



District 26 – District Council (DC)

Annual Business Meeting Minutes – Apr 29, 2023

The District Council Annual Business meeting convened on Apr 29, 2023 at 3:03 pm MDT, with 79 District leaders present.

1. Director Bachmann went over the rules of the meeting and verified the sound for Zoom attendees.
2. The meeting opened with the Club Growth Director (CGD), James Gable, reading the District Mission Statement: “We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.”
3. Credentials Chair, Gregory Harris announced: A quorum was present (116 Clubs in good standing with 232 available votes (one for each Club President and one for each Vice President Education. The minimum number required for a quorum is 77. Registration is 124, (44 in room, 35 on Zoom.) 40 votes for a simple majority.
4. Robert Rules of Order, newly revised, were covered by Parliamentarian, Linda Rhea, DTM.
5. **28 Dignitaries**, present, were recognized.
6. **Adoption of Agenda:** There were no objections stated and the agenda was approved as circulated.
7. **Administration Manager**, Teri McDonald, called the review of District Council Minutes from Sep 24, 2022: there were no objections, and the minutes were approved as circulated.
8. AJ Herran, Eastern Division Director, asked for clarification of the packet referenced by Administration Mgr.
9. **Audit Committee** (Midyear) Report presented by Audit Committee Chair, Joseph Vander Linde via Zoom for 1st and 2nd qtr. Motion to approve by Jay Ruggeri, Speak with Ease, Club 0631413, President. Motion 2nd by Jacqueline Smith, Aurorators Toastmasters #2136, President. Call for discussion. Motion Carried.
10. Director Bachmann discussed the Toastmasters overages from district reserves have been reallocated \$60,000 back to International as of 2/2023.
11. **District Finance Report** presented by Diane Nuss, DTM.
 - a. At the end of January, the balance was \$137,000 in the District Reserve. Financials were that we have just under 4.5% shortage on our revenue’s year to date. And we were about \$8,000 or 28% over on our expenses approximately 58% below budget. Expenses of \$13,000 were misallocated to the district store but we don’t have a district store so that has now been corrected. Almost ½ of that came from the previous year because the TI store was closed. We have \$58,000 in the district reserves as of the end of February. Motion to approve the Finance Report by Jay Ruggeri President, Speak with Ease Club # 0631413, seconded from AJ Herran, Loquacious Toastmasters Club #7329, President. Discussion: Mark Jacobs, Titan Toastmasters Club #2368, President asked a question about claw back, gives back time. There were no objections. Motion carried by unanimous consent.
12. Director Bachmann stated changes to **District alignment** are necessary to better balance the divisions. While divisions and areas were organized by proximity to one another, many clubs are now meeting online, and this limitation may not be applicable when aligning clubs within a division or area. An area is comprised of 4 to 6 clubs but may consist of three clubs when an effort to charter a club is in process.
13. District Alignment as presented by District Director, JP Bachmann. Proposed District alignment. Thanks to Keith Horowitz for assisting. Alignment proposal was displayed on the screen.
 - a. Clubs highlighted in blue are moving to a different division. Clubs highlighted in orange are clubs moving from one division to another division.
 - b. All divisions will have 4 or 5 areas and will balance in number of clubs.
 - c. Motion to accept as proposed moved by AJ Herran, Loquacious Toastmasters Club #7329, President, and Eastern Division Director, and seconded by Marc Miller, Ranch Raconteurs Club # 873616.

- i. Discussion (limited to 2 minutes):
 1. AJ Herran, Loquacious Toastmasters Club #7329 President, and Eastern Division Director, moved to amend to the move of Speak with Ease #631413 to area E4 and the proposed club #716074 CoXpressionist Club move to area E5 to provide better alignment
 2. Jay Ruggeri, Speak with Ease, Club # 631434 moved to second the amendment.
 - a. Discussion: Jay Ruggeri, Speak with Ease President agrees that the move to E4 will enhance the quality of the amendment.
 - b. Marcia Wood DTC Speaks # 747209 asked how many clubs will be left in F1 if CoXpressionist Club is moved to E5?
 - c. AJ Herran provided clarity, commenting regarding the current proposed alignment which has CoXpressionist moving into Area E4, and asked if this could be amended to move to Area E5. CoXpressionist was just suspended, and it would be more advantageous to have this club in E5 because several clubs in E5 have dropped to 0.
 3. Vote for amendment was passed Vote 79 for 0 opposed. Motion passed.
 4. Keith Motzner, Eloquent Entrepreneurs Toastmasters Club # 4109334 questions his club being missed on the alignment.
 5. Glen Knight, Artfully Speaking, # 8404 VPE addressed Eloquent Entrepreneurs Toastmasters appears in M4.
 6. Mike Adkins, Talking Ideas #9375 requested background on Talking Ideas being moved to N1. Bachmann explained that made the decision to move hybrid clubs to the Northern Division to keep the division alive.
 7. Mike Adkins moved that Energy Capital # should be moved from area N1 to area N2, to dissolve area N1 and return the 3 hybrid Clubs to their Colorado areas. Marcia Wood, DTC Speaks # 747209 seconded. Discussion:
 - a. Marcia Wood where can I find where can I find in the governing documents where an area can have a minimum of 3 areas? Answered by Keith Horowitz: Protocol 7.
 - b. AJ Herran, Loquacious Lunch Bunch Club #7329, President, Eastern Director, I support the proposed change the alignment.
 - c. Jay Ruggeri, Speak with Ease, Club # 631434 point of clarification regarding virtual clubs. It was on the screen displayed.
 - d. Nathan Darnall, Cheyenne 798 VP ED and Northern Division Director supports Mike Adkins's proposal.
 - e. Keith Horowitz Building your Brand # 1155833 if eliminating the N1 Area we choose to renumber all of the N Areas so that we are properly numbered. This will have to be another amendment.
 - f. Mike Adkins, Talking Ideas TM is a hybrid club, not 100% online.
 - g.
 8. Vote to adopt an amendment by Adkins 78 for and 1 opposed, Amendment carried.
 9. Keith Horowitz, Building your Brand #1155833, President stated if eliminating the N1 area I propose to renumber all of the N Areas so that we are properly numbered. Rename N2, 3 and 4 to 1,2,3. Victoria Cox S-Peak Leaders, 4002183, President, IDD seconded the motion. Discussion: None.
 10. Vote to adopt the amendment to alignment, a motion carried by unanimous consent.
 11. Vote to approve the original alignment as amended. District Realignment was amended.

