



District 8 Council Meeting
Doubletree Inn
Collinsville, IL 62234
Minutes for November 14, 2014

The Purpose of the District

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence

Call to order

Meeting called to order by Sergeant of Arms, Stuart Welter.

District Governor Welcome and Adoption of Agenda

Sandy Kardis welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the district's purpose. Yolanda Wood made motion to adopt the agenda. Carole Breckner seconded the motion. Sandy amended agenda to include Stuart Welter's Toastmaster designations.

District Secretary Report:

May 3, 2014 minutes were distributed prior to session. Kenneth Freeman moved to adopt the report. Yolanda Wood seconded the motion.

Credentials Committee Report

Lora Mather, DTM, IPDG (Immediate Past District Governor) reported a quorum was met with 98 in attendance.

District Audit Committee Report

Wayne Allen reviewed the two functions of the District Audit Committee. The Mid-Year report is due at the Spring Conference, and the Year-End report is due at the Fall Conference. All early indicators look good. Based on last year's report, Wayne reminded folks to have receipt for every voucher, and if in Missouri to make sure to take advantage of tax exemptions which are not reimbursed for taxes paid. Sandy stated that Herman Koester should have given 2013-2014 Year-End report. He will be asked to present his report at the spring conference.

Adoption of 2014-2015 District Budget

Budget reports were distributed prior to meeting. Sandy reviewed the budget and reported that it is less than last year with lower overall memberships. She also noted the spike in travel for the International Conference in Malaysia. Debra Morrissey moved to accept the budget proposal. Elaine Curry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

District Treasurer Report

The 7/1/2014 – 9/30/2014 Treasurer's report was distributed prior to the meeting. Richard Porter reviewed the report. Richard highlighted that actuals are below budgeted so far. Provided clarification regarding travels and layout of report. Provided clarification regarding Store Expense credit (return of materials).

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Appointed District Officers Confirmation

Sandy reviewed the current slate of appointed officers in respective repositions. She reported that Sheryl Holstein, Area 9 Governor, is moving and Rebecca Now will assume that role. Carol Steinbach made motion to approved appointed officers. Elizabeth Link seconded. Sandy called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

District Public Relations Officer Report

Gina Willard highlighted efforts underway and initiatives coming soon. Among the highlights: Hosting Movie Night, Story Telling Night and a Membership Contest. Gina is also promoting Toastmasters Speaker Bureau.

LT. Gov. Marketing Report

Jacque Vick reviewed the mission of her team: to market Toastmaster, grow membership and retain existing members. She requested volunteers to help. She highlighted new promotional materials for demo meetings. She expressed a concern with the number of clubs with 12 or fewer members and asked for those interested in mentoring/coaching clubs to volunteer. Toast of Fleet is the first new club of this toastmaster year. She is concerned about the number of new clubs leads but expects an increase after the holiday season.

LT. Gov. Education & Training Report

Farzana Chohan reviewed her responsibilities including but not limited to organizing the fall and spring conferences, organizing the two Toastmaster Leadership Institutes (TLI) and Early Bird Officer Training. Farzana reported that of 251 registrants for the fall conference 185 came from clubs that paid the club fee. Farzana reviewed upcoming training events: Early Bird Officer Training on 12/13 at the STL Library Headquarters, Toastmaster Leadership Institute on 1/10/2015 at Siegel Hall – Danforth Campus) and the Spring Conference on 5/29-5/30 2015 at the Holiday Inn Earth City.

District Governor Report

Sandy Kardis reported that the 3 keys to success for District 8 to be a Distinguished District are:

Paid Clubs: we have 100 now and need 111. We had 7 suspended clubs,; one resolved the membership payments and is active again, and one more is working on it. We have 2 clubs under the 8 minimum requirement. We have 7 clubs who have not submitted renewals. I followed up with 4 of them. Two promised to submit dues. One is not continuing.

Membership Payments: we have 1988 as of 11/13. We need 4, 622 at the end of the Toastmaster year. We have 15 clubs with 6 to 11 new members and 4 clubs with 13-16 new members. Kudos to them. Let's all reach out to a non-Toastmaster or non-renewing member and share the benefits of Toastmasters.

Distinguished Clubs: we need 43 at the end of the year. We have 11 clubs with 5 goals. Kudos to them also. It will be a challenge, but the distinguished goals are realistically reachable.

Unfinished Business

No Unfinished business

New Business

Sandy Kardis raised topic of 2 prison clubs that the district pays half their dues through the Omer Roberts/Dori Drummond Inmate Scholarship Fund. Since July 1, there have been several requests for payment for renewals totaling \$726.00. Fund raisers at conferences no longer bring in the required money. At the October DEC meeting, Sandy asked for a committee to research fund raising and make recommendations to the district. Kenneth Freeman volunteered to head that committee. See Kenneth Freeman to assist with the Research Committee.

Some ideas proposed: 1.) Ask each club to donate \$20. Curtis Scroggins clarified that funds have to come from individuals and not clubs' overall funds. 2.) Farzana created flyers in book store – with a \$1 donation you get a 2015 calendar. With an additional \$1, you can personalize it.

There was general conversation and background information was provided. Sandy approximated the balance in the account to be about \$360 and estimated the amount needed is about \$1500 a year. Sandy clarified the Scholarship Fund is administered by Toastmasters International and funds are only used for members' dues. A detailed transaction report from Toastmasters International was requested. The Accounts Payable Personnel at Toastmasters International promised to email her the balance each month.

Conversation tabled due to time.

Council Meeting Wrap-up and Closing Announcements

Next Council Meeting is 10:00 am on Saturday, May 30th at the Holiday Inn at Earth City, MO.
Adam Kuttel moved to adjourn. Rob Van Winkle seconded.