

MINNESOTA ESA STATE MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, April 13th at 10:00am

Presiding Officer: Dana Terry, President

Hosted by Beta Sigma at Spirit of Christ Community Lutheran Church, St. Louis Park

Officers Present

Dana Terry, President

Kim LeTendre-Olson, Vice President

Jennie Zafft, Secretary

Diane Vanusek, Treasurer

Dee Rotering, Past President

Welcome (10:10am): Dana Terry

Opening Ritual

Opening Thought: Dianne Ocel

Philanthropic State Projects:

Presentation of 2024-2025 non-profit organizations:

- Interact Center for Visual & Performing Arts (<https://interactcenterarts.org/>):
Raleigh Wolper, Director of Advancement and Mary Kate Kennedy, Board Chair
Artists with and without disabilities work together to create visual arts and performances. They foster creativity and self-expression. They have gallery shows and stage a large show each fall with original stories and music with a focus on humor and joy. They promote an inclusive, diverse society.
ESA donations help them to thrive and purchase supplies and costumes. They currently support 120 artists. ESA was showcased in an e-blast to 5,000 of their supporters.
Upcoming: They will be hosting a Paint & Sip event on Tuesday, July 16th from 4-6pm
- Welcome Home Vets (<https://www.mnwelcomehomevets.org/>): Carrie & Mike, Hopkins Elks
Household items delivered to veterans; Just delivered to their 1,000th vet!
They have a partnership with Mattress Firm to provide beds.
23 ESA members participate making 196 deliveries to date
The need has increased from 10-12/month to 20-25/month

Roll Call: Jennie Zafft

Alpha Chi ✓

Alpha Sigma ✓

Alpha Zeta ✓

Beta Sigma ✓

Beta Theta

Delta Mu ✓

Delta Rho ✓

Gamma Omega ✓

Gamma Zeta ✓

Theta Rho

There were 13 appointed board members, 13 members (not on elected or appointed board) and 6 guests present.

Secretary Report

Jennie Zafft made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August 26, 2023 and March 16, 2024 meetings. The minutes were approved by a committee; therefore, the motion was made to approve the minutes as written and distributed. Motion was seconded by Birdie Elkofska. All voted yay, motion carried.

Vice President: Kim LeTendre-Olson

Share ESA on social media!

Reminder that she needs to know if your chapter has any of the following to prepare for State Convention:

- Members celebrating milestone anniversaries
- Members to be jewel pinned at convention
- Members to be pledged at convention

She is also looking to fill the following positions for 2024-25:

- Vice President
- Chaplain
- Two members for the Financial Planning Committee (year 1 of a 2-year term)
- Jr. St. Jude Coordinator
- Philanthropic Coordinator
- State Convention Host 2025
- MARC Representative

The ballot for the elected board is still open as well. The current ballot is as follows:

President- Kim LeTendre-Olson

Vice President- OPEN

Treasurer (2nd term)- Diane Vanusek

Parliamentarian- Dennis Marler

Secretary- Jodi Lang

Past President- Dana Terry

Treasurer Report: Diane Vanusek

Account Balance: \$25,057.81

Outstanding LabCorp Invoices: \$13,752.50

Dec. 2023: \$2,925.00 (Interact)

Jan. 2024: \$3,282.50 (ESA Foundation)

Feb. 2024: \$3,282.50 (WHV)

Mar. 2024: \$4,262.50 (General Fund)

Philanthropic Funds Not Yet Disbursed

October – St. Jude Children’s Hospital \$5,185

\$500 for ESA Race Day/Balance to sponsor members for IC St. Jude Challenge

Parliamentarian: Julene Donnay

No changes to the bylaws or standing rules have been submitted. Due April 30th.

Junior Past President: Dee Rotering

No report.

Appointed Board Reports

MedTox/LabCorp: Dennis Marler mentioned that there has been no decrease in demand and if the numbers increased there is a chance that they may move the work to a factory.

ESA Foundation: Karla Kay Nicklaus

It was exciting to read in the Spring issue of "Journey" magazine featuring the recipient of the Parr Family Scholarship plus Diane Vanusek shared that her grandson, Donovan, received a Wisconsin ESA Scholarship. Thanks to Diane for judging scholarships this year!

Also, great to see a photo of Terri Olson with Queensland State President and Alpha Sigma- Birdie, Shirley and Diane's fundraiser for veterans at Coburn's.

ESA MN State Scholarship is recipient of January LabCorp/MedTox funds. The weather did not cooperate with "fair weather drivers" but thanks to Dennis, Betty, Birdie, Clint, Donnell, and Bonnie for driving in the snow & ice and completing the projects.

Karla Kay made a motion to send the \$3,282.50 MedTox money to the MN State Scholarship Foundation. Second- Bonnie Olson, all voted yay, Motion carried.

Senior St. Jude Coordinator: Delta Mu

Dee Rotering reminded everyone of St. Jude Race Night at Running Aces on Thursday, June 20th. Working with the venue on a signature drink and potential partnership with Dancing Dragonfly winery. Opportunity to sponsor a race for \$500. More info coming soon.

Lori Thorpe motioned that \$500 from the October 2023 MedTox money go to ESA Race Day and the balance go to sponsor members for IC St. Jude Challenge and divided amongst MN members that attend the 2024 IC Convention. Dian Vanusek seconded, all voted yay and motion carried.

MARC: Request to change MN hosting year from 2027 to 2026. Nebraska is not able to host. We will vote at Convention. Birdie Elkofska discussed some of the hosting requirements—Friday leadership, speakers. Dana Terry will distribute MARC hosting guidelines.

Essay Editor: Articles due on April 25th.

Webmaster/Roster Chair: Jen Davies

Send photos for the website!

Reminder to send roster updates prior to the August/Sept. printing date.

State Convention Host 2024: Jodi Lang/Alpha Zeta

The event will be held at Running Aces Casino, Hotel and Racetrack. Friday night's social mixer theme is Pizza & Ponies. Saturday is the meeting, awards banquet and bingo (*fabulous prizes!*).

Turn in your registration forms.

You will need to call Wyndham to make your hotel reservation. The room block rate is \$129 + tax and includes free breakfast. Transportation is available, if needed.

New business:

- Bruce Strachota- Reminder to purchase raffle tickets. 50% to go to the winner and 50% to be split by Interact and Welcome Home Vets.
- Diane Vanusek—Reminder to let her know at State Convention if you plan to attend IC Convention so she can correctly allocation the funds for the St. Jude Sock Hop.
- Dennis Marler- March Meeting Quorum Discussion: Doesn't matter the # of people that attend State Meetings, but rather their roles as Exec/Advisor Board Members, State Officers, International Officers, etc.

- Lori Thorpe—Gamma Omega is hosting a casual social event on Saturday, April 20th from Noon-4pm at the Lookout Bar & Grill in Maple Grove. Mike Derus will perform.
Save the date--the Beer, Wine & Spirits Event at the Hopkins Elks Lodge benefiting Welcome Home Vets will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21st. They need donations for the cork pull and silent auction. More info to follow.
They will also be hosting a garage sale from July 17-20 and are looking for donations.
- Shirley Laue: Alpha Sigma Garage Sale Fundraiser planned for June 19th. They will also be at Coburn's in Delano serving brats & hot dogs on May 23, 24, June 30, 31, July 19, 20, 26, 27 and August 2, 3 to benefit Welcome Home Vets.
- Dee Rotering reminded everyone to submit the dates for the upcoming events to be included in the Essay.

Closing Ritual

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennie Zafft, ESA Secretary