

District Council Meeting Minutes

Toastmasters District 55

November 14, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 1530hrs by District Director Marie-Pier Clarke DTM
2. **Inspirational Opening** was provided by Blanche Pape DTM
3. **Reading of District Mission** by Administration Manager Shannon Brown CC CL
4. **Welcome/Introductory Remarks** by Marie-Pier Clarke DTM. She welcomed members, introduced the Executive Committee members and other members at the head table. She also recognized the visiting dignitaries. Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM then reviewed the rules under which the DC would be functioning.
5. **Credentials Committee Report** - Report was given by Tonia Norman, DTM. 330 club votes, 53 members of the Executive Committee, 443 total are possible. Received 159 club votes, 32 Executive Committee votes, 191 total votes are present. She moved adoption of the credentials report. The report was adopted unanimously.
6. **Adoption of Agenda** - Motion was made to accept the agenda as posted on the District 55 website. The motion was passed unanimously.

7. Administration Manager's Report

- Minutes of the September 12, 2015 DEC meeting
- Minutes of the September 30th 2015 Special DEC meeting

The reading of the minutes was dispensed ~~with~~ for both meetings. There were no corrections. Minutes were adopted.

8. **Confirmation of 2015-2016 Appointed District Officers** - The appointed Toastmasters were presented and confirmed.
9. **Audit Committee Report** – Year End 2014-2015 - The year-end report was given by Susan McClure, DTM. She thanked her committee for their service. There were no questions. The report was adopted.
10. **Adoption of District Budget**- Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM reviewed the Budget Summary page from the District 55 website for the members. Each category of expenses was reviewed and how the breakdown of the budget is decided and how we make the decision to spend the money based on directives from Toastmaster International. She also pointed out that 25% of the money must be left for the incoming officers. Motion was made by Amy Espinoza, DTM to adopt the budget. The motion was seconded. The budget was adopted.
11. **Finance Manager Report** – Sep 2015/First Quarter - Mary Seminario ACB, ALB presented the definition of an accountant. The Budget report was reviewed starting with the Profit and Loss through Sept 2015. Our revenue was \$20789.48 which is greater than budgeted due to more members. Our expenses were less than budgeted for the quarter. We have a surplus for Sept and the Quarter because we spend more at the beginning of the year to prepare for the new Toastmasters' year and training.

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Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM opened the floor for questions. Tonia Norman DTM, observed the Summary does not include all categories and Mary Seminario explained that was because there were no expenditures in those categories. Jim Tarsi DTM asked why the budget was so far off. We are not allowed to spend money on contests until the budget is approved and we have not been able to spend the money yet.

The report will be filed.

12. Other Committee Reports:

Procedures Committee – Presented by Crystal Allbritton, DTM, International Director, IPDG, on behalf of Committee Chair, Jennifer Wolfe, DTM. She thanked the other committee members for all of their hard work.

The updated document was placed on overhead for review. Each section was reviewed and summarized by C. Allbritton, DTM with special attention to changes made to the procedures

Motion was made by C. Allbritton, DTM to adopt the new procedures immediately.

Point of Information was called by Jim Barshop – what is the impact of the changes on the budget? C. Allbritton, DTM responded that the Trio budgeted to the anticipated changes so the impact will be minimal.

A Motion was made by Deborah Arrington, DTM to amend Paragraph III B 2a and III B 2b by striking out the title: “Order of Precedence” in Paragraph III B 2, the complete paragraph 2a and striking out the words: “Special Rules of Order” in Paragraph III B.

Speaks to one motion or authority taking precedence over another. Districts will not have policies but only procedures and the reference to Roberts’ Rule of Order are referenced in a previous section. Tonia Norman, DTM had point of information stating we would still have everything except the removed paragraph.

The Motion was seconded. Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM called for a vote.

The motion was adopted.

Tonia Norma, DTM wanted to clarify that the time limits do not apply to point of information only to debate on motions. You cannot speak more than once pro or con but can make as many points of information as one chooses.

Deborah Arrington, DTM made a motion to amend Paragraph IV B 2a and IV B 2b by striking out the title: “Order of Precedence” in Paragraph IV B 2, the complete paragraph IV B 2a and striking out the words: “Special Rules of Order in Paragraph IV B 2b.

