

As a representative body which is meant to coordinate the activities of the chapters in its community, a City Council must always strive to be aware of the needs and the desires of the chapters and members who make up the council. It is a natural tendency to continue to do things that have "always been done" and to assume that the chapters and members are not only willing but required to support them. To secure the best cooperation and the best success, a City Council needs to be continually open to the changing needs of its chapters and its members.

The contributions of the City Council go far beyond just ways and means and service projects and occasional social events. The City Council can focus the strength of the existing chapters and members in a community to improve the success in all areas of Beta Sigma Phi. In particular, assisting chapters low in membership, helping encourage regular and orderly progression, and reestablishing chapters of the Ritual of Jewels degree to insure the continued strength of all degree chapters are concerns to which any City Council can profitably devote itself.

The following paragraphs give some suggestions to guide a City Council in preparing an Interest Survey. They include some of the kinds of questions a council might wish to include in its questionnaire. These are given purely as a guide and include only basic things. There are, of course, other questions pertinent to your particular City Council activities which you should include. By using this questionnaire, you can determine what the chapters and members consider priorities. You can then plan a year's activities and longer, to help the chapters work together toward the goals they establish.

When you have composed your questionnaire, make copies and give one to every chapter in your council. Ask them to fill it out completely and return it to your secretary or another designated member at a specific council meeting so that there is a deadline by which it is to be returned. There are specific ways in which this will help your council. (1) The standing committee appointments can be made on the basis of expressed interest. (2) The preferences for different types of activities can be tabulated on separate sheets of paper so that the information can be given to each committee as well as to the Executive Board. This will guide the committees or the Executive Board in preparing recommendations for the council's consideration and approval. The committees and the Executive Board will have the benefit of pertinent information to assist in their planning. For example, City Council representatives can express their preferences of committees they would like to serve on during the coming year, which will help the Executive Board make committee appointments.

Here are some sample questions to guide you in preparing your own questionnaire:

1. The standing committees of our council are listed below. Indicate your preference for your choice of committee by putting #1, 2, 3, etc. in the appropriate space.

<input type="checkbox"/> Program Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Ways and Means Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Service

2. How many social activities a year do you think our council should have? \_\_\_\_\_
3. List your first, second and third preference as to the specific kinds of socials you suggest for the coming year;

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. How may money-making projects do you think the council should sponsor during the coming year? \_\_\_\_\_
5. List your first, second and third preference as to the kinds of ways and means projects your chapter would enjoy cooperating in during the coming year.
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Should our council plan to have any service projects during the coming year?
- Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. If you feel that the council should sponsor a service project (one or more) during the coming year, indicate the number of projects you feel should be sponsored
- \_\_\_\_\_
8. Write in order, your chapter's preference for the kinds of service projects you would help to support during the coming year, both in time and effort.
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Does your chapter feel that any phase of council activity needs to be changed?
- Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- If so, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
10. If you felt that a change was needed, what do you suggest be done to make such a change? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
11. What if anything, would you like our council to do which to your knowledge we have not done before? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
12. The chapter strength in our council is: Ritual of Jewels chapters \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exemplar chapters \_\_\_\_\_ Preceptor chapters \_\_\_\_\_ Laureate chapters \_\_\_\_\_
- How many new Ritual of Jewels chapters do you think we should add to our council? \_\_\_\_\_
- Would your chapter be willing to work on the establishment or reestablishment of a Ritual of Jewels chapter during the year? \_\_\_\_\_

13. In our council, the number of members eligible to progress to the next higher degree is:

\_\_\_\_\_ in Ritual of Jewels                      \_\_\_\_\_ in Exemplar  
\_\_\_\_\_ in Preceptor

How can we help the eligible members progress without losing chapters and without establishing unneeded chapters of higher degree? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. How can City Council provide more or better assistance to your chapter in:

- 1. Rushing \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Progression \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Contact for transferrees \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Pledge training \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Assistance with any special problem \_\_\_\_\_

15. What does your chapter enjoy the most in City Council? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. What does your chapter enjoy the least? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your assistance. Together we can make council what our members want and need it to be and strengthen our Beta Sigma Phi community.