

Oklahoma State Council Leadership Meeting

September 11, 2021

Embassy Suites Hotel – Tulsa, OK

The meeting was called to order by President Sandy Lackey at 10:00 a.m. with the Opening Ritual and Flag Salute, led by Sandy.

President, Sandy asked for a moment of remembrance on this day twenty years ago when New York City, Philadelphia, and the US Pentagon were attacked by terrorists and so many people lost their lives. Sandy suggested everyone should live life to the fullest because one never knows when their last day on earth will be.

Chaplain, Cheryl Tarter gave the thought for the day. She asked the attendees to recall sisters that have recently passed and to remember September 11, 2001. She spoke of being afraid and fretting and shared scriptures from Psalms, highlighting, “Do not fear, be still and trust in the Lord.”

Corresponding Secretary, Margaret Kramer read regrets.

President, Sandy asked for a report from the committee to read the minutes from the June 2021 State Council meeting: Jeanne Meyer, Robbin Brown and Charlene Law. Robbin reported the minutes were correct and placed on file.

The committee to read the minutes for today’s meeting is Sylvia Ochs, Gwen Beasley and Dawn Haley.

Project Director, Liz King reported the balance for the State Project fund was \$3,185.85, disbursements were \$3,184.50, deposits were \$925.00, with the remaining balance for September 2021 was \$926.35.

Members asked for clarification of the State Projector Director, Liz’s appeal for each chapter to send her \$150.00. Liz explained the money was a request from the schools for Christmas and birthday gifts to the Oklahoma School for the Deaf and the Oklahoma School for the Blind. She also explained the school is making the requests of how they wish for ESA to support them. Lengthy discussion was

held on the easiest way to make sure all monies for the schools are recorded and each chapter get the proper credit for monies they spend or send.

Margaret Kramer, Beta Iota, McAlester, moved that OK State Council members send all contributions to the State Project Director. The funds will be disbursed immediately to OSB and OSD to be used for students needs as determined by respective schools. Judi York, Beta Gamma, Tulsa seconded the motion. A vote was taken. Motion passed.

Liz made a motion that ESA continues to support the OSD and OSB, as our State Project, through April 2023. Coming from a committee, no second is required. A vote was taken. Motion passed.

Treasurer, Tammy Ramirez presented the Treasurer's report June 2021. June 1, beginning balance; \$4,869.50, income \$1,452.00, expenses \$2,428.62, with the remaining balance for June 30, 2021 was \$3,892.88.

Tammy presented the Treasurer's report for July 2021. July 1, 2021 beginning balance; \$3,892.88, there was no income or expenses, which left a balance as of July 31, 2021 as \$3,892.88.

Tammy presented the Treasurer's report for August 2021. August 1, 2021 beginning balance \$3,892.88, income \$325.00, expenses \$854.55, with the remaining balance for August 31, 2021 as \$3,363.33.

Tammy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's reports as read. Jacci Gantz, Gamma Zeta, Edmond seconded the motion. A vote was taken. Motion passed.

Sandy gave her trivia Passport Quiz.

Judi York, having attended the ESA International Convention, revealed that the St Jude Dream Home Campaign of the Year award went to, Tulsa ESA.

On behalf of the 2022 Convention committee, Registration Chair, Judi York announced the 79th Annual Convention, of the Oklahoma State Council of ESA would be held at the Embassy Suites hotel in Tulsa, on April 29 & 30, 2022. The theme is "April Showers Bring May Flowers." The King Suite room rate is \$109.00; double is \$112. There will be complimentary self-parking and a full cooked-to-order breakfast. Hotel reservations deadline is April 1, 2022. Convention/Mixer registration is \$125. The deadline for Convention registration is March 30, 2022.

Mona Johnston announced the many awards Oklahoma ESA received at International Convention. A special Association of the Arts award went to Cheryl Tarter, for the song she wrote entitled "Sail Away With ESA." There were many others, but ESA Oklahoma was mentioned as reaching the million-dollar mark in donations. OK ESA was listed in the top 10 fundraisers for St Jude, raising \$861,602.

