COVINGTON AREA ALUMNAE CHAPTER
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED
SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, October 12, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM; called to order at 7:06 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Presiding Officer: Soror Alana Sanders, Social Action Chair

Co Chair: Soror Charika Davis

Meeting Schedule: Second Monday of each month

ATTENDANCE

- Soror Alana Sanders, Social Action Chair.
- Soror Barbara Collins, Chapter President.
- Soror Vickie Harper.
- Soror Vanessa Laney.
- Soror Shurika Frazier.

Soror Charika Davis was reported unavailable because of previously scheduled travel. Attendance should be reconciled with the Teams attendance record before approval.

CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER

Soror Alana Sanders welcomed members, shared the updated agenda in the meeting chat, and requested a motion to open the meeting at 7:06 PM. Soror Vickie Harper made the motion. A second was received, and the motion carried by voice vote with no opposition recorded. Soror Harper led the opening prayer, asking for guidance for the committee, chapter leadership, families, and communities served.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the September 14, 2026, meeting had been distributed before the meeting. Soror Vickie Harper moved to approve the previous minutes. A second was received. No corrections or discussion were offered, and the minutes were approved by voice vote with no opposition recorded.

OLD BUSINESS: NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

Soror Sanders thanked members for their service during National Voter Registration Day. The initial count of 54 registrations was updated to 55 after a parent contacted the Chair to confirm that her son had registered. Ten sorors volunteered across Newton High School, Eastside High School, and Alcovy High School.

The Chair reported that conversations with students revealed a need for additional college, career, and civic education. Some seniors were unsure about their plans after graduation, and some did not know what a Historically Black College or University, or HBCU, was. The Chair had shared these concerns with Educational Development and the Chapter President.

Soror Vanessa Laney reported that an HBCU activity was scheduled for November 14 and asked about submitting the collaboration form to include a Social Action component. The Chair confirmed that the proposed component should be coordinated through the Social Action Committee and submitted for applicable approval.

Soror Harper added that some students asked what they would be voting for and what they should do after registering. Some believed they were voting at the registration table. Members discussed the need to explain the difference between registration and voting and to provide practical guidance about elections and next steps.

- Follow up with Educational Development on the November 14 HBCU activity and its proposed Social Action component.
- Explore obtaining appropriate permission to collect student contact information during future registration activities so the chapter can send nonpartisan voting reminders. This was discussed as a future improvement, not approved as a new collection process.

OLD BUSINESS: APPROVAL PROCESS AND TRACKER

Soror Sanders reviewed guidance she had received through discussions with the National Social Action Commission. She distinguished national voter registration and civic engagement initiatives from additional or specialized activities that may require separate review. She emphasized coordinating chapter Social Action components through the committee and documenting applicable approvals.

The Chair introduced an approval tracker containing event status, approval correspondence, and submission information. Other committees can use the tracker to determine whether an activity submitted through Social Action has received approval. She reported recent responses within approximately two to three days.

The Chair explained that the Walton County Social Action Day required additional written clarification about the presence of elected officials. She reported that approval followed her explanation that participants would observe officials presiding over a public meeting. She stressed providing complete information about elected officials and anticipated media involvement.

Chapter President Barbara Collins directed the Chair to continue entering activities in Asana, including national initiatives that are already approved, so chapter leadership remains informed and can respond to membership questions. Soror Sanders agreed to continue this practice and coordinate communications and presidential review.

NEW BUSINESS: DELTA DECIDES AND VOTER ENGAGEMENT

Soror Sanders reviewed Delta Decides as a National Social Action Commission initiative and referenced the October 4 through November 3 activities listed on the agenda. She noted that the chapter might not be able to implement every activity but would pursue opportunities consistent with volunteer capacity. She reported that the submitted activities had been entered through the Commission process and Asana and approved.

The Chair reminded members that early voting was scheduled to begin October 13 and continue through October 30. The discussion emphasized nonpartisan education, making a plan to vote, and encouraging participation before the November 3 election.

CANVASSING AND CHANGE THE WORLD DAY

- Walton County canvassing was scheduled for October 24, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, subject to adequate volunteer participation.
- A civic information station was requested for Change the World Day on October 24. Volunteers would provide voting information and offer postcard writing using available supplies.
- Soror Sanders would be out of town on October 24 and requested committee volunteers and coordination with the Co Chair for the civic station. No final station lead was confirmed in the discussion.
- Newton County canvassing was scheduled for October 31, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The Chair corrected the county designation during the meeting and said she would participate. A lead was identified verbally, but the name requires confirmation because of inconsistent transcription.

The Chair reported that English and Spanish nonpartisan pamphlets were available with voting preparation and identification information. Canvassing would focus on voting dates, required identification, and polling locations rather than promoting candidates. Members were told they could wear Delta paraphernalia for the nonpartisan activity.

The Chair proposed a brief canvassing orientation with the Co Chair. She described using walking lists and a mobile tool with address and GPS functions to help volunteers navigate assigned areas. Volunteer sign ups were needed before activities could proceed.

POSTCARD WRITING CAMPAIGN REPORT

Approximately 600 postcards had been completed through the October 3 activity and community participation. The Chair reported that postcards had been mailed and that at least one recipient had confirmed receipt. Messages were personal and nonpartisan, reminding recipients about early voting and the November election.

