



## Council Meeting Minutes of District 8

3400 Rider Trail South  
Earth City, MO  
Saturday May 19, 2018  
9:30 AM –11:55 AM

### 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

Motion to accept the agenda by unanimous consent was made. No protest was made. Motion carried.

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

Motion to accept the credentials report by unanimous consent was made. No protest was made. Motion carried.

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

Motion to accept the council minutes as presented; second to the motion was made. All in favor, motion carried.

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.

Committee presented the motion to accept changes to Realignment as presented; second to the motion was made. All in favor, motion carried.

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 contests 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. Committee presented the motion to accept changes to Procedures Manual as presented; second to the motion was made. All in favor, motion carried.

District Leadership Committee Report Lora Mather DTM, IPDD, Chair

District Director	Elaine Curry
Program Quality Director	James Childress
Club Growth Director	Angie Breinin
Division A Director	Josephine Emde -Marino
Division B Director	Larry Kimbrow
Division C Director	Ellen Kirchdoerfer
Division E Director	Teresa Stewart
Division F Director	Geoff King

Elections Kat Mokriakow, DTM, DD

Committee presented the motion to accept slate of candidates and have the District Administration Manager cast one vote for each candidate in succession; second to the motion was made. All in favor, motion carried.

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

There were only two violations this Toastmasters year. Both were for the December TLI involving getting prior approval for expenses over \$500.

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 is only an average of about 110 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. Door – to – Door Mailings to our outlier divisions of A, C, and E were sent using specific targeted zip codes. Next year, additional zip codes will be added to provide a larger audience for our divisions in rural areas – away from the Saint Louis Metro geographical area. 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. This year it was stressed to area directors to be involved in the clubs starting early in the Toastmasters year and stay connected throughout. Interviews were conducted prior to the appointment to sure area directors were not looking to just fill a spot in order to obtain credit towards their DTM. Kat shared it is important to meet members throughout the district and to take the time to remember people’s names. That allows members to feel more connect and important to us. Kat received feedback from Division E that things are moving in the right direction. This division is encountering a rough patch and will take everyone to be on target with marketing for new members, new clubs, and to keep the connection with the existing members already in the clubs. 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. Kat shared all decisions made this year were made by the Trio as team with a three – year commitment in mind. Kat felt decisions made in a bubble were not in the best interest of the district or its members. Consistency will provide members stability and what to expect year after year.

Unfinished, New Business, Announcements Kat Mokriakow, DTM, DD None

11:25 Adjournment