

**The DKG California LIFE Foundation
Annual Meeting of Members
California DKG State Convention
Burlingame, California
May 5, 2023
Minutes**

1. Call to Order: Laura Fujitsubo, Chi State LIFE Foundation Chair, called the 2023 Annual Meeting of Members to order at 6:38 pm.

2. Purpose: The Annual Meeting of Members is held in accordance with the Bylaws of the LIFE Foundation. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to report to the members of The LIFE Foundation, the status of The Foundation, to elect Board Members, and to transact any business that should come before this meeting.

3. Establishment of a Quorum:

Lorelie Olaes, Secretary of the LIFE Board of Directors, established that a quorum existed.

4. Welcome and Introductions:

A. On behalf of the LIFE Foundation Board of Directors, Laura Fujitsubo, the President of the board welcomed members to the 24th Annual Meeting of Members. She also introduced the women who currently serve on the LIFE board of directors.

B. The Board of Directors are:

**Laura Fujitsubo, Alpha Eta, Area VI, President
Lorelie Olaes, Lambda, Area XI, Secretary and Liaison Coordinator
Robin Kelley, Epsilon Chi, Area VI, Treasurer
Kimberly Hutchison, Alpha Eta, Area VI, Webmaster
Jan Gonder, Lambda, Area XI, member
Donna Chin, Theta Iota, Area VI, member**

**Absent: Carole Seedman, Lambda, Area XI, Member
Jeannine Mendoza, Alpha, Area XI, Nominations Chair**

She thanked them for their dedication and commitment to the work of the LIFE Foundation.

C. On behalf of the Board, Laura F. welcomed visitors and DKG California members who attended this meeting, including the DKG California president, Toni Cook, the executive committee, Past DKG California Presidents, and Past LIFE Board presidents, especially Donna Fleischer, the immediate past president of the LIFE Board.

5. The next order of business was to approve the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting of Members which had been approved by the Board of Directors. The minutes are kept on file in the Corporation Book in the DKG California Education Center, the official office of the LIFE Foundation.

Lore Olaes, LIFE Foundation Secretary, read a summary of the 2022 minutes.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2022 minutes. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

6. LIFE Newsletter

A slide with a QR code was displayed and Laura F. explained that scanning the QR code gave access to the 2023 LIFE Foundation Newsletter. The newsletter contained details of progress reports, donors, and financial news. Hard copies of the newsletter were provided to the DKG California Leadership Team.

7. Correspondence:

Laura F. shared the following:

The LIFE Foundation received numerous thank you notes, acknowledgements of grants, and project reports from last year's grant recipients. We also sent LIFE grant award announcements by email this year and received many replies of thanks.

Laura F. read excerpts from a few of the current year LIFE Grant recipients' replies:

Kristy Powel, Iota Gamma Chapter, Area 6, wrote, "I cannot tell you how much I appreciate this. I received the email during lunch and read it to my colleagues. You should have heard the screams!!! We are so very excited about how much this grant will help our program. Thank you so much, Kristy."

Gloria Sanchez, Kappa Delta chapter, Area 18, wrote:

"This is wonderful news! I will be sharing the information at our next chapter meeting. I know our members will be just as excited as I am. Our local library does such an admirable job with its summer reading program to promote literacy in children of all ages. I know this award will be well received, and Kappa Delta will work with the librarians to select and distribute age appropriate books to the children who will participate in the summer reading program. LIFE is indeed wonderful!"

Laura F. also shared a few photos we received with project reports.

8. Robin Kelley presented the following report on Board Activities, LIFE Progress, and a financial review.

A. Since its inception twenty three years ago, THE DKG Chi State Learning is For Everyone Foundation has awarded 608 monetary grants and more than 130 projects for use of LIFE's 501 (c) (3) Tax-exempt Identification Number. The projects promote learning and literacy in the State of California. The Tax ID number is used to seek funding from other foundations and corporations.

B. This year the Foundation received 38 grant requests for a total of over \$38,000. As you will see this far exceeded our income for the year. These requests came from all over

California and represented all but 3 areas. We did not receive applications from area 3, 11, or 13.

C. The LIFE Foundation awarded 29 grants for a total of \$15,561.

D. Through several fundraising activities we have been able to raise funds to continue awarding grants to amazing projects throughout California. Our fundraising activities include:

- i. Annual Raffle here at the DKG California State Convention.
- ii. Amazon Smile, however, this program was discontinued by Amazon in February
- iii. This year we have been able to hold a vacation raffle due to the generous donation by Donna Fleischer and her family. Tickets will continue to be sold through tomorrow and the winner will be announced Sunday morning.
- iv. Most of our funds come from generous donations from the DKG California members, YOU. Without these donations LIFE would cease to exist.

E. Donna Chin and Kimberly Hutchison READ THE NAMES OF THE DONORS and thanked them. The names of the donors have also been listed in the LIFE newsletter acknowledging their support. In addition, honorees who have received LIFE grants for this year have been listed in the newsletter.

F. Chapters and individuals were invited to request financial support for learning and literacy projects by submitting grant applications online or to the LIFE Foundation Board of Directors by March 1, 2024.