Additional blank postcards remained available. Postage was the main outstanding need. The Chair reported that the chapter had spent $325 for the first 500 postcard stamps and cited approximately $65 per 100 stamps. She had donated 100 stamps, and other donations had been received. The remaining stamp inventory was discussed as an estimate and was not finalized.

- Continue requesting stamp donations to support additional mailing.
- Consider submitting a request to the chapter for additional postage funding. No additional expenditure was approved during this meeting.
- Use remaining postcards and available postage at the October 24 civic station as feasible.

SOCIAL MEDIA VOTER EDUCATION AND WHY I VOTE VIDEOS

Soror Sanders reported ongoing coordination with PR and Communications on voter education flyers and posts. Members were asked to share chapter content and consider volunteering to monitor the chapter pages so election information is consistently shared. No monitoring lead was confirmed.

The Chair requested 30 to 60 second Why I Vote video submissions, particularly from committee members, explaining why voting matters to them. Members could wear red or Delta paraphernalia. Instructions and submission information were available in the Crimson Connection. The Chair would coordinate with Communications to prepare videos for chapter channels and social media, with publication desired during the current and following weeks before November 3.

Members were also encouraged to share photographs with their voting stickers to encourage participation. The Chair emphasized reaching both community members and sorors who may need encouragement to vote.

OCTOBER 17 CHAPTER MEETING REPRESENTATION

Both chairs had previously scheduled travel or events and would be unavailable for the October 17 chapter meeting. A recorded Social Action report was planned. Soror Vanessa Laney volunteered to serve as the committee liaison, respond to questions she could address, and collect remaining questions for the chairs to answer later. Soror Sanders agreed to notify the Chapter President of the arrangement.

UPCOMING SOCIAL ACTION DAYS AND CIVIC 101

The Chair reported that upcoming events, including those in 2027, had been submitted through Asana. Flyers had been designed, and Civic 101 registration arrangements were prepared. She was coordinating with Communications on when promotion would begin, particularly for Civic 101, so registration could inform venue capacity planning.

The City of Covington Social Action Day was identified for April 19, 2027. Walton County Social Action Day and Civic 101 were also discussed. The Chair requested leads for each program and invited members to contact her after the meeting if interested. No additional event leads were confirmed.

For the Social Action Days, the Chair proposed an interactive trivia or observation activity to help participants identify board members, follow agenda items, and understand public meeting proceedings. She emphasized building relationships with elected officials in both Newton and Walton counties and learning about the local legislative delegation and its priorities before the January 2027 session.

COMMUNITY NEEDS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Chair invited members to identify concerns within the Newton and Walton service area. Potential areas for future work included homelessness, housing and support for youth aging out of foster care, reproductive health education, and collaboration with other chapter committees. These were discussion topics, and no new program was adopted.

Soror Harper asked about collaboration with other Divine Nine organizations and mentioned a Kappa town hall that she had discussed for inclusion in the Crimson Connection. The Chair supported exploring partnerships with other Divine Nine organizations and community groups, including possible collaboration for Civic 101. She referenced national partnerships and voter engagement reporting as reasons to strengthen local connections. No specific new partnership agreement was approved.

CALENDAR ACCESS AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Soror Shurika Frazier asked about access to the event calendar and noted that she had not seen the October 31 invitation. The Chair asked her to text her email address and agreed to send calendar invitations and the meeting link directly. Other members needing access were asked to contact the Chair.

Soror Frazier also asked whether there were multiple Social Action GroupMe spaces. The Chair explained that a legacy standalone group was still being used alongside the Social Action section within the main chapter GroupMe. Some members were not in the older group and had missed reminders. The Chair identified the Social Action section of the main chapter GroupMe as the primary communication space and agreed to correct posting practices and consult the legacy group administrator about closing the duplicate group.

ADDITIONAL VOTER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

While reviewing the Crimson Connection, the Chair highlighted the Power the Polls poll worker opportunity and its sign up information. She also announced an October 28 phone banking activity to remind people to vote and directed members to the newsletter sign up link. A time and activity lead were not stated during the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS AND FOLLOW UP

- Soror Alana Sanders will notify the Chapter President that Soror Vanessa Laney will serve as the October 17 liaison and ensure report materials are available.
- Soror Vanessa Laney will serve as liaison on October 17 and relay questions requiring follow up to the chairs.
- Educational Development and Social Action will coordinate the proposed Social Action component for the November 14 HBCU activity and applicable submission.
- Soror Sanders will continue updating the approval tracker and entering activities in Asana for chapter awareness and communications coordination.
- The Chair and Co Chair will coordinate canvassing preparation, recruit volunteers, and confirm assignments for October 24 and October 31.
- Committee members are asked to volunteer for the October 24 civic station, October 28 phone banking, and scheduled canvassing activities.

- Committee members are asked to submit Why I Vote videos promptly and share approved voter education posts.
- Soror Sanders will resend event invitations and links, confirm calendar access with Soror Frazier, and address duplicate GroupMe communications.
- The committee will continue seeking postage donations; any additional chapter funding request remains subject to chapter consideration.
- Members interested in leading Covington Social Action Day, Walton County Social Action Day, Civic 101, or social media monitoring should contact the Chair.
- Soror Sanders will continue coordinating promotion and registration with PR and Communications and seek clarification on student contact permissions for future registration outreach.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair invited final questions and encouraged members to propose initiatives that respond to community needs. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion carried by voice vote. The meeting concluded at approximately 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Alana Sanders
Social Action Chair
Covington Area Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated