

District Executive Committee Meeting

San Marcos, Texas

March 12, 2011

Call to Order and Welcome Message – The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by District Governor Grace Jennings, DTM. An inspirational opening was provided by Paul Wilson, ACL ALB. Lieutenant Governor Marketing, Sharon Brown, ACS ALS, read the District Mission.

Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – District Secretary Tim Williams, DTM, called roll. Twenty-three of 44 DEC members were present. Twenty-two members being required for a quorum, the quorum was met. Five additional members arrived after roll call.

Adoption of Agenda – Moved and seconded. The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the Minutes – Minutes of the previous meeting had been distributed electronically. It was moved, seconded, and voted that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved.

Treasurer's Report – District Treasurer Roger Storer, ATMB, reported that no February financial figures were available yet from TI, but that the District is in great financial shape. Surpluses have made it possible to buy some new district equipment.

Reports by Senior District Officers –

Lieutenant Governor Marketing Sharon Brown, ACS ALS, reported that 17 new clubs have been chartered in District 55 so far this Toastmaster year and that eight new clubs are in the process of forming.

Lieutenant Governor Education and Training Linda Williams, DTM, reported that the District set records for number of clubs having 4 officers trained in both the summer and the winter training sessions. Sixty-seven clubs have posted at least 5 DCP points and will receive the CD "How to Become a World Champion Speaker" by Darren LaCroix. To date five Toastmasters have claimed their incentive for completing their first ever CC and CL.

District Governor Grace Jennings, DTM, expressed thanks to everyone for their hard work and commitment. She confirmed the appointments of Mickey Steib, ACS, and Erica Delaney, ACB ALB, as new Area Governors. She noted that TI is no longer going to offer Texas shaped badges to the Districts because of branding efforts, but that she intended to fulfill the District's commitment to provide the promised badges to new DTM's this year.

Committee Reports –

Spring 2011 Conference – Heather Diehl, DTM, reported excellent early registration and sponsorship for the Spring Conference. In addition, the hotel block requirement has already been met.

Mid-Year Audit – Cindy Cross, ACG, commended the District Treasurer for his work and made some accounting recommendations. The audit report was adopted.

Nominations – Jane Coy, ACB CL, made the Nominations Committee report in the absence of committee chair IPDG Margaret Cathey, DTM. The committee returned the following nominations for district officers for the 2011-2012 toastmaster year:

Linda Williams, DTM - District Governor
Sharon Brown, ACS ALS - Lt Governor Education & Training
Bill Greenham, CC ALB - Lt Governor Marketing
Barbara Smith, DTM - Division F Governor San Antonio area
Mickey Steib, ACS - Division G Governor Valley/Coastal
Susan McClure, CC ALB - Division H Governor San Antonio area
Amy Espinoza, DTM - Division I Governor San Antonio area
Laura Schleicher, DTM - Division J Governor Austin area
Jean Ramsey, ACB ALB - Division K Governor Austin area
Tim Hackler, ACS ALB - Division L Governor Austin area
Frank Jaworski, ACB CL - Division M Governor Austin area

Additionally, qualified members not nominated by the nominating committee may run from the floor at the District Council Meeting, May 21, 2011.

Realignment – LGET Linda Williams, DTM, presented the realignment committee report. The report was adopted.

Procedures – Chairman Harry Truman, DTM, was absent.

Website – District Webmaster Jerry Barrett, ACS ALS, was absent.

Division and Area Governor Reports – Division and Area Governor reports were presented in the following order:

Division G – Johnna Krawietz, ACS ALB, accompanied by Mickey Steib, ACS.

Division H – David Fritzlen, ACG ALB, accompanied by AG's David Borden, DTM, Bill Greenham, CC ALB, and Nick Rawlings, CC.

Division I – Blanche Pape, ACS CL, accompanied by AG's Chad Schultz, ACS ALB, Michael Voulgaris, ACB ALB, and Deborah Borden, DTM

Division J – Jane Coy, ACB CL, accompanied by AG's, Joe Jarrett, CC CL, Paul Wilson, ACS ALB, and Jennifer Donley, CC CL.

Division K – Betty McDaniel, ACB ALS, accompanied by AG's Laura Schleicher, DTM, Lisa Merrill, ACB CL, Lyly Fisher, CC, and Jill Onderdonk, ACS CL.

Division L – Jeanell Menyweather, ACS ALB, accompanied by AG’s, Jean Ramsey, CC ALB, and Kenneth Estes, DTM.

Message on Upcoming Contests – District Chief Judge, Paul Kaschube, DTM, gave an explanation of new contest rules and changes in contest scripts.

New Business – DG Grace Jennings, DTM

David Fritzlen, ACG ALB, moved that the Spring 2013 Conference be hosted by Division H. Motion seconded and passed.

Betty McDaniel, ACB ALS, made the following motion: “That District 55 adopt a policy to uphold Toastmasters International’s recommendation applying sensitivity and respect to cultural and religious diversity in invocations at District events, and in doing so lead by example and encourage our clubs to do the same.” Seconded.

Discussion noted that TI has no official policy regarding invocations, but that a policy is stated on the TI website. A similar statement exists on the District 55 website. Question called.

Motion made for secret ballot. Seconded. Motion defeated.

Vote by show of hands on original motion. Nine votes in favor, eighteen votes opposed. Motion failed.

Numbers, Number, Numbers! – Div H Governor David Fritzlen, ACG ALB, discussed goals for becoming a Distinguished District.

“Four Months to Go...What are You Going to Do!” – presentation by RA, PID Lark Doley, DTM.

Announcements – DG Grace Jennings, DTM. Next meeting, 5:30 PM, May 20th, Spring Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Adjournment: 2:19 PM

Respectfully submitted,
(signed) Tim Williams, DTM, District 55 Secretary