



District 8 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2024

The Great District 8
Parkview Library, 8400 Delport, St. Louis, MO 63114

Members Present: 15

Charice Manor, Kim Dew, Patti Howard, Tom Coscia, Tim Scarbrough, Linda Mlot, Joy Womac, Paula Williams, Sarah Van Meter, Burchell McGhee, Alexandra Dorton, Sara Dahm, Sharee Adams-Hall, Jackie Kim Blackard, Lawson (Cal) Calhoun

Opening In-Person Housekeeping/District Mission Statement at 9:30am by Charice Manor District Director.
“We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.”

Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes of October 19, 2024, was approved with a name spelling correction.

Financial Report:

This report was presented by our Administrative Manager, Cal on behalf of the Finance Manager. This report will be received for audit.

District 8 Available Funds on October 31, 2024

Cash – Commerce Bank \$ 13,519.74

District Reserve 20,011.70 (amount not final)

Total 33,531.44

Minimum District Reserve required at year end (7,989.26)

Total available funds \$ 25,542.18.

Leadership Update:

Division C - Tim Scarbrough

A verbal report was given.

Division B - Paula Williams

All reports done for Area 13 - Pamela Davis this week. Will ask Moneta Voices to hold the Division B Contest. Division B area reports are at 80%. Sarah Van Meter’s Area reports are all done. Xavier Blackwell will complete his reports and upload them to the portal before the end of the month. Asked all club leaders to attend the TLI in December to receive their other half of point for training. Shalom Church Toastmasters has had an open house and received one new member so far. At noontime they had their open house and several joined. WashU MedMaster needs individuals to join their meetings to take roles and give a pocket speech. The club had a public relation mentor who I believe will assist them in getting new members. Moneta Voices is looking to do a club activity outside and produce fun ways to keep colleagues coming and staying engaged.

Division F – Burchell McGhee

Acknowledgment:

I'd like to thank my Area Directors for continuing to work while learning at the same time. Thanks to Alexandra Dorton- Area 15, Stacy Offer- Area 19, Lisa Collier- Area 17 and Marianne Erickson- Area 8.

Area visits: Most Area directors have reached out to their clubs.

- Alexandra completed all area visits and just needs to complete and upload reports
- Lisa has reached out and communicated with some clubs and has set a personal goals for club visit completion
- Stacy has conducted 1 visit and needs to submit report
- Marianne has reached out to clubs, conducted 1 and will submit report
- Patti has helped to complete several club visits as well as myself

The completion of the area visit report can seem overwhelming for those new to the form.

Monthly meeting was scheduled but no one attended. Area 15 Speech Contest has been set along with Division F Contest. Others are still seeking to secure locations.

Everyone is making efforts to merge TM club visits and business into already busy schedules. We are slowly making that work.

Division A – Sara Dahm

A verbal report was given for this Division.

Trio Update:

Karen Dew

Membership Growth and Retention:

- Current membership 980-goal is to increase membership by 150 members.
- Membership growth trends and comparison to previous periods. -We started out at 1135 in August, and we are now down to 980. We want to gain at least 150 members. If every club gain 2 members we can reach that goal.
- Retention rates-5 clubs under 8 members and strategies-train and assign club coaches and extend help to clubs with low numbers by filling in for roles until memberships improve.

2. Club Development:

- Number of new clubs chartered and their progress. -Unfortunately, we do not have any new clubs chartered at this time, but we do have 4 possible new clubs in progress.
- Status of struggling clubs-5 clubs under 8 members, plan to help struggling clubs is to assign club coaches and get members from leadership and membership to help by filling roles
- List of clubs close to chartering, with timelines and actions taken. -Coldwell Banker-postponed until January 2025 and we are currently working with them to do a speechcraft in the meantime so that they don't lose their momentum.
- St Louis University has reached out to start a new club, and we have 2 other prospects on which we are working.

3. Marketing and Outreach Initiatives:

- Summary of any campaigns or outreach efforts aimed at recruiting members. -Bring the Lead-asking AD's and anyone who can and will to bring us any new club leads you may have. Incentives for any lead that leads to charting a club.

- Pledge One-To help grow our club's membership we are asking for members to commit to the Pledge One-bring at least 1 guest to each meeting throughout the rest of the year. One of those guesses could become a new member before the year ends.
- Details of specific programs, like open houses or workshops, aimed at public awareness. - We had a booth at the St Louis Business Expo which allowed us to collect contact information for several interested companies and individuals wanting to join a club

4. Challenges and Areas of Concern:

- Any notable challenges facing the district's clubs or growth initiatives. -Clubs are struggling with low membership numbers which is causing some clubs to be suspended
- Suggestions for solutions or requests for additional resources or support. -Asking everyone that can to visit clubs that are low in membership and take on a role or give a speech to help them have a successful meeting until they can get their membership up.

