



District 54 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 26, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

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OPENING

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

WELCOME

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

INSPIRATION

Venkat Chander, Division B Director, delivered the Inspiration.

OUR DISTRICT VISION, MISSION and CORE VALUES

Tom Willison, DTM, read the District Vision, Mission and Core Values.

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
X	Dawn	Weber	DL1	AREA 20 DIRECTOR
	Julia	Issa-Ghantous	PM1	AREA 21 DIRECTOR
	Ann	Warth	DL4	AREA 22 DIRECTOR
	Grey	Adkisson	PM1	AREA 31 DIRECTOR
X	Sherri	Deleonardis	DTM	AREA 32 DIRECTOR
	Dionne	Moore		AREA 30 DIRECTOR
	Katie	Jandeska	SR1	AREA 40 DIRECTOR
	Valerie	Heckman	DL1	AREA 41 DIRECTOR
	Kashaun	Parker		AREA 42 DIRECTOR

12 voting members were present, meeting the quorum requirement of 12. Therefore, a quorum was established for the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Gary Vaughn, District Director, reviewed the meeting agenda. Dan Kyburz, DTM, motioned to approve the agenda, and Sherri Deleonardis, DTM, seconded the motion. The agenda was then approved and adopted.

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

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

- No corrections were noted.
- Jana Hergert moved to approve the minutes, and Prince Motiani, DTM, seconded the motion.

FINANCE MANAGER

Jason Heissler, Finance Manager, delivered the Finance Report.

- As of September 30, 2024, the district reserve account balance is \$30,033.19.
- The checking account balance is \$2,920.75.
- Membership revenue is \$7,552.50, with a year-to-date total of \$9,532.50.
- District Expenses are \$2,670.21, with a year-to-date total of \$4,522.59.
- Main outstanding items include the Hall of Fame awards and Triple Crown pins.

Patrick Olson moved to approve the report, and Sherri Deleonardis, DTM, seconded the motion.



FM Report October
2024.pdf

Division Reports

The written reports were submitted by the directors, and the verbal reports were presented in the order indicated.

DIVISION A

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

- The division gained 10 new members, completed 7 educational levels, and achieved 25 Distinguished Club Goals.
- Club moving forward include Rock On!, Toast of the Fox, and Fox River Toastmasters.
- Area 12 completed all club visits.



Div A Report
October 2024.pdf

DIVISION B

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

- Seven members have earned educational awards.
- Two club visit reports were submitted, and eight club visits have been scheduled.
- Forging Leaders' Open House is on October 28, 2024.



Div B Report
October 2024.pdf

DIVISION C

Rosemary Nash, Division C Director, presented the Division C Report.

- Most club visits have been completed, and the reports will be submitted soon.
- ADM City Center gained 9 new members.
- Communications regarding the upcoming in-person speech contests will begin shortly.

DIVISION D

Gary Vaughn, District Director, presented the Division D report on behalf of Ken Kocher, Division D Director. The written report is attached.

- Most clubs have been experiencing a steady stream of guests and new members.
- New Lenox is using a club newsletter to keep members informed.
- Confident Communicators held 2 successful potluck meetings and continues to have multiple guests at each meeting.
- Toast of Champaign had a social BBQ, which helped increase membership from 11 to 16!



Div D Report
October 2024.pdf

PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

Prince Motiani, Public Relations Manager, presented the Public Relations report:

- Expressed gratitude to the District Director for assisting with the access to the district newsletter.
- Commented the District Director for an exemplary NPR interview.
- Thanked Maryanne Reichelt for her dedication as Pathways Support.
- Encouraged members to actively support Maryanne's contributions on Facebook to help spread awareness.

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.

- District 54 has a membership base of 1,575, with 771 member payments received.
- Tom Willison continues efforts to encourage Constellation Nuclear to being meetings.
- Wendy, Tom and Jon have initiated a potential collaboration between NSA and District 54.
- The Catholic Joliet Diocese will not be moving forward with the Prison Ministry Toastmasters program. The Prison Club Team is seeking a contact in the Peoria Diocese to explore this opportunity.



CGD Report October
2024.pdf

PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR

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

- District 54 is planning to thank Dick Poirier, DTM, for facilitating a Zoom session on the Basecamp outage.
- By the September 30 deadline, District 54 has successfully trained 92% of Division and Area Directors.
- Christina Evans will facilitate an Area and Division Director training session on November 2, while Noel Ganay, DTM, will lead 2 speech contest training sessions on December 2 and December 7.

- Maryann Reichelt, DTM, will conduct training sessions for the new Pathways program on November, 6, December 9, January 23, February 27, and March 27.



PQD Report October
2024.pdf

DISTRICT DIRECTOR

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

- The District Director emphasized that compassion is key to effective leadership.
- As of October 26, District 54 has welcomed 91 new members, while approximately 100 members did not renew their memberships.
- He encouraged the group to check in with members, asking why some left and what motivated new ones to join.



DD Report October
2024.pdf

OLD BUSINESS

- *None*

OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A

- Dan Kyburz inquired how we could help Basecamp managers in managing the new Pathways program. Gary Vaughn indicated that Maryann Reichelt can help. Sherri Deleonardis and Dick Poirier reminded the group that new Basecamp videos are available on the Toastmasters International website.
- Christina Evans inquired about awards for the speech contests. Gary responded that he would speak with Wendy and Jason to explore the possibility of providing awards at every contest level.
- Prince Motiani suggested promoting the club by sharing photos on social media and offered to help spread the word.
- Patrick Olson inquired about this year's 2nd speech contest. Gary confirmed it will be the Evaluation contest.
- Maryanne Reichelt reminded everybody that the next Pathways Support Zoom call is scheduled for November 6, with details available on the district website. Jana Hergert encouraged the group to attend to learn more about the new Pathways.
- Jana also invited DEC members to join Quad Cities Easy Speaker club meetings, urging them to think differently this year to strengthen the district.

NEW BUSINESS

- *None*

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Estelle Foster offered closing thoughts, emphasizing the importance of finding something we love and enjoy to help us reenergize.

ADJOURNMENT

With no objections, Gary Vaughn, District Director, adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

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