

**District 8 Toastmasters
District Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday May 19, 2018
9:30 AM –11:55 AM**

District Mission

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence

District Director Vision

Strengthening the Core of District 8 through Membership Retention

Minutes

9:30 Call to Order

District Mission and the District Goal were announced.

Kat Mokriakow has been formally introduced.

Kat Mokriakow walked through the standing rules for the meeting and stated that participants that speak need not state their name, their club name and club number.

The timer for the meeting is Evelyn Pearman.

The Parliamentarian is Tom Coscia who is Past District Governor

Welcome and Adoption of Agenda

Kat Mokriakow, DTM, DD

Credentials Committee Report

Lora Mather, DTM, PDG, IPDD

Lora Mather stated the following:

1. District 8 has 98 eligible clubs and the number of available club ballots is 196.
2. The number of district executive committee officer ballots is 30.
3. The total number of available ballots is 226.
4. A quorum for the council is one third of the club presidents and vice presidents of education or their proxies.
5. Quorum is 65 clubs and the numbers of clubs represented in this meeting are 44.
 - a. The Credentials Committee has certified the presence of 79 club presidents and vice-presidents of education or their proxies as well as 17 members of the District Executive Committee.
 - b. Lora confirmed that we have a quorum

Reading and Approval of Council Minutes November 18, 2017 Parshu Anantharam, acting AM

Realignment Final Report/Vote

Tim Spezia DTM, PDG, Chair

Tim Spezia stated the following:

Two changes are occurring due to realignment for geographic reasons:

- a) Smedley Toastmasters in Division C is moving to Area 1 – closer to Waverly
- b) Mastertoasters is moving from Division A, Area 2 to Division B, Area 20

Other realignments would require major effort and will be considered for the coming year.

Patti Howard requested that changes be considered in the coming year to realign clubs in Area 5
Question about Mastertoasters – originally moved to Division A to strengthen Division A. Was that achieved?

Kat responded in the affirmative. She stated that Division A is full and there are strong clubs in Division A, Area 2 with members competing in contests as well.

Andrew Welter (High Noon Toastmasters, Area 5) asked for a visual representation of District 8 showing the Divisions, Areas and Clubs. Kat responded that this has been a to-do for the PRM. Andrew Welter agreed to help when this is ready to be done.

Procedures Manual Final Report/Vote

Lora Mather DTM, IPDD, Chair

Changes to facilitate virtual council meetings

Refer to slide for major changes

Prison fund is held by TI and the balance is confidential and will be known only to the trio.

No clear results emerged from the survey conducted about contests.

Contests will be held once a year rotating alphabetically through Evaluation, Humorous and Table Topics starting next year.

Q & A:

Q. will contest be held once a year only?

A. Yes

Q. How will we know if there is a need to raise funds for the prison clubs?

A. Trio will track

Q. Why not hold all four contests at the same time?

A. Huge logistical challenge. We are open to redoing the structure of the contests, if someone is willing to take this on next year.

Q. Can we hold the four contest in a year?

A. TI requires that any contest held at the club level needs to advance all the way to the district level. TI has also strongly discouraged holding contests in the Fall.

Q. Is there internal auditing of the prison fund?

A. The funds for the prison clubs are 100% controlled by TI and auditing is up to them.

Q. Since we are down to one conference a year, is it possible to have a longer, more intense conference in Spring?

A. This has not been discussed.

District Leadership Committee Report

Lora Mather DTM, IPDD, Chair

Elections

Kat Mokriakow, DTM, DD

District Financial Report

Tim Spezia DTM, PDG, Finance Manager

The 3rd quarter report was filed on May 10th

The Fall Conference budget was off the actual by 15.79%. This is a big variation. It'd be best to break-even or have a variance of 1-2%.

Audit Report

Richard Porter, DTM, Chair

Refer to report in folder

Long Range Planning Report

Tom Coscia, DTM, PDG, Chair

Refer to report in folder

Public Relations Manager Report

Eileen Smith-Murphy, PRM

Eileen was unable to attend

Club Growth Director Report

James Childress, CGD

James reported that 6 new clubs were chartered in District 8.

He also spoke about new clubs in the pipeline.

James spoke about the Club Rescue Team.

Geoff King gave a testimonial for the Club Coach program of Central West End. This was a club which was ready to close, but has recruited more than 20 members this year and is really thriving. RJ Stratton gave a testimonial for the Open House Promotion and the value of using social media and the meetup groups.

James reported that there were 508 new members recruited by clubs who qualified for growth promotions.

Program Quality Director Report

Elaine Curry, DTM, PQD

Elaine declared that her goal is to have increased participation in the District. Although there are 2200 Toastmasters in District 8, there are only about 150 attendees at conferences.

She stated that we need to do a better job of promoting district events.

It is also very important to track and measure progress against the club success plan in order to gain a benefit from it.

Elaine stated that it is very important to attend the judges training organized by the district.

State of the District Report

Kat Mokriakow, DTM, DD

Kat stated that this year has been a year to focus on Marketing. The results of marketing are not obtained by a one-time effort, but it is the continual marketing that brings in new members.

Our Facebook strategy consists of two parts:

The closed Facebook group which is available to only Toastmasters of District 8 and meant for members to inter-communicate.

The public Facebook group is setup so anyone can be sent there for exposure.

Area directors must be involved in the clubs and not just fill a spot in order to obtain credit towards their DTM.

It is important to remember people's names. Kat received feedback from Division E that things are moving in the right direction.

It is important to make club meetings fun. It is better to skip a role, than to give the impression that Toastmasters is a lot of work.

Unfinished, New Business, Announcements

Kat Mokriakow, DTM, DD

None

11:25 Adjournment