The motion was seconded by Doug Kelly, DTM.

The motion was ~~approved~~ adopted.

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Tonia Norman, DTM requested a point of information concerning the travel reimbursement difference between District Executive committee and District Council. Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM clarified that some people come to the Conference to attend the District Council and nothing else, but that attending the Conference is an option. Whereas, the District Executive Committee meetings are specifically for elected and appointed officers.

Linda Williams, DTM made a motion to amend Paragraph VII C 1a (1) & (2) and 1b (1) and (2) by striking out "United States" in each paragraph and inserting "North America". Motion seconded.

The motion was amended to read:

"I move to amend paragraph VIIC 1a(1) & (2) and 1b(1) & (2) by striking out "United States" in each paragraph and inserting "North America". The motion was adopted.

Tonia Norman DTM made a motion that Section VII. International Convention Subsection A 2 be amended to insert "all District Leader Training" before "Candidate Corner". Motion seconded.

The motion was not adopted.

Linda Williams, DTM made a motion to amend Paragraph VII C 1b 3 by striking out this paragraph. Motion seconded.

The motion was adopted.

Tonia Norman DTM, made point of information about Subsection 3 C(1)3 and local transportation costs. She does not believe that TI meant for this to be a covered cost. Crystal stated that it is a covered service. Linda Williams asked for point of information regarding payment for local transportation. Harry Truman, DTM had another point of information and he has pointed out that this is not defined, in his opinion. Santana Basham had a point of information asking, "Why would you get to the airport and not to the convention, the airport is just a midpoint." Jerry Barrett, DTM accessed the TI policies to review the Subsection in question. Harry Truman had a point of Information – that it is possible that the Trio will have out of pocket expenses.

Jim Barshop made a motion to refer to the procedures committee to report back by the next DEC meeting on 1/9/16 as revised. Motion was seconded. Jim Barshop wanted to have additional time to learn about the changes. He would like to have more experienced past District Governors to have input on the committee. Tim Williams, DTM wants to clarify the consequences of not accepting the changes. Crystal pointed out that the budget will not take effect and the variances will be greater. Several points of information were made to consider continuing at a later date and could this debate be continued electronically. C. Allbritton, DTM and J. Barrett, DTM informed the DC that District 55 does not have the tools to meet electronically.

The motion was lost.

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Tonia Norman, DTM had a point of information about section X, regarding rotation of conference sites to make the distances fair. C. Allbritton, DTM reported that the District tries to be as permissive as possible in order to allow for booking facilities that are cost effective and size appropriate.

Barbara Abbott, "I move the procedures as amended be approved." The motion was seconded

There was a motion to (call to stop the discussion--Move the Previous Question) by a standing count. The motion was adopted-

The question was called: I move the procedures as amended be approved.

The motion was adopted.

13. Reports by Senior District Officers

A. **Public Relations Officer**- Chris Johnson reported that the website is having a Hall of Fame built. Success stories are being requested to promote the members and share this with the public. The Town Halls are ongoing and the schedule is available on the website.

B. **Club Growth Director** – Linda Oliver, DTM gave a report on the Club Building - 6 new Clubs, 5 Clubs in the pipeline. We still need 51 more area reports (55.3%).

C. Program Quality Director – Amy Espinoza, DTM reported that there were 13 Triple Crown winners this year. Winter Session COT/TLI are charging \$5 to attend due to the cost of venues. The process is to bring quality and value to the District, the Clubs can reimburse the offices for their training if agreed upon by the Clubs.

D. **District Director** - Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM reports that the District is doing well, that we are on track with distinguished goals. Mike Storkey, International President Elect, had shared his vision of keeping the focus on the member. This is the goal of District 55. If we take care of the members the members will take care of the District.

14. **Unfinished Business** - none

15. **New Business**

- Spring 2017 Conference Sponsor - Still looking for a Sponsor.

16. **Announcements** - none

17. **Date of Next Meeting – May 14, 2016**

18. **Adjournment** - 1808hrs the meeting was adjourned by Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM.