 - **Active Member (A)** – pays annual dues who are in good standing and enjoy full benefits
 - **Inactive Member (I) – In good standing** – Non-voting member in good standing with National Organization and undergraduate chapter and/or Housing Corporation, but hasn't paid Alumni Chapter dues
 - **Inactive (N) – Not in good standing** – Non-voting members who are considered not in good standing with the National Organization or the Undergraduate Chapter and/or Housing Corporation. This Inactive (N) member may be on a modified Disciplinary Alumni Status with the Nation Organization, Undergraduate Chapter or the Alumni Chapter. For example, the student chapter members who were there when the charter was pulled in 2015.
 - **Expelled (E)** – Initiated members of the Alpha Rho Chapter who were expelled by the National Council of Pi Kappa Phi.
- Newsletter assistance with alumni profiles
 - Asked for assistance in completing alumni profiles.

Treasurer- Chief Financial Officer- Patrick Folio

- Total in bank is approximately \$11,000. Our fundraiser goal is at 44% in April for 2020.
- We have budgeted for Homecoming but it may reduce if we can't visit campus in the fall.
- We will seed a student scholarship fund with \$500 followed by a campaign. More information is to come.
- We will look to spend \$8,000 – 10,000 to help with the formal room renovations.

Vice President- Chief Operating Officer- Erik Baldwin

- Erik shared the strategy map with mission, vision, priorities, goals and objectives for the Alumni Chapter.
- Erik will also be working with Ally and the student chapter executive council to develop a strategic plan for the undergraduate chapter.
- Tom added the importance that we found in the strategic planning committee as it pulls the four branches of Alpha Rho in the same direction. It helps in communication, goals, objectives and sets the tone for the plans.
- Patrick Farley asked Denise Nelson if there are any other best practices from others to utilize. Denise said the Alpha Rho plan was the most holistic plan she has seen and sets the standard.

Executive Vice President- Andy Dunn

- Greetings from Phoenix, Arizona. Andy shared that once again we have met the criteria to submit for the Master Champion Alumni Chapter with the National Office.

President- Chief Executive Officer- Tom Begley

- Tom acknowledged the soon to be graduating seniors for a tough time to finish school. He's very proud of them and share a message to them. He told them their best years are ahead of them in the fraternity. You'll find that you become really good friends with other Brothers that you meet in the alumni chapter that you didn't go to school with.
 - Ally confirmed they will graduation on May 15 officially when they will be welcomed into the Alumni Chapter.
- We are at the mercy of our contributors. We have invested a good amount of money to strengthen the alumni and undergraduate chapters. However, we simply need more members to contribute. Most of our campaigns have been less than 1% of the membership, but that has got to change.
 - We will have some formal room plans to share to assist with fundraising so we get it right and do good. This will be a place to share and call ours, but money is necessary to do it right. Members will be hear more from us.
 - We fund the Council of Advisors to support student chapter efforts.
- The next set of alumni chapter officers will change after this next term (2020-2022). We need others to fill into leadership roles. Tom looks forward to the final two years and eager to see who the next set of leaders are for our chapter.
- We'll be ready to participate in Supreme Chapter if it is held.

Old Business:

- Board of Directors Election for 2020 – 2022 Term
 - Erik Baldwin, AP 412 motion & Jason Hyett, AP 466 seconded. All ayes, with not opposition. Motion passes.
 - The oath of was administered by Tom to all officers followed by Patrick Farley administering the officer oath to Tom Begley.

New Business:

- Patrick Farley motioned to amend Article IV, Section 1 which states a full meeting of the Alumni Chapter shall be held at least once per calendar year in Morgantown, WV or on WVU's campus. Patrick's proposal is to add language "virtually or in person". Seconded by Patrick Folio, AP 147. Motion to table until vote at next board meeting by Erik Baldwin, AP 412 and seconded by Patrick Folio. All in favor, no opposition.
- Patrick Farley motioned to amend Article III, Section I, Paragraph A which indicates the fiscal year is January 1 to December 30. The proposal is to change the budget year from April 1 to March 31. After discussion, Patrick Farley proposed to change the fiscal year from May 1 to April 30. Seconded by Patrick Folio. Motion to table until vote at next board meeting by Jason Hyett, AP 466 and second by Andy Dunn, AP 288. All in favor, no opposition.
- Patrick Folio motion to add Executive Parliamentarian duties to the Executive Vice President position as provided in Article V, Section, Paragraph B to read duty number 5 "Serves as executive parliamentarian for meetings." Seconded by Patrick Farley. Motion to vote in next board meeting by Patrick Farley and seconded by Jason Hyett. All in favor, no opposition.
- Motion to adjourn new business by Patrick Farley AP 67, seconded by Dunn, AP 288. All in favor.

Pass the Gavel

- Went around the virtual room for thoughts and commentary. "Proud to be a Pi Kapp!"

Scheduling Next Conference Call

- Tuesday, May 19th at 6:00 PM EST (third Tuesday of each month)

Adjournment: Patrick Farley, AP 67 motioned to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Erik Baldwin, AP 412 at 12:44pm.