

District 54 Council

Meeting Minutes

Saturday, September 16, 2023

# *Virtual Zoom Meeting*

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[***OPENING***](#_top)

Maryann Reichelt, 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 meeting. He facilitated the District 54 Council Meeting.

***INSPIRATION***

Rachel Berry, PI1, Area 10 Director, gave the inspiration. If you are confident in yourself you will be able to complete that task.

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

The reading of Our Vision and District Mission was led by Stacy Britt, Area 40 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 | HEISSLER | DTM | FINANCE MANAGER |
| X | BONNIE | TIPPEY | DTM | IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT DIRECTOR |
| X | MARYANN | REICHELT | DTM | LOGISTICS MANAGER, NV |
|  | 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 |
|  | LINO | CARILLO | DTM | AREA 11 DIRECTOR |
| X | 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 |
|  | SAURABH | NEGI | DL4 | AREA 42 DIRECTOR |

# *ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA*

Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, reviewed the updated agenda for the meeting.

Changes were made to the agenda. Bonnie Tippey moved to approve the revised agenda and Tashika Williams seconded. The motion carried.

# *VOTING PROCEDURES*

Jon Greiner, DTM, District Parliamentarian, reviewed voting procedures.

Special rules listed under D54TM.com site.

* Unanimous consent- used to adopt motion or take action without a vote if there is no apparent opposition

*[Special Rules of OrderMo](https://d54tm.com/dec-and-council-meetings)*

# *CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT*

# Chris Boyk, Credentials Committee Chair, gave the credentials committee report.

* Currently in District 54 there are 47 paid clubs
  + Clubs each get 2 votes- one for President and one for VP Education
* Potential Total vote count is 94
* 1/3 need to attend for quorum or 31 attendees
* Number who attended meeting: 35
* DEC members in attendance: 18
* 59 voters indicated they would attend, therefore we have a quorum

Without objection, motion to adopt credentials committee report is passed by unanimous consent.

# *APPROVAL OF APRIL DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES*

# Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, dispensed with the reading of the meeting minutes as they were available prior to the meeting on the d54tm.com site.

There were no changes to the April 2023 District Council Minutes.

# *APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT OFFICERS*

Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, presented the slate of district officers for 2023-2024.

Without objection, the following officers are presented for the appointed positions.

Public Relations Manager – Tashika Williams

Logistics Manager – Maryann Reichelt

Administrative Director – Cece Wroblewski

Area 10 Director – Rachel Berry

Dan Kyburz. DTM, District Director, accepted the appointed officers.

# *DISTRICT SUCCESS PLAN*

Dan Kyburz, District Director, reviewed the District 54 Success Plan. He asked for any corrections. Mike Cox, Esprit de Corps President, recommended adding the word “none” to the final blank goal. Dan Kyburz amended the Plan with the phrase “No additional goals are planned”. The amended plan was approved.

# *FINANCE MANAGER*

Jason Heissler, DTM, Finance Manager, gave the budget report for the Toastmaster year 2023-2024. Report submitted and attached.

* Conference costs are higher than previous years due to the overseas location
* There are no Facebook ads currently planned but costs shown are the GoDaddy service and pushed ads

Jason Heissler, DTM, Finance Manager, presented the Audit Committee report. All transactions from January through June 2023 were correctly executed. “All funds were properly used to support the mission of Toastmasters.” The report was accepted as presented.

***Contest Format Report***

Gary Vaughn, PM3, D54 Program Quality Director, reported that all Area, Division, and District speech contests will be virtual as approved by the District Executive Committee. Clubs may host contests in any format. This was accepted by District Executive Council with no objections.

# *FINANCE MANAGER*

Jason Heissler, DTM, Finance Manager presented the monthly Treasurer’s report as of July 31. The Reserve account balance is $33,005.25. The District Bank statement as of August 31 shows a balance of $2925.62. The P&L as of June 30 is attached. With no objections the report was accepted as presented.



***Division Reports & PRM Report***

Three written reports were submitted by Division Directors in advance of meeting. The reports were presented in alphabetical order.

# *DIVISION A*

Rachael Berry, Area 10 Director, presented the Division A Director’s report. Written report was submitted and attached.

* The Division Club Success Plan is in progress
* Area 10 visits by Area Director are scheduled
* Several Open Houses are scheduled



***DIVISION B***

Ron Jones, Division B Director, presented the Division B Director’s report. Report submitted and attached.

* Club visits and success plans are in progress
* Recommended that Unfinished business be added to the minutes with a date for their review

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***DIVISION C***

Christina Evans, Division C Director, presented the Division C Director’s report. Report submitted and attached.

