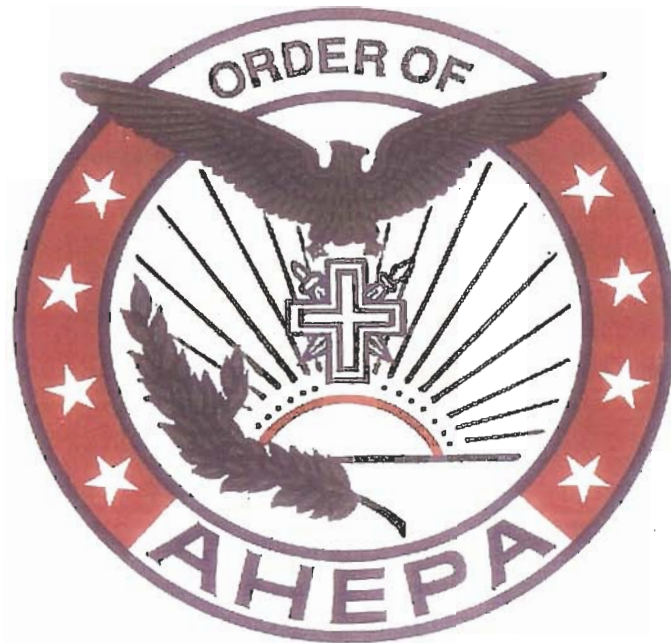


# ORDER OF AHEPA



DELTA DISTRICT 16  
73<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL DISTRICT CONVENTION  
JUNE 10-13, 2004  
J.W. MARRIOTT HOTEL  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

MINUTES

*ORDER OF AHEPA*

*DELTA DISTRICT 16*

*73 rd. ANNUAL DISTRICT CONVENTION*



*JUNE 10-13, 2004*  
*J. W. MARRIOTT HOTEL*

*HOUSTON, TEXAS*

**73<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL  
AHEPA DELTA DISTRICT 16 CONVENTION**

June 10-13, 2004  
At the JW Marriott Hotel  
Houston, Texas

**CONVENTION PROGRAM**

Thursday, June 10, 2004

Welcome Night

07:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Friday, June 11, 2004

Registration – AHEPA & DOP

09:00 AM to 01:00 PM

Convention Opening

01:00 PM

Registration – AHEPA & DOP

02:00 PM to 05:00 PM

Business Meetings – AHEPA & DOP

02:00 PM to 05:00 PM

Greek Night

Reception

08:00 PM to 09:00 PM

Dancing Begins at

09:00 PM

Saturday, June 12, 2004

Past District Governors' Breakfast

07:00 AM

Golf Tournament

08:00 AM

Registration – AHEPA & DOP

09:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Business Meetings - AHEPA & DOP

09:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Lunch on Your Own

AHEPA Initiation

01:00 PM to 02:00 PM

Business Meetings – DOP

01:00 PM to 03:00 PM

Business Meetings – AHEPA

02:00 PM to 03:00 PM

Joint AHEPA & DOP Meeting

03:00 PM to 04:00 PM

Business Meetings – AHEPA & DOP

04:00 PM

Grand Banquet and Ball

Reception

06:00 PM to 07:00 PM

Dinner

07:00 PM

Sunday, June 13, 2004

Church Services @

09:30 AM

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

3511 Yoakum Blvd.

Houston, Texas 77006-4388

# MINUTES FOR 2004 DISTRICT 16 AHEPA CONVENTION HOUSTON, TX

**Friday 6/11/2004**

Meeting commenced at 2 PM. 28 voting members present.

Brother Sayed Houssein is voted Convention Chairman. Brother Jim Broomas is voted Convention Vice Chairman and Brother John Sempeles is voted Convention Secretary.

Committee appointments were as follows:

Chair nominates Dr. Steve Kirkikis Finance committeeman.

Chair nominates Jack Lymberry Legislative Resolution committeeman.

Chair nominates Nick Dixie to Mid-Year Cities Conference committeeman.