5. Upcoming Plans and Initiatives:

- Summary of future activities, campaigns, or events planned to boost growth. -Club Retention Chair Cynthia Scroggins is preparing for some upcoming club coach courses to help prepare those who have volunteered to coach a struggling club.
- Working with PQD on coaching sessions with 3 specific coaching sessions geared to leads from the Expo. Feel free to invite guests.
- Brief overview of goals for the upcoming period and how the district plans to achieve them.

6. Recognition and Success Stories:

- Highlight successful clubs or members contributing to growth. - I would like to thank all of those who responded when Wash U reached out for help with their club meetings, and we had several members join and help them have a successful meeting.
- This is an area where we can all help so, please reach out and help those clubs in need.
- Any clubs that have achieved significant milestones.
- Keep an eye on our social media pages as well as our District 8 website for upcoming.

Patti Howard, DTM

1. **Area Club Visit Report** – Our district mission is to build new clubs and support clubs in achieving excellence.
 - Empowering individuals through personal and professional development is the Toastmaster promise. Once we have reached this goal consistently, through all clubs, we will have achieved club excellence. As AD, you support and motivate clubs to provide the best possible member experience, enhancing member retention and building membership.
 - What should our % rate of visit reports submitted be? Right now, per the dashboard for area director club visit reports we are at 54%; 11 incomplete; 27 are either scheduled or have not been scheduled. 14 days left to complete 38 reports. TI will close access on Nov 30th. Will reopen on Dec 15th, as 2nd round of club visits start Dec 1 - Apr 30th.
 - Congrats to A2 (Sharee), A4 (Stacy Costin) A9 (Bret Nichols), B13 (Sarah Van Meter), E7 (Evelyn Pearman/Ryan Bloom), E14 (Terri Orban)
2. **Speech Contest**
 - a. Published Dates
 - i. A13, A15
 - ii. Div C, Div F
 - b. Reading Scripts for Chief Judge; Contest Master
 - c. Flyer templates – would you like the district to provide?

d. Trophy pickup – separated per area and division.

3. Training

- a. Speechcraft Coordinator Nov 18 @ 10 and 5:30pm
- b. M2M – Club Coach perspective of what works and what does not work Nov 20 @ 7pm
- c. TLI – Dec 7th 8-4pm with officer training at 8 and 2pm
- d. COT – Makeup Officer Training Proposal
 - i. Offer this during the 2nd week of Dec and 2nd week of Jan.
 - ii. Team teaching approach with 2 officer roles
 - iii. 2 sessions held during workday and 2 sessions at evening.
 - iv. Lora Mather would coordinate.
 - v. Need your approval that you would support in helping to identify facilitators and encourage officers to complete their officer training to reduce having each division scheduling their own makeup sessions.

4. Other PQD Concerns

- a. Pathway enrollment
 - i. % Goal
 - ii. Currently at 81%
 - iii. How to approach

- b. Spring Conference
 - i. Tentative Date Apr 25-26, 2025

5. TLI Chair Jackie Kam-Blackard provided a brief update on the upcoming TLI. It is open to the public for \$5 to attend. All officers are encouraged to be there to attend either an 8am training, or 2pm training. SWIC Granite City from 8 to 4. There will be a gift exchange. It is optional but very fun. There will also be fundraisers. One is a drawing for a computer tablet, 2nd- 50/50 raffle, and proceeds of jelly sales will all go to offset the costs of the TLI. Lunch is provided but registration is required.

Charice Manor, DTM

1. We are a district that is being assessed for realignment. Karen Leingang is our representative. She/We should be given more information in January.
2. Request all leaders to look for their Concur login and if they haven't received it, email her or Cal. She presented a few slides with screen shot to show login and creating expense. (Slides are available on District website.)
3. She reiterated our district goal to grow 5 clubs, 150 new members and 34 clubs to distinguished.
4. She shared a summary of hosting a booth at the St. Louis Expo. We visited every booth and made introductions and exchanged business cards. Our representatives spoke to approximately 100 people. A mix of individual and club potential
5. She did not print the Area Director, Division Director and Toastmaster of the Year checklist but will send them out with the minutes. See attachments.
6. Announced that there is no meeting next month due to Mid-Year Officer's Training.

Meeting was Adjourn at 11:37 am

Charice Manor, DTM

DEC/DC Meeting Schedule (All meetings are from 9am-11am except November and April)

THERE IS NO DEC MEETING IN DECEMBER.

DEC	Saturday January 11, 2025	VIRTUAL THIS MEETING IS CANCELLED.
DEC	Saturday February 1, 2025	VIRTUAL
DEC	Saturday March 1, 2025	VIRTUAL
DC	Saturday April 26, 2025	INPERSON

DEC
DEC

Saturday May 17, 2025
Saturday June 14, 2025

VIRTUAL
VIRTUAL