Sandy introduced the first speaker; Jayna Woth, Director of Culture and Development at Woven Life. Jayna shared that Woven Life, formerly Easter Seals, is a day provider for disabled children and adults. They have 144 students in a day. A few of the services they provide are physical therapy/evaluations, reading, tutoring, development screenings, ADHD interventions, clinics, and more. Jayna shared about a special program that brings children and aging adults together for daily interaction. There is an adult day care program, in addition to the children they care for. It is very therapeutic for the children and adults. It is also life changing for everyone involved. She expressed the need for volunteers and donations. Their website is wovenlifeok.org.

Cheryl Tarter gave the blessing. Sandy dismissed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Sandy introduced our second speaker, Ross Phippen, Director of Operations at Cowen Construction. Ross is the father of Nate; a boy that was diagnosed with cancer and was a patient of St Jude. He shared his touching story of how they learned of his son's disease and the treatment that followed. An MRI revealed a brain tumor. St Jude provided them food, housing, and transportation to and from St Jude, during Nate's treatment. Nate had the tumor removed; chemo and radiation followed for the next year. Nate still struggles, but as his dad said; "I have my son. He is alive." St Jude saved Nate's life and he is very thankful for them. He thanked ESA for the financial support and time put in volunteering for St Jude.

Philanthropic Chair, Robbin Brown explained the ease of use of the Philanthropic Service Report. She asked that each member keep track of all money, goods and miles, for local, district and state, regardless of how small. Little amounts add up over time.

Sandy had a craft time, where attendees made Christmas ornaments. She passed out clear, plastic bulbs, glue, glitter and ribbon. She explained to drizzle the glue inside, along the wall of the bulb, then sprinkle glitter in and shake it to spread. The glitter will adhere to the glue. Finally, tie the ribbon to the bulb to hang on a tree.

Sandy recognized the Sooner Senioresses present at the meeting.

Announcements:

Western District Leadership meeting had to be rescheduled. It will be Saturday, October 23, 2021, in Norman, at the Goodrich United Methodist Church, 200 W Hayes. Registration is at 10:30 a.m., meeting begins at 11 a.m. There will be a salad bar for \$10.

First Vice President/Nominating Committee Chair, Linda Jones thanked members for stepping up to be on her board. She explained there were still positions available. She expressed excitement that her year to be State President would be ESA's 80th anniversary.

Membership Chair, Sylvia Ochs stated that she would like for ESA to "Grow Young." She asked members to bring in younger people and increase membership by 5%, at next Convention.

Webmaster, Aletha Bolt taught members about cyber security. She explained hackers are very creative with emails (phishing), trying to entice people to click on a link. The link may look authentic, but it is not. Aletha said you could find who the actual email came from, depending on the service provider. The easiest way is to hover your mouse over the sender's email, it could reveal the actual sender, or a box could pop up. You can click on it and the actual email will be shown. Aletha recommended that board members use the OKLA ESA email addresses. She reminded members that each officer and chapter have a specific email address. Aletha explained when sending an email, that instead of listing everyone's email address on the TO line, the email addresses should be entered on the BCC line. This way no one can see who the email was sent to. Only the recipient will receive it. She said instructions can be found on Google, with a simple search for "email scams." She said she would put the links on the OKLA ESA website.

Hope for Hero's donations may be given to the Kappa Theta chapter today.

Sandy announced, for the MARC Conference, MARC Foundation Chair asked MARC district states to bring two t-shirts each, representing their state. One t-shirt should be for the state's St Jude organization and the other one to just represents the state. Someone offered to make a quilt from the t-shirts, and they would be raffled off at the October MARC meeting.

OK MARC representatives, Deb Hughes and Rosalie Griffith made the following announcements:

The virtual St Jude Walk/Run is still accepting volunteers and donations.

Eastern District meeting will be September 18, 2021, via zoom.

The MARC Conference will be October 8-9, 2021, in Wichita, KS.

MARC Conference 2022 will be in Tulsa, OK. The theme will be, "Get Your Kicks on Rt 66." It will be held at the Southern Hills Marriott Hotel on 71st and Lewis St. Room rates are \$121.00 for a double or King room. Breakfast, Wi-Fi and parking are included.

Sandy thanked everyone for their attendance and since there was no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m., with the Closing Ritual.

Submitted by:

Darla Barton/OK State Council Recording Secretary