Chair nominates James Petheriotes Grievances committeeman.

Brother Nick Patzakis, Past District Secretary, reads the minutes from the 2004 Mid-Year Conference. (See attached). The Chair moves to accept minutes. Motion passes without objections.

Brother Dr. Kirkikis gives Finance report (see attached). Chair moves to accept his report.

Discussion: Question raised whether we can increase the number of scholarship raffle tickets from the 200 maximum limit? Brother Kirkikis replied the sale of tickets can be without limit. Brother Dr. Kirkikis moves to accept Finance report. Brother Ernie Papvasiliou seconds. Motion passes.

Chapter Report for Shreveport given by Lt. District Governor John Georgiandis (see attached). The Chapter report is accepted by Vice Chairman.

Chapter Report for Fort Worth given by John Sempeles (see attached). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

Chapter Report for Dallas given by John Boyd (see attached). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

Chapter Report for Houston given by Jimmy Verges (see attached). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

Chapter Report for San Antonio given by Paul Fafoutikis (copy not attached). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

Chapter Report for Clear Lake given by Demetrios Mourtakos (see attached). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

Chapter Report for Pasadena given by Sayed Houssein (copy not attached). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

Chapter Report for New Orleans given by Ted Tzavellas (no copy given). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

District 16 Report given by District Secretary Nick Patzakis (see attached). Accepted by Vice Chairman.

Lt. District Governor John Georgiandis presented his report on the District raffle. The proceeds amounted to \$5000 by 143 tickets being sold. He commends District Governor Anthony Kouzounis for his passion and commitment to the district.

District Governor Anthony Kouzounis related his visits to all the Chapters in the District. For the past two years, during his visits, he has renewed interest by the inactive chapters and as a result the District can boast of a great many new members. He assisted in the establishment of the Woodlands Chapter 529; promoted for the addition of a new chapter in Mid-Cities DFW and sparked interest in the re-activation of the Hot Springs, Arkansas and El Paso, Texas Chapters.

Convention Vice-chairman Jim Broomas commends District Governor Anthony Kouzounis for his extraordinary achievements during his tenure. A call for a moment of silence for deceased members and for former President Ronald Reagan.

The meeting recessed until its continuation on Saturday morning.

#### **Saturday Morning 6/12/2004**

Meeting starts at 9:10 AM. Approximately 27 members are present, including Supreme VP Frank Manios and Supreme Governor Tasos Kronos.

Chapter Report for Little Rock given by Pete Vratsinas (see attached). Accepted by Vice Chair.

Report by District Governor Anthony Kouzounis on chapters. Attempts were made to revive Galveston Chapter, so far no activity. Corpus Christi still can't get meetings going. El Paso is looking promising. West Houston reactivated 4 years ago, but has fallen off. Woodlands is a new chapter—officers were present at convention. Pete Kaldis revived interest in the Beaumont chapter with help from the Mavits family. He has tried to get past members active. There are possibilities for Monroe, LA and Hot Springs, AK.

Our esteemed Supreme Vice President Frank Manios was introduced followed by his comments. He noted our Order has recovered from the funds that were pilfered from the treasury.

The Vice-President also noted that the Supreme Board received a million dollar gift from a family in the Bahamas. Noted that donations, wills and grants are an excellent source for increasing the Scholarship Fund and encourages more solicitations from general membership. Vice-President Manios is concerned that our bi-annual banquets are not representative of our membership and where 1,200 members were in attendance during past years, the recent meeting amounted to only 400 individuals. In addition to having State Governors interested in our organization, we also need to raise the interest of our legislators. Brother and Vice-President was delighted that our Membership Drive has been most successful this year. It was mentioned that Conventions have been adversely affected by the 9/11 tragedy. Schedules have been scrambled because of the cancelled Greek convention. Currently, the schedule for the national conventions is as follows: the City of Boston in 2005; Denver for 2007 and San Francisco for 2008. Presently 2006 is currently not scheduled. On the Cyprus issue, the south side of Cyprus has been accepted into the EU. The Greeks voted 3-1 against unification, after conditions for unification were not met. Our AHEPA HUD Projects creating housing for the underprivileged superb. Houston is to be congratulated for their projects.

