



# District 54 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

*Saturday, March 16, 2024*

*Virtual Meeting*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

OPENING .....3

WELCOME.....3

INSPIRATION..... 3

OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES.....3

ROLL CALL/QUORUM CERTIFICATION.....3-4

ADOPTION OF AGENDA .....4

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER .....4

FINANCE MANAGER.....4

DIVISION A.....5

DIVISION B .....5

DIVISION C .....5

DIVISION D .....6

PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER.....6

CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR.....6

PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR.....7

DISTRICT DIRECTOR.....7

OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A.....7

NEW BUSINESS.....7

CLOSING THOUGHTS .....7

ADJOURNMENT .....7

## **OPENING**

Maryann Reichell, DTM, called the meeting to order at 9:00 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**

Dale Posont, EH4, Area 41 Director, gave the inspiration. His topics were being true to your word, don't give up on yourself, dream big, and show kindness.

## **OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION and CORE VALUES**

Our Vision and District Mission was read by Rosemary Nash, LD4, Area 30 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**

| <b>Present</b> | <b>First</b> | <b>Last</b> | <b>Designation</b> | <b>OFFICE</b>                    |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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           |
|                | 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              |
| X              | STEVEN       | VACCARO     | PM4                | DIVISION D DIRECTOR              |
| X              | RACHEL       | BERRY       | PI1                | AREA 10 DIRECTOR                 |

|   |          |          |     |                  |
|---|----------|----------|-----|------------------|
|   | 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 |
|   | 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 | TONY     | AUDREITH |     | AREA 42 DIRECTOR |

18 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. Agenda was adopted.

### ***ADMINISTRATION MANAGER***

Cece Wroblewski, DTM, Administration Manager, presented a summary of the February 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***

Cece Wroblewski gave the finance report for Jason Heissler, DTM, Finance Manager. Report submitted by Jason Heissler, DTM, Finance Manager, and attached.

- Bank Account Balance as of 1/31/2024: \$2,925.68
- District reserve as of 12/31/2023: \$33,530.96
- P&L Statement from TI from 01/31/2024 is included
- Mid-year Audit is complete and currently acquiring signatures to submit the audit, certification and narratives.



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### ***Alignment Committee***

Maryann Reichart named her committee members.

No new Divisions or Areas will be added to D54. Iroquois Early Risers is suspended and Joliet Jesters have low membership.

Leadership Train moving to A12.

New clubs – Wall Clippers, Constellation Nuclear, Jo Carrol Energy, Cat Decatur, Bridgeston Tire added



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## **Leadership Committee**

Jon Greiner reported on behalf of Committee leader Bonnie Tippey. Report is incomplete because there is only one candidate for CGD. Floor candidates can run during the District Council meeting. Candidates are:

DD Gary Vaughn

PGM Wendy Pesavento

CGD Estelle Foster

Div A Troy LaPorte

Div B Venkat Chander

Div C Rosemary Nash

Div D Ken Kocher

Ongoing work is for Area Directors and Staff Positions. Refer to D54 website for further information.



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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, VC5, Division A Director, presented the Division A report. Written report was submitted and is attached.

- *Rock On! has scheduled a 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for April 29*
- *March 2 - Div A contest held*
- *Working on membership and goals in all clubs*
- *Open House – Inspiring Speakers, Advanced Expressives, Fox River, Talk of the Town with Sunrise Speakers*



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## ***DIVISION B***

Ron Jones, VC1, Division B Director, presented the Division B report. Written report submitted and is attached.

- Patrick Olson ran Div B contest on March 3
- Jana has held 3 club visits



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## ***DIVISION C***

Christina Evans, LD5, Division C Director, presented the Division C Report. No written report was submitted..

- *Div C contest has 6 contestants*
- *Electric Toast - Ameran will no longer pay the club dues. D54 met with club President to discuss future possibilities. Final meeting is March 20*
- *Subcommittee to look into in-person contest – decision has been made by TI. Committee can stay active to prepare for this*
- *Rosemary Nash is candidate for Div Director, still need 2 Area Directors for 30 and 32.*

## ***DIVISION D***

Steven Vaccaro, PM4 ,Division D Director, presented the Division D report. Written report was submitted and is attached.

- Contests were held successfully.
- Div D has 6 clubs Distinguished and 1 Presidents Distinguished with a possibility of being a Distinguished Division
- Joliet Jesters- Star Wars Day open house
- 9 new members this year for Lincoln Way
- Area 40 becoming Distinguished Area
- Pot Luck for Confident Communicators
- Speechathon for Yes And Toastmasters
- Area 42 – is one member away for having 3 out of 4 clubs Distinguished
- Booth planned for Urbana farmers market



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## ***PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER***

Tashika Williams in person. The written report was submitted and is attached.

- 13,502 visitors to D54 site

- 91% performance on top performing site

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

District 54 group on Facebook: <https://www..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>



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## ***CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR***

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

- Seeking experienced Toastmasters to help with club growth, including helping inactive clubs to come back to life
- D54 is ramping up our efforts to make 80 cold calls to corporations in the next month; volunteers are needed
- 48 paid clubs in the District now, new club chartered at Jo Carroll Energy in Elizabeth, IL
- D54 has a payment base of 1557 payments and has 1055 member payments to date. D54 needs 1573 member payments to be Distinguished
- 14 clubs at charter strength
- Reinvigorated past clubs can be restarted with help from current members
- 5 new club possibilities



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## ***PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR***

Gary Vaughn gave live Program Quality Director's report was given due to a death in the family. No written report was submitted. Help is needed with Area and Division contests to fill facilitator roles.

- Strong clubs and influx of new members at many clubs
- Winter TLI – Clubs that trained every officer at both Summer and Winter - 8
- Winter TLI 75% of all club officers trained
- Need volunteers for district contest on April 20
- Need volunteers for Summer TLI's



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## ***DISTRICT DIRECTOR***

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

- Lots of opportunities in the District for volunteering
- District 54 is one of 22 districts that qualify for a Coach. Our District 54 Coach is Mike Rafferty, DTM, PID
- Club dues are being collected now for the March 31 due date. 13 clubs have paid for at least 8 members
- Nominations for District leaders are being accepted by the Leadership Committee, chairperson Bonnie Tippey
- 9:00am on April 27 is District Council meeting with voting on alignment and District officers; to vote your dues must be paid and your club in good standing
- Club officer elections are coming up, election should be held first meeting in May
- Summer TLI's being scheduled for in-person in South and North



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## **OLD BUSINESS**

- *None*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- None

## **OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A**

- Jana asked for an update on the status of Hilltop TM. Jon Greiner reported that they are meeting for Table Topics but cannot have a full meeting until an outside Toastmaster is available to attend the meeting.
- Jana encouraged extraordinary participation in voluntary opportunities in the District
- Jana asked if visitors could attend contests virtually, even though participants must be in person. Wendy said they would contact TI on Monday to ask that question.
- Steve Vaccaro asked for the date and time of D54 conference. April 20 at 9:00am is the D54 contest and 9:00am for the District Council meeting

## **CLOSING THOUGHTS**

Kristina Warren, DL4, Area 32 Director, gave the closing thoughts. Kristina talked about continuing growth, whether in career or Toastmasters. Toastmasters teaches us to provide feedback and be able to accept feedback. Apply this feedback to your career! Rejection provides the opportunity for growth.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no objection, the meeting was adjourned by Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, at 10:18 am.

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