

**Acacia Fraternity
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday October 1st and Saturday Oct. 2nd
Manhattan, KS**

Members Present: Ben Funk, Denny Bassett, Bill Riley, Ron Graver, Lawrence Andre, John Fralick, Gary Haag, Tony Prettyman, Larry Ihrig, Curtis Hapgood, Roger Brannan, Fred Loseke, Charlie Busch, Terry Harts

Member Absent: Jim Birkbeck, Tim Poling, Cecil Pearce, Ben Neill, Brad Nelson, Mike Meyers, Chris Ohm

Opening Bill Riley opened the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Finance Report: *Handout* *#1: MOA Year Budget 2004-05*
 #2 MOA August 2004 Actual Cashflow Report
 #3 Sr. MOA and MOA combined budget 2004-05

Discussion was held over the above handouts. It was noted that the MOA ended the 2003-04 school year paying approximately \$8800 in rent to the Sr. MOA. The current budget is set for the 2004-05 school year to have that figure rise to approximately \$30,000. While the MOA feel this budget is realistic, they are hoping to add additional members to create more discretionary income.

The budget is set for 20 members living in 1st semester (2 out of house) and 24 in 2nd semester (2 out of house).

It was also noted that the MOA did raise the house bill to MOA by 3% for this school year. This was the first increase in the house bill since the renovation.

#4 Sr. MOA Balance Sheet; September 9-30-04

The finance committee has been working with the Manhattan State Bank to begin an amortization schedule on the outstanding balance on the loan. Currently we have approximately \$550,000 worth of loans with Kansas State Bank. The committee has proposed to take \$300,000 of this note and set it in a 30-year amortization schedule with a 3 year fixed rate of 5.65%. The balance would balloon and be re-negotiated at the end of 3 years. The remaining \$250,000 be set at a interest only payment schedule and we continue to work this balance down with the incoming pledge receivables. This balance would also be a 3 year adjustable at 5.65%.

It was noted that while it may be wise to be more aggressive with regard to retiring our debt, it is also important from a cash flow standpoint to be able to withstand any highs or lows that the chapter may face.

MOTION PASSED: Ben Funk motion (Ron Graver Seconded) that all checking accounts be combined and moved to the Kansas State Bank in Manhattan.

It was noted that 34% of all expenses for the chapter house can be “expensed” out of the national endowment account as this is the percentage of the chapter house deemed as “study space”.

MOTION PASSED: Lawrence Andre acknowledged the receipt of the treasurer’s report.

Meeting Adjourned to Roundtable discussion on long term planning of Acacia.

Meeting Reconvened Saturday Morning

Handout #5 “Issues” (From Friday evening discussion)

This was the 2nd round table discussion that we have had as a group (MOA and Sr. MOA). This forum will be used to continue to sharpen our long-term focus and as a way to “air” any dirty laundry between the two groups. It is important for us to understand “where we are” and if we need to redirect our energy in different areas.

Facilities

Ben Funk reviewed a few of the safety issues pointed out by a recent review from our insurance company:

- 1) Chapter should perform a fire drill a minimum of once per year.
- 2) Emergency Phone numbers and contact information should be posted by all public telephones.
- 3) There are a variety of safety signs that should be posted around the chapter.

*NOTE: The official report will be forwarded to the facilities chairman for further follow up.

The facilities team will be working with the chapter to establish a clear open/close procedure for shutting down the chapter house at semester and year-end. There was much discussion on this topic as it is a slippery slope for a handful of members to “live” in the chapter house over breaks and be responsible for all that goes on at the chapter house. There is also a liability issue for the Sr. MOA. It was generally felt the chapter should have access to the chapter house from August 1st thru May 31st. There is the added problem of closing the house down

May 31st only to re-open for summit a few short weeks later. Recruitment issues should also be considered when deeming an appropriate policy.

MOA feel that there are added obstacles of requiring the members to find alternate living arrangements over Christmas and summer breaks.

MOTION PASSED: Facilities team shall create a written document “contract” that lays out and governs the conduct of opening and closing the chapter house over summer and winter break. This document will need to be created by December 31st so that MOA can make arrangements for living over the summer if necessary.

Scholarship:

MOTION PASSED: Larry Ihrig motioned (Ben Funk 2nd) that the scholarship committee be given the authority to award Null scholarships based on established criteria.

Leadership Weekend: General reactions from last years Margaret Wheatley leadership weekend was that MOA got more from interaction with Sr. MOA then the lecture itself. It was a good application for Acacia to practice what they preach. It was hard to make it as big of priority with MOA already keeping a packed schedule. There was some thought that this weekend should be centered on a founders formal with Sr. MOA.

MOTION PASSED: Acacia will continue to support leadership weekend in the same concept as last year. Should be funded by donations from alums and necessary for Acacia to remain the exclusive Greek sponsor.

Along with Leadership Weekend, CORE meetings and CORE Plus (alumni speakers) Terry Harts will be working closely with Ann Domsch to bring in more speakers from the Manhattan area and business community. This will be done in coordination with CORE and CORE Plus.

Men Of Acacia:

Grades: The chapter did have 3 members that fell below the required GPA established by the MOA. While the chapter has addressed this issue internally, the existing policy calls for any member falling below the established threshold to write a letter to the board explaining how they intend to correct this problem. The venerable dean Nathan Mentzer was informed that this does need to take place.

Handout #6: Alcohol Policy

Alcohol Policy: The chapter has been attempting to close down any loopholes with regard to how they govern themselves with regard to social events involving the chapter. The chapter had requested clarification with regard to the Sr. MOA stance on this policy and if there had been specific promises made to the university upon restarting the chapter.

The Senior men intended for the chapter house and all property to be considered “dry” at all times. The Sr. MOA have not set a precedent with regard to rules that shall govern the chapter at “gatherings” or “parties” away from the chapter house. The Sr. MOA do not wish for any party “sponsored” by the fraternity to have alcohol present, but have not set specific rules with regard to social gatherings that Acacia is invited to by other organizations. It was noted that at all times the Sr. MOA shall require at minimum the same standards and requirements documented by the State of Kansas and the Greek Affairs office.

The chapter should continue to work on their own policy with the advice written above.

It was noted that the Sr. MOA take great pride in the serious and proactive fashion that the MOA are handling this issue.

Nominations: The following nominations were presented by Denny Bassett, 2nd by Tony Prettyman and unanimously approved by the board:

President:	Bill Riley
V-President:	Ron Graver
Treasurer:	Ben Funk

Handout #7: Alumni Relations Update

There was discussion that perhaps a newsletter should be sent out regarding the Renovation of the chapter house and general overview of the state of the chapter house. It was thought that the newsletter should be similar in quality that was previously done by Pennington.

As always, we would like to see more electronic communication with Friends of Acacia and members on the donor list.

Perhaps a CD of pictures could be sent to Sr. MOA.

Attendance at celebrations needs to improve.

Miscellaneous: It was mentioned by brother Andre that both the MOA and Sr. MOA need to take appropriate measures to thank brother Means for donating the piano to the chapter house last semester. While the MOA have sent a thank you card, at this point the Sr. MOA have not thanked him.

Next Board Meeting: Will be scheduled in late January 2005 and will attempt to be scheduled along with Celebration Weekend (Initiation).

ADJOURNMENT: The board adjourned to committee meetings.