Chapter Report for Austin given by Takis Petropoulos (see attached). Accepted by the Vice Chairman.

Budget/Finance Report given by Dr. Steve Kirkikis (see attached). Motion to accept— Accepted unanimously.

Resolutions Report given by Ernie Papavasiliou.

Need an Ad-hoc committee to review qualification issues for scholarship funds. Look at age limit, member in good standing, etc. Committee would be composed of Chairman, District Governors (Ahepa and Daughter) and 3 Ahepans and 3 Daughters. Need to have educational backgrounds and qualifications.

Chairman chosen by convention, governors elected by commission, and 6 members selected by convention.

Motion: District Gov. Kouzounis moves that anyone should be eligible to participate, not only those with an educational background. Brother Houssein seconded the motion.

Discussion: Brother Kirkikis feels scholarship requirements are already in force and a committee isn't necessary for change. Jim Broomas recommended for brother Kirkikis and the appointed committee to discuss in private the pros and cons and to present their findings to the convention delegates. Chairman Jack Lymberry agreed. After a discussion, the committee agreed to a new list of committee members: They were as follows: Chairman - Ernie Papavasiliou, Vice Chairman - Jack Lymberry, Advisor- Paul Hatgil, Advisor- Steve Kirkikis, and Ahepan District Governor.

Motion: Brother Kirkikis moved to accept the new committee slate. Motion seconded by Sam Booras Brother Houssein moved to table the issue till it was well understood.

Discussion: District Gov. Kouzounis noted that the governor previously always chose committee members. The rules need to be amended to allow eligibility for trade school applicants and other amendments. Brother Houssein agrees with District Gov. that the

governor should choose members. Vote on 2<sup>nd</sup> motion for new committee. The motion did not pass.

District Gov. motions to accept the exploratory committee with original members. Brother Kirkikis is opposed. He feels the governors group will already be biased against current scholarship rules. Brother Kirkikis moves to table the vote. Nicholas Vretos seconds. Motion does not pass.

The outstanding 1<sup>st</sup> motion (from District Gov. Kouzounis) that an ad-hoc scholarship committee will review the scholarship rules and come to the next district convention with recommendations. The motion passes.

Mid-Year Conference report given by Nick Dixie.

Issues of discussion: Making Mid-Year Conference into Lodge meeting, joint District Convention with Florida District for 2005/2006, and permanent date for District Convention.

Brother Broomas recommends having a permanent date for district conventions—offers a chance for advance advertising. Brother Petheriotes refutes as impossible to nail down a date. Brother Kouzounis is in favor of a permanent day—against joint convention. Brother Bond is for a permanent day, but he is for joint convention in Pensacola. Some further discussion was conducted on which dates in June will work. Lt. Governor Georgiafandis recommends to leave date selection up to the board.

Discussion begins on if we should continue with a mid-year conference. Brother Kirkikis says we should consider keeping a mid-year conference if it helps the momentum of our district meeting.

Motion: Vice Chair Broomas moves whether to continue with a mid-year conference. Discussion: Lt. Gov. Georgiafandis doesn't think conference will work—Lodge should leave it to the individual city if they want to have an event when Board members meet. Chairman Houssein moves to table issue. Vice Chair Broomas defines the difference between a Lodge meeting and a conference to clarify the issue for the brothers. Brother Kirkikis asks to change the motion to say if a city agrees to host conference, let the District Gov. assign whether it's a lodge meeting. Chairman Houssein seconds. Motion passes.

Motion: Brother Nick Dixie motions to have a Joint District Convention in city of Pensacola, FL in 2005, followed by Joint District Convention in District 16 for 2006. Chairman Houssein seconds.

Discussion: Brother Kirkikis asks about monetary consequences—who pays? Lt. Gov. Georgiafandis wants to know who gets the money from the registration fees. Brother Kirkikis mentions we should have a back up plan—if Joint Convention falls through, we should still have a regular District Convention.

