



History & Facts of the Seven Pearls Foundation, Inc.

1. Purchase of a new headquarters began under Past Grand Basileus, Dr. LaRona J. Morris
2. 1998- Soror Adah M. Hull, Chair of the Planning and Budgeting Committee encouraged the purchase of a new facility at the 45th Boule in her report to the Grand Body
3. In 1999 it was decided each Regional Syntaktes would represent her region on the Headquarters Committee
4. The committee discussed updates on available property; status of funding for the new headquarters and the goals of the committee and timelines at the Central Regional Conference on April 15, 2000 in Indianapolis, IN. Each Syntaktes was present as well as the IGB, 1st IGB, Int. Parliamentarian and Int. Legal Advisor.
5. In 2004, Mr. Tony Grant, CEO of Grant Strategies, hired by Grand Basileus Helen J. Owens reviewed the sorority's financial status and assists the organization with procuring a new headquarters. He along with Mr. Anthony Sims of Grant Business Strategies presented the same report to the Grand Chapter at the 2004 Boule. We were informed we were in a position to buy a new headquarters.
6. Twenty-five (25) properties had been viewed for the new location. These properties were narrowed down to five (5) and then to two (2).
7. Grand Basileus Owens was advised to create a foundation to purchase the property. The foundation would protect the property in the event of a lawsuit. The proposed foundation would be the Seven Pearls Foundation. The Foundation would purchase and manage the property.
8. Two properties were shown to the body: Southhill and Slater Road. Southhill was 17,000 sq. ft., and two stories, the first floor had a tenant, asking price \$2.8 million dollars. The Slater Road property had three stories with an asking price of \$3.8 million dollars. Both properties were in North Carolina.





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9. Members from the headquarters committee viewed the properties including Sorors Lynette Frazier and Christine E. Trigg, the first president of the Seven Pearls Foundation, Inc.
10. At the 2004 Boule, in Memphis, TN, the motion to purchase the property in North Carolina was voted upon by the Grand Chapter. The vote was 348 for, 90 Against.
11. The property was purchased for \$2.6 million dollars.
12. A loan was obtained for twenty years with a fixed rate mortgage of six percent with a no prepayment penalty.
13. The Headquarters moved to Cary, NC January, 2005 under the supervision of the new Executive Director Jennifer Jones.
14. \$130,000 extra has been paid on the mortgage allowing the payoff date to move from 2024 to 2023.
15. An endowment account was established because of expressed interest in including the Foundation in their wills.
16. The Living Tree started by Soror Adah Hull continues to receive names for leaves and is in the lobby of the headquarters.
17. All guidelines of the IRS and all communication are open between and among the membership.
18. \$917,000 dollars is currently owed on the mortgage.





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19. Numerous improvements have been made to ensure the safety of the staff and tenants and established a relationship with the local police department along with other local organizations and agencies.
20. The mortgage and maintenance of the headquarters are funded through fundraisers including the Life Member Luncheon, T-shirt Campaign, Tree of Life Leaves at ICHQ , Seven Pearls Bracelet and the purchase of the Seven Pearls Pin. The collaboration of these efforts aids the improvement of the brand of the foundation.
21. Seven Pearls Foundation has three components for fundraising: Burn the Mortgage Campaign, Building Fund (maintenance) and the Technology Fund (software). Money raised goes towards these three funds.

ALL INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY, INC. BOULE MINUTES 1996-2004