14. **The District Leadership Committee Report** was presented by Deborah Horowitz on behalf of Chair, Darryle Brown, DTM. 10 Toastmasters members plus Darrylle Brown, DTM.
- a. Positions Nominated:
 - i. District Director: Ann Hill, DTM
 - ii. Program Quality Director: James Gable
 - iii. Club Growth Director: Ruth Prentice, DTM
 - iv. Division Directors
 - Denver Division: nomination for the role is incomplete and will require a floor candidate.
 - Eastern Division: nomination for the role is incomplete and will require a floor candidate.
 - Foothills Division: nomination for the role is incomplete and will require a floor candidate.
 - Metro Division: nomination for the role is incomplete and will require a floor candidate.
 - Northern Division: Ann Kerr
 - Southern Division: Christina McCrady
 - Urban Division: nomination for the role is incomplete and will require a floor candidate.
 - b. Eastern Director AJ Herran, Loquacious Toastmasters Club #7329, President, moved to approve the motion. Sarika Syamala, 873616, seconded the motion. Director Bachmann asked that the Administration Manager cast 1 ballot for each nomination.
 - c. Director Bachmann declared DD Ann Hill, James Gable, Ruth Prentice, Ann Kerr and Christine McCrady as elected officers for 2023-24.

15. District Officer Reports

- a. **Division Director Reports:**
 - i. Denver Division - Karen McGrath:
 - ii. Eastern Division – A.J. Herran:
 - iii. Foothills Division – Pattie Apple, not present
 - iv. Metro Division – Ruth Prentice
 - v. Northern Division – Nathan Darnall
 - vi. Southern Division - Deb Horowitz
 - vii. Urban Division – Will Robinson
- b. Club Growth Director Report:
 - i. Standing ovation of Division Directors.
 - ii. Eastern Division has new members 175. Recognition of new clubs, Ten Mile, Rocky Vista, UCAR, Dish, and PMI Mile High.
 - iii. Thanked Ruth Prentice, Keith Horowitz, Meredith Myers, and Karen McGrath for their help in starting new clubs. Members who helped with kick-off meetings were acknowledged; Kevin Hempstead, Carol Walker-Lopez, and Rich Hopkins. It takes a team.
 - iv. Reinstated clubs are Golden Orators, GOGO Toast, and Comcast.
- c. Program Quality Director:
 - i. Training: 8 TLIs in the first half resulted in over 51% of officers being trained. Acknowledged David Johnson for stepping in at the last minute. Supported PRA, David Woodcock, PIP, Pat Johnson helped along with Meredith Myers and Marcia Wood. 92 registered for this Conference including online registration. Acknowledged the tech volunteers, Brad Wolf, Karen McGrath, Paolo Perini, and Tom Hobbs.
- d. Marcia Wood, DTM spoke about AD Tricia Trixie-Hunter fighting cancer. On April 8th, she came to a Tree dedication in her name at the Highline Canal Conservancy.
- e. District Director's comments: 1 month left to get area reports in. We need to be above 75% per area. Spoke about Smedley Distinguished, we have a long way to go but we don't want to stop now. Trio

agreed to an incentive From May 1st to June 30 there of \$150 for refreshments or Facebook ads per club for Open Houses.

We have asked TI about ROI, and what works well for advertising. Share your TM story with others.

Recognized David Otey for his session. The wave is here. Thank you to our host with Beaver Run Resort.

f. Meeting adjourned at 4:51 pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by:

Teri McDonald, DTM, PDD

Administration Manager, District 26

Approved.

JP Bachmann, DTM

District Director, District 26

Distribution: District Council Members