



District 54 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, January 13, 2024

Virtual Meeting

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OPENING

Maryann Reichert, DTM, Logistics Manager, called the meeting to order at 9:15 am. She led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME

Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, welcomed everyone to the DEC meeting. He facilitated the DEC meeting.

INSPIRATION

Bonnie Tippey, DTM, Immediate Past District Director, gave the inspiration. Her topic was “If not today, when?” She urged everyone to list 5 future Toastmasters, 5 future corporate clubs, 5 future TM leaders TODAY.

OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION and CORE VALUES

Our Vision and District Mission was read by Ron Jones, VC1, Division B Director.

District Vision

To end the year with a healthy, dynamic District with 70+ Clubs, all achieving Distinguished or better.

District Mission

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

District Core Values

We strive to adhere to the following core values:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Service
- Excellence

DISTRICT OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Present	First	Last	Designation	OFFICE
X	DAN	KYBURZ	DTM	DISTRICT DIRECTOR
X	GARY	VAUGHN	PM3	PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR
X	WENDY	PESAVENTO	DTM	CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR
X	TASHIKA	WILLIAMS	PI1	PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
X	CECE	WROBLEWSKI	DTM	ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
X	JASON	HESSLER	DTM	FINANCE MANAGER
X	BONNIE	TIPPEY	DTM	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT DIRECTOR
X	MARYANN	REICHEL	DTM	LOGISTICS MANAGER, NV
X	ESTELLE	FOSTER	VC5	DIVISION A DIRECTOR
X	RON	JONES	VC1	DIVISION B DIRECTOR
X	CHRISTINA	EVANS	LD5	DIVISION C DIRECTOR
	STEVEN	VACCARO	PM4	DIVISION D DIRECTOR
X	RACHEL	BERRY	PI1	AREA 10 DIRECTOR

X	LINO	CARILLO	DTM	AREA 11 DIRECTOR
	TROY	LAPORTE	LD1	AREA 12 DIRECTOR
X	JANA	HERGERT	PM5	AREA 20 DIRECTOR
X	PATRICK	OLSON	VC5	AREA 21 DIRECTOR
X	VENKAT	CHANDER	TC1	AREA 22 DIRECTOR
X	ROSEMARY	NASH	LD4	AREA 30 DIRECTOR
	JERRY	BURGER	EH4	AREA 31 DIRECTOR
X	KRISTINA	WARREN	DL4	AREA 32 DIRECTOR
X	STACY	BRITT		AREA 40 DIRECTOR
X	DALE	POSONT	EH4	AREA 41 DIRECTOR
X	AUDREITH	TONY		AREA 42 DIRECTOR

20 voting members were present – a quorum is 12; therefore, there was a quorum at the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Corrected Agenda was adopted.

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Cece Wroblewski, Administration Manager, presented a summary of the December minutes. The meeting minutes and all other meeting-related documents are housed on the D54 website for review by DEC members.

- No Corrections noted, accepted as read.

FINANCE MANAGER

Jason Heissler, DTM, Finance Manager, gave the finance report. Report submitted and attached.

- Bank Account Balance as of 12/31/2023: \$2,925.66
- District reserve as of 11/31/2023: \$33,453.75
- P&L Statement from TI from 11/30/2023 is included
- The Finance Manager will begin working on the mid-year audit at the end of January. Due Feb 15.



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Division Reports & PRM Report

The written reports were submitted by the Directors in advance of the meeting. The verbal reports were presented in the order shown.

DIVISION A

Estelle Foster, Division A Director, presented the Division A report. Written report was submitted and is attached.

- Clubs are scheduling Open Houses for March
- Feb 19 is the joint Area Speech Contests
- Rock On! Is planning a 20th anniversary celebration
- Open Houses are planned for Inspiring Speakers, Advanced Expressives and Talk of the Town
- *Timely Talkers has added an AI Master to add that topic to the meeting agenda*
- Toast of the Fox has 8 DCP goals met



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DIVISION B

Patrick Olsen, VC5, Area 41 Director, presented the Division B report. Written report submitted and is attached.

- Professional Communicators held an Open House
- Pimiteoui Toastmasters has 5 new members
- Professional Toastmasters held an Open House
- Caterpillar Employees has 4 DCP points



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DIVISION C

Christina Evans, LD5, Division C Director, presented the Division C Report. The written report was submitted and is attached.