* A Story Slam was held on August 25 with pizza
* 12+ members from 4 Clubs marched in the Bloomington Labor Day Parade
* The Division Success Plan is in progress
* Sonya Mau will be a speaker at the “That’s What She Said” performance at the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts in Bloomington on Friday September 22
* A proposal is being written to create a committee to review future in-person speech contests



# *DIVISION D*

Dale Posont, Area 41 Director, presented the Division D Director’s Report. No written report was submitted.

* The Division vision is WIN (Wisdom – mentoring, Invest – outreach, Nobility – quality and standards)
* Activities include speakathons, parades, and working with city chambers of commerce

***PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER***

Tashika Williams, Public Relations Manager, presented the Public Relations Manager report. No Report submitted.

* 883 visits to our sites
* 140 new views on social media including Facebook, GoDaddy, Twitter, YouTube, Linked In, and TikTok
* The newsletter is going out regularly to all members

Ron Korte commented that the weekly newsletter is “awesome.”

Bonnie Tippey offered congratulations to Gary Vaughn and Kim Kaufman on the YouTube video recently posted. She urged all attendees to subscribe to our YouTube channel.

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 on UTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3ei1dohTDg>

***CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR***

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

* A Corporate Relations Chairperson is still needed
* Our District base is 49 clubs and 1557 member payments
* There is one paid application fee available to a new club
* Potential new specialty clubs:
  + Artificial Intelligence Club
  + Storytelling Club – planned meeting for October 15 at noon
  + Book Club
  + Spanish Speaking Club



***PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR***

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

* An in-person District conference is currently being planned, the first since 2018
* The District may have two in-person TLI meetings – North and South
* Be sure to watch the Contest announcement on YouTube
* On September 27, there will be a Pathways Webinar
* Members are encouraged to share the District social media links on their personal accounts
* Area 32 is to be congratulated for having ALL clubs having trained ALL their officers
* The winner of this month’s Wheel of Leadership is Karen Walch, State Farm Talk of the South
* Results of this summer’s TLI training:
  + Of 326 officers, 258 were trained (79%)
  + 13 clubs trained all their officers
  + 15 out of 16 Area and Division officers were trained and that number will be 100% by September 30



***DISTRICT DIRECTOR***

Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director, presented the District Director’s report. Report submitted and attached.

* The Trio attended the District Officer training at the International Conference in the Bahamas August 13-14
* Networking with other District leaders resulted in contacts with District 92 and their Leadership Development Program and District 120 and their Retention Program
* Area, Division, and District Council meetings are ongoing
* The Trio has completed the District Success Plan and the Budget



# *UNFINISHED BUSINESS*

* No unfinished business

# *OPEN DISCUSSION / Q&A*

* Jon Greiner, DTM – Julia Issa Ghantos has volunteered for the Corporate Relations position
* Dale Posont, EH4 – Heard that the low club member threshold will be changing from 8 to 12. Jon Greiner says it will happen eventually, but no date has been set, the number may be 10 or 12
* Dan Kyburz, DTM – Heard the minimum number of clubs for a District would be raised to 70. Jon Greiner said that is still in discussion. The reason they want to raise the minimum is to meet the financial break-even threshold
* Jana Hergert, PM5 – asked for a status for Hilltop Toasters, the quad city prison club. Jon says the club still exists and its officers are still meeting but no one from the outside can attend. They are working with the state prison officials to open internet access so they can have visitors. They are still in need of in-person volunteers. Jon offered to help Jana to submit her Area Director report for that club.
* Gary Vaughn, PM3 – We need to keep our focus on the members
* Wendy Pesavento, DTM – Sees a lot of opportunity for growth
* Ron Korte – wondered how often do the past International Presidents meet. Jon Greiner reported that they are a standing committee that provides advice and recommendations to the Board of Directors. There are 30+ members. Jon is on the Club Officer Training committee.
* Bonnie Tippey, DTM – Past District Directors of District 54 are all members of the Strategic Planning Committee
* Dan Kyburz, DTM – noted that other districts – D19, D68 – for instance, are all down to 40 clubs
* Jana Hergert, PM5 – said this was an uplifting DEC meeting

# *NEW BUSINESS*

* No new business presented

# *CLOSING THOUGHTS*

Kristina Warren, DL4, Area 32 Director, gave the closing thoughts.

Positive energy invokes more energy, more initiative, more happiness.

# *ADJOURNMENT*

Dan Kyburz, DTM, District Director closed with an announcement that the following meeting was Area and Division Director training on Club Visits and then adjourned the meeting at 10:24 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cece Wroblewski, DTM

District 54 Administration Manager, 2023-2024