

**Toastmasters District 55
District Executive Committee Meeting
July 19th, 2015 1500hrs
YO Ranch Hotel and Conference Center, Kerrville, TX 78028
Minutes**

3:00pm

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome Message:** Marie-Pier Clarke called meeting to order at 1557hrs.
- 2. Inspirational Opening:** Molly Tijerina provided inspirational message regarding spreading light and being a follower.
- 3. Roll Call/Certification of Quorum:** The District Director, Marie-Pier Clarke was present and requested the roll be called to establish a quorum. Roll was called and 38 voting members were present, 26 were needed for quorum.
- 4. Adoption of Agenda:** Agenda was reviewed as presented by Marie-Pier Clarke and available on the website and all present were provided a copy. Agenda was accepted by unanimous consent.
- 5. Administrative Manager Report:** Meeting minutes were made available, there were no corrections, and the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
- 6. Finance Manager Report:** Finance Manager's report was available on the website. Mary Seminario covered the report through May 31, 2015. Balance sheet effective May 31, 2015 reflects Total Liabilities and Equity: \$ 78,199.03. Balance is kept on a cash basis. The report was filed.
- 7. Confirmation of Appointed Officers:** Marie-Pier Clarke confirmed a list of all the District Staff Officers for 2015-2016. The Officers were confirmed without objection and the officers were presented with certificates to mark the occasion.
- 8. New Officer Installation Ceremony:** Marie-Pier Clarke summarized the positions and responsibilities of each of the AD positions. The new AD's were presented with certificates and installed into office.
- 9. Fall Conference Committee Report:** Report was provided by Amy Espinoza regarding the need for all DD and AD to attend the District 55 Fall Conference, Nov 13 – 15, 2015 at the Wyndam Garden Hotel in Austin where Toastmasters' International-President Elect for Toastmasters International, Mike Storkey, DTM will be attending the Conference. The dates are Nov 13-15 in Austin at the Wyndham Garden Hotel. Please encourage all Club members to attend. Mileage and one night' stay will be paid since there is a District Council Meeting during the conference.
- 10. Reports by Senior District Officers (3 minutes each)**
 - A. Public Relations Manager:** Chris Johnson presented the social media plan for the District. Many Clubs are online and he will focus on keeping the social media aspects connected and interacting online with each other at Area and Division level. He will continue to explore

how to use our online and other digital resources as part of Community outreach to increase the visibility of Toastmasters.

- B. Club Growth Director:** Our goal is to get 25 new clubs by November. She discussed incentives to start and support new clubs. Area Director Reports are encouraged to be submitted by Aug 31st. Club dues renewal chair, Carol Davis, will be reminding the clubs to start early to collect dues.
- C. Program Quality Director:** Amy Espinoza discussed the need to look for quality. Education awards were recognized, 9 have been posted since July 1st. Club officer training is going to continue until August 1st. Amy Espinoza reviewed the upcoming trainings that are available to get the officers trained at the club level. It will go through August 31st. Trainers will require the 3 hours of formal training and be approved by Amy Espinoza. Speech Contests dates and times will need to be approved for Area and Division levels by the Director of Program Quality.
- D. District Director:** Marie-Pier Clarke presented the status of the District at the end of last year and the goals that we are working toward. We will strive to be number one to inspire others to achieve more, as well. We reached Select Distinguished. Majority of the Clubs are in America. There are 70 Districts in the US and we ranked #13. What do we do to get to the next level? Baseline and Distinguished levels for 2015-2016 were reviewed to make Presidents Distinguished. Marie-Pier Clarke discussed setting goals that will stretch the District. The leadership looked at the growth that was needed to reach the goals. Marie-Pier Clarke asked the District to reach Presidents Distinguished for 2015-2016 Toastmasters year.

11. Special Orders: Contest that will be held this year for Fall: Humorous and Table Topics and the Spring Contests will be Evaluation Contest and International Speech Contest. There was no objection to this order and it was accepted by unanimous consent.

12. There was no new business

13. Next meeting will be: Next DEC meeting will be September 12th at Tye Preston Memorial Library, Canyon Lake at 10:30 am

14. Adjournment at 1645hrs

Marie-Pier Clarke, DTM

Submitted Respectfully,

Shannon Faythe Brown, CL
Administration Manager
District 55