- There is low interest in Club contests
- Combined Area Contests will be on Feb 24
- Delightful Greeters are hosting a session at TLI South
- Committee on In-Person Speech Contests will continue in March



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DIVISION D

Dale Posont, EH4, Area 41 Director, presented the Division D report. Written report was submitted and is attached.

- Bob Casper's passing was communicated. He was a long-time member of Lincolnway and New Lenox Toastmasters
- Feb 18 is the scheduled date for Area contests, Division Contests will be on March 10
- Tony Audreith will take over as Area 42 Director
- Multiple Open Houses are scheduled and an invitation has been issued to Intl Speech Contestants to participate in them
- A new website as the front-facing page for easy-Speak is being created by Confident Communicators
- A Speechathon and a Backwards meeting have been held by Yes And Toastmasters



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PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

Tashika Williams, PI1, Public Relations Manager, presented the Public Relations Manager report. No written report was submitted.

- 566

District 54 page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/d54tm>

District 54 group on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/498728804348481>

District 54 website link: <https://d54tm.com/>

District 54 on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/76960127>

District 54 Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCShur7LY30JSNyBcXsl0tXg>

CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR

Wendy Pesavento, DTM, Club Growth Director, presented the Club Growth Director Report. Written report was submitted and is attached.

- Club Extension chair is still needed
- D54 has 47 paid clubs with a base of 50 clubs
- New club is chartering in Freeport, Illinois at Jo Carroll Energy
- Storytelling Club needs a few volunteers willing to commit to 3 demo meetings
- New club in Manteno is on hold
- Jon Greiner still looking for more volunteers for prison clubs



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PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR

Gary Vaughn, PM3, Program Quality Director, gave the Program Quality Director's report. Report was submitted and is attached.

- Help needed with Area contests to fill facilitator roles
- TI is celebrating its 100th anniversary this summer
- TLI registration is open on the D54TM.com website
- Attendance is encouraged at TLI South coming up first
- Wheel winner – January winner is Brent Versendaal



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DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, gave the District Director Report. Report was submitted and is attached.

- Review Club Success Plans to see if you are on track to complete them
- Send suggestions for new corporate clubs in your area to Wendy
- Leaders for D54 for 2024-25 needed. Contact Bonnie Tippey with those names
- Areas with 4 or less clubs can send 2 contestants to the Area Contests, otherwise only 1 contestant. The D54 International Speech Contest and Table Topics Contest will be held April 27
- District Leadership and Alignment committees have been established and the plans for the Annual Business Meeting are underway



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OLD BUSINESS

- *None*

NEW BUSINESS

- To nominate Tony Audreith as new Area 42 director – motion was made by Jana Hergert, Second by Bonnie Tippey. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Bonnie Tippey discussed the need for nominations for District Leaders for 2024-25. Current leaders can nominate themselves. Both elected and appointed positions need to apply through the Leadership committee. Check the D54 website for requirements. Deadline is Feb 17 for forms to be submitted. Maryann Reichelt said regarding nominating yourself “If you have the urge, don’t resist!”

OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A

- Tony Audreith asked how to get access to Google Docs and contact information for Clubs in his Area. Gary Vaughn will provide this for him.
- Information is needed from Iroquois Early Risers and Tony Audreith will contact them
- Dick Poirier asked for club leaders to suggest future leaders from their clubs to the District Leadership Committee.
- Stacy Britt asked if there is a list of former members email contacts. Tony Audreith suggested looking on FreeToastHost and easy-Speak. Dan Kyburz said to contact their former clubs. Bonnie Tippey suggested asking TI.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Christina Evans, LD5, Division C Director, gave the closing thoughts. She reminded us of the Martin Luther King day on Monday, January 15. We all have different talents to contribute so lean on those who have different talents than you do. Significant quotes from Christina were “Be a bush if you can't be a tree. If you can't be a highway, just be a trail. If you can't be a sun, be a star. For it isn't by size that you win or fail. Be the best of whatever you are.”

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.”

ADJOURNMENT

With no objection, the meeting was adjourned by Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, at 10:20 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cece Wroblewski, DTM
District 54 Administration Manager, 2023-2024