 Gamma Epsilon Chapter

 The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

 Granview Restaurant, Ogdensburg, New York

 September 26, 2017

 Minutes

PROGRAM: Fred Monaco, North Country Regional Staff Director of NYSUT gave a very interesting and informative presentation. He explained the constitutional convention process. Fred outlined what’s at stake by opening up the constitution. A few consequences are: the cost of the process alone is prohibitive, the present protections in the state pension system could disappear, and changes could result in the destruction or elimination of areas like the Adirondack Park. He also explained what transpired in past years concerning the convention and shared resources available. Mr. Monaco encouraged members to vote NO on the proposition on November 7th.

Initiation Ceremony: Eight new initiates were introduced by their sponsors. Co-Presidents Lisa Smithers and Jennifer Smith, and First Vice-President Cindy Burns McDonald led the initiates through the formal Initiation Ceremony. Gamma Epsilon members welcomed these new members: Ginger Collier Wisner, Deidre Hammond, Amber Gladle, Kathleen Lawrence, Karen Lockwood, Katrina Putman, Anna Volpe-Berghaus and Margaret Whalen.

BUSINESS MEETING:

* Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:45.

* Thank You President Smithers thanked the hostesses, Cindy Wells and Nancy Love for planning the meeting. It was reported that there were 32 members present and our guest speaker.
* Minutes – Minutes of the last meeting are on the webpage as well as copies distributed. Cindy Burns McDonald made a motion to approve and Roxann Finley seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
* Treasurer’s Report – The treasurers’ report was presented by Brenda Trivilino. As of May 15, 2017, there was a reported balance of **$2,376.17** in the checking account and a savings balance of **$2,331.32** as of June 30, 2017. The 2016-2017 budget was also presented. Brenda stated that our organization is doing well. Discussion concerned increasing budget for school supplies to include all the school districts represented by our members. It was also suggested to have a separate account for the scholarship fund. Membership in the Gamma Epsilon chapter was reported as 45 Active, 4 Reserve and 1 Chapter Honorary member. Ann Adams moved to approve the budget. It was seconded by Roxann Finley and approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

 Society Business

 Bylaws and Rules – Bylaws must be updated by November. The committee will be meeting soon to discuss this

 Program of Works

Music and Arts – A list of upcoming local music and arts events was on the back of the meeting agenda. Cindy Wilson reported that Jamie Farr, who was to be the lead in the upcoming OCP production of Tuesdays with Morrie, is not able to perform.

 Educational Services

Scholarship and Grants-in-Aid – Morgan Fee read a thank you note from Victoria Ellison, our May 2017 grants in aid winner.

* **New** **Business**

- Lisa explained that hostesses are needed for this year’s meetings. She described the duties of the hostesses and sent around a sign up sheet. Each meeting now has hostesses. Thank you.

- It was decided to have some community service at each meeting. In October, we will bring items for newborns for the Gabriel Project. November is our book collection, and items for the auction for our Scholarship fund. In April, members will be asked to bring things to donate for the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk. In May, we will collect food products for local food pantries.

- Tickets were distributed for the Pi State raffle. Baskets are raffled off at the state convention in the spring.

- There are new release forms for chapter website and print information. These will be sent by email and can be brought to the next meeting or sent to Cindy Wells.

- Committee sign up sheet was distributed.

- Our next meeting will be a combined meeting with Lambda on Oct 23rd at the Freight House in Ogdensburg.

* Meeting Adjournment

 The meeting was adjourned following the initiation of the new members.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Love, Recording Secretary