**Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity**
**Grand Board Meeting Minutes**
**Tuesday, April 8, 2025**
**Wednesday, April 9, 2025**
**Hyatt Regency Hotel, Orlando, FL**

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**Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

**Fraternity Retreat and Suspended Agenda:** At the direction of then–Grand Sire Archon Douglass, the planned meeting agenda was suspended in favor of a "fraternity retreat." The retreat devolved into an unstructured gripe session that provided little to no value to the participants present. The tone and content of the session reiterated longstanding governance and protocol issues previously communicated to the former Grand Sire throughout his administration.

**Business Conducted:** Despite the disruption to the planned agenda, several important actions were accomplished:

- The Grand Board unanimously approved **Orlando, Florida** as the host city for the **59th Grand Boulé**.
- Authority was granted to **Time & Place Chairman Al Rutherford** to formally negotiate with the **Hyatt Regency Orlando** to serve as the host hotel for the 59th Grand Boulé.
- The Board was apprised that **Alpha Boulé** (Philadelphia) has expressed interest in hosting the commemorative **60th Grand Boulé in 2030**.
- It was confirmed that the **Central Region** will host the **61st Grand Boulé in 2032**, with potential cities including **Indianapolis, Minneapolis, and Columbus, Ohio**.
- **Past Grand Sire Archon Anthony Hall** reminded the Board of a previously approved motion by the former Executive Committee that established a **10-year rotational schedule for regional representation** at the Grand Boulé.
- **Executive Director Gaines** was tasked with locating this document to ensure that future site planning aligns with the long-term regional schedule, giving the fraternity a proactive approach to securing optimal host cities.
- The **Grand Investment Policy Committee**, chaired by **Archon Shaun Davis**, presented its inaugural **investment strategy for select fraternity funds**, which was **unanimously approved** by the Grand Board.

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**Wednesday, April 9, 2025**

**Call to Order:** The Grand Board Meeting began with a working breakfast at 8:00 AM. The hotel manager and Hyatt Regency team greeted the Grand Board, expressing gratitude for Orlando being selected for the 59th Grand Boulé and requesting consideration of Hyatt Regency as the host hotel.

**Morning Session and Agenda Adjustments:** The meeting was initially intended as a full-day executive session. Immediate Past Grand Sire Archon Douglass adjusted the agenda to include reports:

- Grand Sire Archon – No report
- Grand Grammateus – No report
- Grand Thesauristes Roman – Provided a financial report
- Grand Grapter – No report
- Executive Director – Provided an operational update on the office of the Grand Boulé

**Executive Session:** Grand Sire Elect Tyson, as chair of the investigation committee, outlined the committee's process and presented six charges against Immediate Past Grand Sire Archon Loren Douglass. Archon Douglass reviewed the charges concurrently with the Grand Board. The Board spent approximately 40 minutes reviewing the investigative committee's documentation.

**Motion to Remove Immediate Past Grand Sire Archon Douglass:** At **12:33 PM**, Grand Thesauristes Roman motioned to remove Immediate Past Grand Sire Archon Douglass due to violations under Bylaw 2, Section 4(F) related to noncompliance with Boulé governance. Grand Grammateus Searcy seconded the motion. Debate continued for **35 minutes and 21 seconds**, concluding around **1:08 PM**. At **1:23 PM**, after further deliberation, a roll call vote commenced.

**Deliberations and Discussions:** Extensive deliberations ensued about the severity of the charges and the appropriate actions to uphold fraternity governance and integrity. Significant concerns raised included financial mismanagement, lack of transparency, repeated violations of governance documents, and trust issues related to leadership behaviors. The necessity of adhering strictly to fraternity constitutional guidelines was emphasized, along with considerations about potential impacts of removal on fraternity unity and operations.

Members discussed procedural details, clarifying the implications of a removal vote, possible alternatives such as resignation, and the timing and method of communicating the decision to the broader fraternity membership. It was reaffirmed that the removal decision was final and immediate upon the conclusion of the vote.

