

**Executive Committee Meeting
January 11, 2014
Toastmasters District 55
First Lutheran Church, 130 W. Holland St.
San Marcos, TX 78666**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:15 by DG Bill Greenham, DTM who welcomed all participants.

Inspirational Message: Public Relations Officer Jerry Barrett, DTM delivered the inspirational opening concerning the value of giving and receiving hugs.

Reading of District Mission: DEC members present read in unison the District 55 mission statement: *"We build new clubs and we support all clubs in achieving excellence."*

Roll Call: District Secretary Carol Davis, ACB, ALB called the roll of the 60 voting members of the District Executive Committee. The 32 members present constituted a quorum.

Adoption of Agenda: DG Bill Greenham, DTM stated that there are three changes to the agenda: (1) there are no new officers to be installed; (2) there will be no Procedures Committee report; (3) the Nominations Committee report will be presented in the afternoon session. He then asked for adoption of the amended meeting agenda. The agenda was unanimously adopted.

Secretary's Report: DG Bill Greenham, DTM asked for changes or corrections to the November 9, 2013 Fall Conference meeting minutes. LGM Marie-Pier Clarke, ACS, ALS stated that the second sentence of her report should be corrected to read, "She expects that nine new clubs will have been chartered by Christmas." The minutes were unanimously accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Lackritz, ACS, CL presented the Treasurer's Report covering District 55 expenses during this fiscal year. She stated that her report will soon be posted on-line and also mentioned that the mid-year audit report must be completed by February 15, 2014.

Confirmation of Recent Appointments: DG Bill Greenham, DTM confirmed the appointment of Jean Morita, CC, ALB as Division L Assistant (Contests).

Spring Conference Report: PRO Jerry Barrett presented the Spring Conference report on behalf of Co-Chair Susan McClure, DTM. The conference will be held from May 16-18 at the Airport Hilton in San Antonio. Until April 15th rooms are available at \$99.00/night. The first meeting of the Conference Committee will be held later this month; both a Fund-raising Committee chair and a Program Committee Chair are needed. All information re the conference will be posted on the District Website and DEC members are asked to promote the conference.

Reports by Senior District Officers:

Public Relations Officer: PRO and Webmaster Jerry Barrett. DTM stated that it is especially important to attend the upcoming Spring Conference because the 2014-15 District officers will be elected there. He also mentioned that International Director Karen G. Blake, DTM will be participating. He encouraged officers to take advantage of the incentives listed on the website and to promote information about upcoming events listed there.

Lieutenant Governor Marketing: LGM Marie-Pier Clarke, ACS, ALS stated that we have nine new clubs so far this year. She encouraged everyone to support clubs, and to remind with low

membership about the Membership-building incentive. She is arranging coaching for four clubs with membership below 12 and introducing the Club Fitness program to bring clubs with 13-19 members up to charter strength.

Lieutenant Governor Education and Training: LGET Crystal Dyer was unable to attend the meeting and Jerry Barrett gave her report: Jean Morita CC, ALB will chair the fall conference; the recent TLI in San Antonio was very successful with 153 registered; the Corpus Christi TLI has been postponed until February; the upcoming Austin TLI will be chaired by Sophia Diaz; Deborah Borden will chair the upcoming Club Officer Training in San Antonio. All Spring Division Contests are scheduled; today during lunch we will schedule the remaining Area Contests; all club contests must take place before the end of February.

District Governor: DG Bill Greenham reported excellent results at the halfway point in the membership year. We have added 9 clubs to the 192 at the start of the year. Thirteen clubs need help and will be assigned coaches. Just under 50% of memberships are currently paid. It would be good to have dues paid by the middle of March and clubs that are distinguished by then will be rewarded. Working closely and cooperatively together will ensure great success by the end of May.

Focus Workshop re Succession Planning and District Growth

The District Governor, the Public Relations Officer, and the Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, led this program that described the qualifications of the senior officers, both appointed and elected, and the roles they play in the functioning of the District. They also discussed the responsibilities of the support personnel and committees, and of Area and Division Governors. LGM Marie-Pier Clarke asked for and received volunteers to act as club sponsors and mentors.

Nominations Committee Report: Past District Governor Harry Truman was unable to attend the meeting and this report was therefore not presented.

Membership Workshop

Led by Sophie Diaz, this workshop looked at reasons for lack of membership retention and best practices of Action, Suggestions, Involvement and Commitment for improving retention. It concluded with a series of skits performed by members present. The skits illustrated unusual meeting scenarios and provoked a lot of amusement.

Adjournment

District Governor Bill Greenham, DTM adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Carol J. Davis

Submitted by Carol J. Davis
District 55 Secretary