

Delta Kappa Gamma Lambda Chapter September 10, 2022 Minutes

Members Present: Charlotte Betche, Patsy Chasteen, Joe Anna Hibler, Carla Moore, Marie Pool, Mary Lou Scales, Sharon Simmons, Reonna Slagell Gossen, Becky Trent, Marva Webb, Alexia White, Karon McCubbin (attending Gamma State Executive Committee meeting)

Members Absent: Brenda Archer, Vicki Hatton, Phyllis Hobbs, Melissa Knabe, Charlinda Ogle, Lynda Richert

Guests Present: Dr. Diana Lovell, SWOSU President, guest speaker

Treasurer Marie Pool gave the invocation reminding us to do something fun today; share the joy of God in your heart. Think about that last time you have “giggled with abandonment”. Breakfast was served.

President White called the meeting to order introducing Dr. Diane Lovell, SWOSU President. Dr. Lovell commented how much she loved being with educators and how she is honored to follow in Dr. Hibler’s footsteps; “She broke the barriers of being a woman president so I don’t have to overcome barriers”. Dr. Lovell was born and raised here in Weatherford. Recent legislation has presented massive incentives to enroll in teacher education programs across our state. The strength of our cities are dependent on how good their schools are. We need continuity and teachers are not rewarded sufficiently; one of the main reasons for the big turnover in teaching. This affects the university as well. Students are coming out of the high school with strong math, science, and engineering skills. Dr. Lovell bragged on a special group at the college; engineering / physics club. They have developed a video on YOUTUBE SWOSU covering their national win in rocketry. The “Rocket Dogs” compete every year with major universities and groups. Requirements are to design a 4.5inch rocket, shoot it to 8000 feet releasing a golf ball to an “X” target in another field. Rocket Dogs landed 10.5 inches away from target! SWOSU is trying to publicize aeronautics and cyber security as well with a new area; SWOSU Aerospace and Defense. Enrollment is down around the state overall losing 20% of enrollment; SWOSU lost on 9%. There is much bureaucracy in enrollment to get the pipeline moving, funding from the State Regents is only about 20% with mandatory costs of insurance and benefits for employees. Dr. Lovell encouraged us to write to our legislators as they are defunding higher ed and common ed; Oklahoma is next to lowest in the nation and education is important if we want to grow our economy. Look what Oklahoma has done with what little we have. Some highlights of success: partnership with Yukon Public Schools for students to receive their associate degrees with face to face teaching with a new building in 2-3 years; Dr. Butler secured the largest single donation of several million dollars to build a new pharmacy school; grant applications awarded; partnerships with businesses here in Weatherford; vaccine clinics; Anatomage Table; eSports arena for the eSports program which hold games for visiting teams.

Formal installation of new officers for 2022 – 2024 was held due to the absence of several officers in the April meeting. Minutes were presented; stand approved as read. Treasurer’s report was presented with questions raised for clarity concerning the April and May breakfast dollar amounts. No committee reports were given. President White gave report of the following awards won from the Gamma State summer conference: Annie Award, Gold Chapter Award, Dr. Hibler 50 year organization recognition. She encouraged us to bring friends to our meetings. The Rose theme from state is to “BEE” something; i.e. creative, positive, flexible. “BEE something next meeting”. She reminded us to look at the Limelighter as there were pictures of members Sharon Simmons and Dr. Hibler; pictures from new member Carla Moore’s installation. Please get pictures to Brenda Archer, she is sending in the pictures for publication. Becky Trent reminded us of the WEN program for 5th grade girls; projects for engineering.

Braggs were given with \$25 collected.

The next meeting will be October 8, 2022 at Lucille’s Roadhouse in Weatherford.

Respectfully Submitted,
Reonna Slagell Gossen