**Attendance: In-Person Attendees:**

- Central RSA Heard
- Grand Thesauristes Roman
- Past Grand Sire Archon Hall
- Grand Grammateus Searcy

- Southeast RSA Welch
- Grand Agogos Turner
- Grand Sire Elect Tyson
- Archon Garibaldi
- Northeast RSA Tapscott (moved to Zoom at 1:25 PM)

**Virtual Attendees via Zoom:**

- Pacific RSA Kendrick (10:47 AM–1:58 PM)
- Western RSA Ahmad (1:09 PM–2:00 PM)
- Grand Grapter Jackson (11:41 AM–1:58 PM)
- Grand Rhetoricos Bradley (10:48 AM–12:23 PM; ineligible to vote due to early departure)
- Northeast RSA Tapscott (via Zoom from 1:25 PM–2:01 PM)

**Roll Call Vote Results:**

- Kendrick – **No**
- Ahmad – **Yes**
- Jackson – **Yes**
- Tapscott – **Yes**
- Heard – **Yes**
- Garibaldi – **Yes**
- Roman – **Yes**
- Hall – **No**
- Searcy – **Yes**
- Welch – **No**
- Turner – **No**
- Tyson – **Yes**

**Final Vote Tally:**

- **Yes:** 8 Votes
- **No:** 4 Votes

The motion achieved a 66.67% majority, satisfying the two-thirds threshold required by the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity Constitution.

**Post-Vote Discussion:** The Board considered immediate next steps, emphasizing confidentiality, accuracy, and timeliness. Immediate Past Grand Sire Archon Douglass would first be informed personally, followed by a formal communication to fraternity members. It was agreed the communication would clearly explain the decision rationale and the outcome of the vote, ensuring transparency while maintaining fraternity unity.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned shortly after these discussions concluded, with no additional business.

# Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity Board Meeting Transcript Report

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## 📝 Meeting Summary

**1. Governance Violations**

The Board identified serious violations of the constitution, bylaws, and regulations of the general counsel. Strict adherence to these governance frameworks was reinforced as critical for maintaining the Fraternity's integrity and operational effectiveness.

**2. Grant Presentations and Recommendations**

Presentations were made to the grant board, with recommendations on processing and allocating grants. Emphasis was placed on transparency, accountability, and adherence to established grant management protocols.

**3. Motion to Follow Committee Recommendations**

Discussion emphasized the necessity of respecting and implementing committee recommendations, highlighting the critical role committees play in informed governance decisions.

**4. Legal Costs and Budget Approval Violations**

Concerns arose regarding significant legal expenses incurred without proper Board authorization, violating established financial policies. The Board underscored the importance of fiscal oversight and strict budgetary adherence.

**5. Recommendation for Censure and Process Improvement**

A consensus emerged recommending censure and substantial improvements in governance processes to correct past misconduct and prevent future violations.

**6. Travel Expense Mismanagement**

Allegations and investigations were presented concerning inaccuracies and inappropriate claims related to travel expenses by a senior fraternity official. Enhanced oversight mechanisms for expense reporting were discussed to ensure financial integrity.

**7. Unauthorized Promotion and Asset Misuse**

Allegations were raised regarding unauthorized promotional activities and the misuse of organizational assets by a senior leader. Discussions emphasized the need for stringent enforcement of policies preventing abuse of authority.

**8. Insufficiency of Private Reprimands**

The Board concluded that private reprimands were inadequate given the gravity of alleged misconduct, recommending stronger disciplinary measures to reinforce accountability standards.

**9. Public Disclosure of Disciplinary Actions**

The necessity for publicly disclosing disciplinary actions, including censures, was discussed extensively to ensure transparency and reinforce member trust.

**10. Motion for Removal Due to Severe Governance Violations**

A motion was formally introduced proposing the removal of the Grand Sire Archon due to significant and repeated governance violations. This highlighted the Board's commitment to enforcing ethical leadership.

**11. Governance and Leadership Accountability**

There was unanimous agreement emphasizing robust governance and holding all fraternity leaders strictly accountable for their ethical and operational conduct.

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# 📆 Next Steps

- Clarify and formally document all identified governance violations.
- Finalize and communicate decisions regarding grant approvals.
- Execute follow-up actions related to the motion of censure for unauthorized legal expenditures.
- Implement specific improvements regarding hiring practices and spending authority of general counsel.
- Make final determination and communicate outcomes regarding the motion to remove the Grand Sire Archon.
- Establish a detailed, transparent communication strategy to inform fraternity members of disciplinary measures and meeting outcomes.
- Introduce rigorous oversight procedures to address and prevent unauthorized financial expenditures moving forward.

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Respectfully submitted,
Darrell B. Searcy
Grand Grammateus