9. Robin Kelley provided the following financial report:

This is a profit and loss summary comparing 2023 to the last 3 years.

As a treasurer, it is my responsibility to have a balance at the end of the year. I don't estimate income, and I overestimate expenses. As you can see, this report shows serious differences each year in all categories. But the bottom line is we have enough in the bank at the end of each year to continue to do our work. We had \$ 28,510.38 in our bank account as of March 31, 2023. Remember, for this year's accounting, that most of our income and expenses happen here at convention, and grant checks have not hit the bank yet, so they are not included in the bank figures, but they are accounted for in this year's expenses in this table.

Expense estimates are difficult to make because everyone is so generous and we spend all the money each year on grants, but when the time comes that the board members are unable to donate as much as they have in the past, then the foundation is in trouble. We have always kept our operating expenses very low. Postage, Zoom accounts, travel and hotel, and supplies are often generously donated. Printing, on the other hand, has soared out of control. That's why we are using the QR code for accessing the newsletter and are using email acknowledgement letters.

A complete written and updated annual report and financial report for 2022-2023 is published in the Annual LIFE Newsletter and available to all on our website.

10. Election of Members to the Board of Directors- Lore Olaes stood in for Jeannine Mendoza, Nominations Chair:

It was noted that we had no candidates for the board of directors at this time. In accordance with the Bylaws of the LIFE Foundation, During an Annual Meeting, nominations may be made from the floor with prior approval of the nominee. The question was asked, "Are there any nominations from the floor?" Hearing none, the nominations were closed. We had no slate of nominees.

We encourage anyone interested in joining the good work of the LIFE Foundation to contact any member of the board of directors about joining the board. It was noted that our nominations and elections are conducted during this meeting, but our by-laws allow the board to make appointments to the board as necessary. Members were also encouraged to become a LIFE Liaison for their Area to get to know more about the LIFE Board and its functions.

11. LIFE Foundation Grants- Laura Fujitsubo introduced the next order of business and invited LIFE Board members, Kimberly H. and Donna C. to announce the recipients of this year's LIFE Grant Awards. 2023 LIFE Grant recipients who attended this meeting were invited to come forward, be formally recognized, and receive their checks/awards.

Laura F. noted that a list of all grant recipients is published and available in the 2023 LIFE Newsletter. You may use your phone to access the newsletter here using the QR code, or find it on the DKG California website using the LIFE Link.

12. Motion- Laura Fujitsubo introduced the next order of business and asked Robin Kelley to facilitate a motion to change the name of the LIFE Foundation.

At its inception in 1999 this Foundation's name was in alliance with our state organization named Chi State. The name of our state organization has since changed to DKG California. It's time for the LIFE Foundation to follow suit and change our name.

Laura asked for a motion to be made to change the name of Chi State Learning Is For Everyone Foundation to DKG California Learning Is For Everyone Foundation.

Toni Cook, DKG California President moved to change the name of Chi State Learning Is For Everyoned to the DKG California Learning Is For Everyone Foundation.

It was moved and seconded. The question was called and the motion was adopted. Robin and Laura thanked the members for their participation in this historic change.

13. An update regarding LIFE Area Liaisons was given by Lore Olaes.

It is our hope that each of the 18 Areas of DKG California will designate a LIFE Area Liaison who will receive information about LIFE activities and disseminate that information to the Chapter Presidents

through their Area Meetings. These positions will also be opportunities to learn about and apply for the LIFE Board.

Thanks to the support of Charlotte Wilmeth-Street and the Area Directors, information about the LIFE Area Liaison position has been shared with the Chapter Chairs. Currently, the following Areas have designated LIFE Area Liaisons:

Area 6 - Laura Fujitsubo

Area 8 - Susan Pettis

Area 10 - Sue Kagen

Area 11 - Lore Olaes

Area 13 - Candise Campbell

Area 14 - Barbara McIntosh

Area 18 - Jeanne Gahagan

Members from Areas that have not designated a LIFE Area Liaison, YET, were encouraged to consider volunteering for this worthwhile position.

14. Announcements

A. 2023 LIFE Newsletter is available for all.

- i. Please use this QR code to access the newsletter online
- ii. The Newsletter is also available on the LIFE website accessible on dkgca.com

B. Tomorrow please participate in the following LIFE Activities

- i. LIFE Raffle starting at 7:30. Thank you to all who have donated items. A special thanks to Gretchen Covington and her chapter Eta Upsilon in Area 1. Winning tickets will be posted at 4:00. We have a quick turn around, so please pick up your prizes by 4:30.
- ii. Don't forget to buy vacation raffle tickets for \$10. The winner will be announced Sunday morning.
- iii. Join our meet the author interest session featuring Sarah Muscarello the author of Under a Bright Yellow Sun which is this year's Read Across DKG California book selection.

C. LIFE's next Annual Meeting will be held on May 3, 2024 at the DKG California State Convention. All were invited to attend.

D. There was no other order of business.

15. Adjournment:

Laura F. adjourned the 2023 Annual Meeting of Members of the DKG California State LIFE Foundation at 7:16pm.

Laura Fujitsubo-LIFE President

Lorelie Olaes-LIFE Secretary