Results of the vote: motion passes (14-7).

Vice Chair Broomas questions who will host the 2006 District 16 Joint-Convention. Chapter 312, Austin, needs to ask its members as does the San Antonio Chapter. A possibility would be for a joint Austin-San Antonio Convention. PDG Paul Hatgil noted that those two cities did host a District convention in the past.

Motion is made by Supreme Secretary Chris Economides to adjourn for lunch. Motion seconded and passed.

### **Saturday Afternoon (6/12/2004)**

Afternoon session commences at 1:15 PM.

Nine new members are initiated. The initiation rites were chaired by Convention Vice Chairman Broomas and the swearing ceremony was performed by Supreme Vice-President Frank Manios..

Joint Meeting with the Daughters of Penelope.

Greetings by Chairman Houssein, who yields to DOP Chairwoman Helen Santire. DOP President Mary Georgiandis is introduced. Daughters are informed about the decision on Joint meetings. President Georgiandis announces that Daughters object to the Scholarship ad-hoc committee. Daughters feel they were not represented in decision. District Gov. Kouzounis counters that it is merely a review and groups findings are not final. It will be up to Daughters and Ahepa to accept recommendations. Ernie Papavasiliou (ad-hoc chair) agrees that Daughters will be consulted prior to the final report.

Report on the Skepsou given by District Gov. Kouzounis. Kouzounis mentions mailing is difficult. Chapters need to send in member lists and address labels. Chapters also need to send in reports on time.

Former DOP President Becky Demeris presented her views and interest in Ahepa.

DOP Grand Governor Dianne Peterson spoke on the need to encourage and recruit more youth into our Order.

Supreme Vice-President addressed the joint meeting.

Elections:

#### Supreme Governor

Chairman Houssein nominates Nick Dixie for the position of Supreme Governor. Brother Ernie Papavasiliou seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Lt. Governor John Georgiandis reminds convention that they haven't voted for a budget for Skepsou. Lt. Gov. Georgiandis motions for a \$4 per person budget. Dist. Secretary Nick Patzakis seconds.

Discussion: Brother Kirkikis asks to keep per capita budget if only two issues per year. Motion is amended. The motion passed.

District report given for Woodlands Chapter by Peter Lampras. (No report attached). Accepted by the Vice Chairman.

Grievances committee gives report. Jimmy Petheriotes reported: no grievances.

#### District Governor

District Governor Anthony Kouzounis nominates John Georgiafandis. Brother Hatgil asks to close elections and elect brother Georgiafandis by acclamation. Alex Booras seconds the motion. Motion passes to elect without question.

#### Lieutenant Governor

Brother Bergis (sp?) nominates Pete Kaldis (not present to accept nomination). Chairman Houssein nominates Nick Patzakis. Brother Petheriotes seconds. Alex Booras moves to close elections. Brother Bond seconds. Motion passes.

#### District Secretary

Brother Paul Hatgil states we need young members to fill District posts. Nominates John Sempeles. Elected by acclamation.

#### District Treasurer

Brother Alex Booras nominates Dr. Steve Kirkikis. Brother Papavasiliou seconds. Elected by acclamation.

#### District Warden

Brother Verdes nominates Pete Kaldis. Seconded by Paul Fafoutakis. Brother Kaldis elected by acclamation.

#### Scholarship Ward

Brother Petheriotes nominates Anthony Kouzounis. Brother Kouzounis declines. Ernie Papvasiliou nominated. Brother Petheriotes seconds. Elected by acclamation.

Vice Chairman Broomas brings an end to the elections and the newly elected officers are sworn in by the Supreme Vice President Frank Manios..

Words by newly elected District Governor John Georgiafandis. Closing Statements by Vice Chair Broomas and Chairman Houssein. Lt. Gov. Patzakis motioned to bring to an end the 2004 Convention. The motion seconded by PDG Paul Hatgil, Motion passed.