



District 54 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 24, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

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OPENING

Maryann Reichelt, DTM, Logistics Manager, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. She led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME

Gary Vaughn, District Director, welcomed everyone to the DEC meeting and facilitated it.

INSPIRATION

Rosemary Nash, Division C Director, encouraged the group to build on last year's achievements to create even greater success this year.

OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION and CORE VALUES

Our Vision, District Mission and Core Value were read by Ken Kocher, Division D2 Director.

District Vision

To restore and maintain a dynamic community of 50 clubs, with at least 40% achieving Distinguished status or higher, empowering members in communication and leadership.

District Mission

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

District Core Values

We strive to adhere to the following values:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Service
- Excellence

DISTRICT OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Present	First	Last	Designation	OFFICE
X	Gary	Vaughn	EH3	DISTRICT DIRECTOR
X	Wendy	Pesavento	DTM	PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR
X	Estelle	Foster	VC5	CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR
X	Prince	Motiani	DTM	PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER
X	Ching-Yuan	Su	EH3	ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
X	Jason	Heissler	DTM	FINANCE MANAGER
X	Dan	Kyburz	DTM	IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT DIRECTOR
X	Maryanne	Reichelt	DTM	LOGISTICS MANAGER, NV
X	Troy	LaPorte	LD2	DIVISION A DIRECTOR
X	Venkat	Chander	TC1	DIVISION B DIRECTOR
X	Rosemary	Nash	LD4	DIVISION C DIRECTOR
X	Ken	Kocher	PM3	DIVISION D DIRECTOR
	Cece	Wroblewski	DTM	AREA 10 DIRECTOR

	Mimi	Mieritz	PI2	AREA 11 DIRECTOR
	Chris	Kostelec	MS3	AREA 12 DIRECTOR
	Dawn	Weber	DL1	AREA 20 DIRECTOR
	Julia	Issa-Ghantous	PM1	AREA 21 DIRECTOR
X	Ann	Warth	DL4	AREA 22 DIRECTOR
	Grey	Adkisson	PM1	AREA 31 DIRECTOR
X	Sherri	Deleonardis	DTM	AREA 32 DIRECTOR
				AREA 30 DIRECTOR
X	Katie	Jandeska	SR1	AREA 40 DIRECTOR
X	Valerie	Heckman	DL1	AREA 41 DIRECTOR
				AREA 42 DIRECTOR

15 voting members were present, exceeding a quorum requirement of 11. Therefore, there was a quorum at the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Gary Vaughn, District Director, reviewed the meeting agenda. The agenda was approved and adopted.

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Ching Yuan Su, Administration Manager, presented a summary of the July meeting minutes. The meeting minutes and other related documents are available for review by DEC members on the D54 website.

- No corrections were noted.
- Prince Motiani, DTM, motioned for approval, with Sherri Deleonardis, DTM, seconding the motion.

FINANCE MANAGER

Jason Heissler, Finance Manager, gave the Finance Report. The written report is attached.

- The district reserve account balance is \$23,831.48 as of June 30, 2024.
- The checking account balance is \$2,925.72 as of June 30, 2024.
- Membership revenue for the year exceeded the budget by 9%, while expenses were 64% lower than budgeted. In February, TI is set to reclaim a significant portion of the district's reserve.



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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

Troy Laporte, Division A Director, presented the Division A report. The written report is attached.

- Ten clubs successfully met the officer training goal.
- Several clubs have recruited new members and achieved educational goals.
- Clubs will prioritize the “Moment of Truth” to drive member growth and retention.



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DIVISION B

Venkat Chander, Division B Director, presented the Division B report. The written report is attached.

- Professional Communicators have earned 2 educational awards.
- All clubs with annual office terms have submitted their July officer lists.
- One club with semiannual office terms has yet to submit its officer list.



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DIVISION C

Rosemary Nash, Division C Director, presented the Division C Report. The written report is attached.

- Most clubs have completed officer training and have started scheduling club visits.
- Several clubs have added new members and earned educational awards.
- Dionne Moore, the new Area 30 Director, will soon reach out to clubs in her area.



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DIVISION D

Ken Kocher, Division D Director, presented the Division D report. The written report is attached.

- A significant number of club officers have received training at TLI.
- Area Directors have started their club visits.
- Kashaun Parker has been appointed as the new Area 42 Director.

PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

Prince Motiani, Public Relations Manager, presented Public Relations report.

- Saradha Kannan has expressed interest in the Social Media Manager position.
- Gary Vaughn will soon transfer the dispatch/newsletter responsibilities to Prince Motiani.

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>

CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR

Estelle Foster, Club Growth Director, presented the Club Growth Director Report. The written report is attached.

- D54 begins this TI year with 46 clubs and a membership payment base of 1,575.
- The district is actively looking for a Club Extension Chair and additional volunteers to support marketing efforts.
- Estelle Foster is currently updating the Toastmasters Lead Management on the TI website.
- Tom William is continuing discussions with Constellation Nuclear to explore the potential of establishing a new club.
- The Prison Club Team will look into potential collaboration with the Joliet Catholic Diocese to bring Toastmasters programs to prisons in Central Illinois.



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PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR

Wendy Pesavento, Program Quality Director, presented the Program Quality Director report. The written report is attached.

- The TLI-Virtual had an excellent turnout, with over 100 members in attendance.
- Christina Evans will serve as the Dean for the Winter TLI South. The roles of TLI North Dean and Virtual TLI Dean are still open.
- Gary Vaughn and Karen Walsh will co-chair this year's district conference in Normal, Illinois.
- Dan Kyburz has been appointed as the District Speech Contest Chair.
- Maryann Reichelt is this year's District Speechcraft Coordinator and will also offer monthly Pathways training sessions.



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DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Gary Vaughn, District Director, gave the District Director Report. The written report is attached.

- The District Trio all attended District training at the International Convention.
- D54 has been rearranged to Region 4 and now has two new regional advisors, Curtis Scroggins and Bettie St. Clair.
- The District Success Plan will be available on the D54 website for review prior to its presentation and voting at the District Council meeting.
- The membership renewal period is now open. Clubs are encouraged to conduct membership surveys to better understand and serve their renewing members.
- Please assist the Club Growth Director by identifying potential opportunities for new clubs in each area.



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OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- None

OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A

- Estelle Foster inquired whether the new Pathways system still requires two approvals for an award. Gary Vaughn clarified that the new system will only require one approval.
- Steve Vaccaro asked if Pathways training can be recorded for those unable to attend. Sherri Deleonardis suggested recording the first 30 minutes of basic instruction. Maryanne Reichelt said she would explore this option.
- Dan Kyburz reminded the group that the deadline for Hall of Fame Award nomination is September 30. All leadership members are encouraged to submit nominations via email to him.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Troy Laporte offered closing thoughts, sharing a quote from Rosalynn Carter: "A leader takes people where you want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessary want to go, but ought to be."

ADJOURNMENT

With no objection, the meeting was adjourned by Gary Vaughn, District Director, at 10:11 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ching Yuan Su
District 54 Administration Manager, 2024-2025