



District Director  
Kathryn R. Kest, DTM

Program Quality Director  
Rose W. Bradford, DTM

Club Growth Director  
Jo Idoux, DTM

Public Relations Manager  
Amish Patel, DTM

Administration Manager  
Karen Charleston, LD2

Finance Manager  
Becky Noe, DTM

Immediate Past Distinguished  
District Director  
Sheryle H. Warren, DTM

Parliamentarian  
Richard Zamecki, DTM

District website  
[www.tmd56.org](http://www.tmd56.org)

Toastmasters International  
[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)

**TOASTMASTERS  
INTERNATIONAL MISSION**  
We empower individuals to  
become more effective  
communicators and leaders.

**TOASTMASTERS  
INTERNATIONAL VALUES**  
Integrity  
Respect  
Service  
Excellence

**DISTRICT MISSION**  
We build new sustainable clubs and  
support all clubs in achieving  
excellence.

## District Executive Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting  
Monday, March 23, 2020  
6:00 – 9:30 p.m.

### Call to Order

Kathryn Kest, DTM 2019 – 2020 District Director – opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Administration Manager, Karen Charleston was present and recorded minutes.

### Pledge

Led by Jo Idoux, DTM, Club Growth Director

### Certification of Quorum

**Camille Morales**, DTM provided the credentials report. Quorum was set at 26 ½  
Total Eligible voting members: 53 members  
Total present was 46 - quorum was met.

Kathryn Kest, District Director, announced that there was quorum.

### District Mission Statement

Recited by Rose W. Bradford, DTM

### District Director Opening Comments

**Comments made by Kathryn Kest, DTM**

### Adoption of the Agenda

Kathryn Kest, DTM made correction to change “Approval: to “Adoption of the Agenda.” There was no debate. The Motion was adopted.

### Approval of the Minutes -- Fall DEC Meeting, September 23, 2019.

Tammy Garner, DTM suggested a few corrections to be made to the meeting minutes. Administration Manager, Karen Charleston, LD2, noted and modified the minutes reflecting every semantic and grammatical correction. The amended minutes were posted on the D56 website. The Chair asked if there were any further corrections or amendments. Without hearing any objection, the amended minutes of the District Executive Council (DEC) meeting, Dated September 23, 2019, were adopted as amended by acclamation.

### District Realignment Report by Harold Eaton, DTM.

**Detailed** explanation given by the Chair of the proposed realignment. Plan is available on District 56 website. The 2019-2020 District Alignment Report was approved as published without objection.

### Mid-Year Audit Report by Jennifer Nelson, DTM.

Jennifer Nelson, DTM presented the report of the January 25<sup>th</sup> Mid-Year Audit. She reported all records audited and properly recorded. All reports are located on the District 56 website, [tmd56.org](http://tmd56.org). 2019-2020 District Mid-Year Audit Report was approved as published without objection.

## Contest Season by Program Quality Director Rose W. Bradford, DTM

**COVID 19 and the edict from Toastmasters International to only meet virtually until the Pandemic has passed.** We as a District were asked to cast a vote to determine if we would proceed all the way to the District level with the virtual International Contest. A motion was called for to proceed all the way to the District level with the **virtual** International Contest. David Bell made the motion to call for the vote and Michelle Cuellar seconded the call for a vote

Sheryle Warren was also in support of continuing the contest virtually. The votes were cast, and the majority voted to have District 56 continue with virtual International Speech contest, all the way to the District level.

The Districts were also asked to cast a vote to determine if we would proceed all the way to the District level with virtual Tall Tales Contest. A motion was called for to proceed all the way to the District level with **virtual** Tall Tales Contest. Steve Jones made the motion to call for the vote and Carolyn Hamilton seconded the call for a vote. During the discussion several people said they were in favor of continuing the Tall Tales Contest. A vote was called for. The votes were cast, and the majority voted to have District 56 continue with virtual Tall Tales Speech contest, all the way to the District level.

**Program Quality Director, Rose W. Bradford, DTM offered that we as a District will provide the training and tools for each contest going forward including Zoom accounts.**

## Senior 6 Reports

### District Leadership Chair, DLC Report

Sheryle H. Warren, DTM, presented DLC Report and acknowledgement of the DLC members. The Trio and Division Director Candidates were announced. There was a brief explanation that the campaign methodology was also impacted by COVID. The only ability for each person to campaign was on the website since there were no in person contests.

### District 56 Procedure Amendment, Kathy Kest

The Chair gave a brief overview to let the DEC know there will be a vote at the District Council Meeting in May. The vote is regarding upgrading the travel expense request of fourteen cents per mile from minimum of 75 miles one way to a minimum of 25 miles one way. No vote was needed just information was shared.

## Division Director Reports

Each Division Director reported on the health of their respective Division, relative to the three primary goals: club growth, member payments and DCP.

Division:	Division Director
L	Jenny Guhlin, IP3
M	Rhonda Reeves, DTM
N	Steve Jones, DTM
O	Chandra Munagavalasa, ACS
P	Carolyn Hamilton, DTM
Q	Rae Ann George, DTM
R	Cindy Petrash, DTM

## Finance Manager (P&L Report)

Becky Noe, DTM, presented the Finance Manager's Report: Revenue at break even. There was no debate on 2019-2020 Profit and Loss.

## Public Relations Manager

Amish Patel, DTM presented a report on the future website and the COVID-19 banner. He discussed the challenge of marketing to club members and Houston at large. A future club member participation video is to be documented.

## Club Growth Director

Jo Idoux, DTM presented Growth and Loss report and presented District mission. We have 13 new clubs! Action needed: of 199 clubs, only 78 are paid now. Area Director reports were recognized, and only 76 are completed. Sponsors, Mentors and Coaches are needed.

## Program Quality Director

Rose W. Bradford, DTM presented her report. We have 199 clubs officially, 8 were suspended. Only 55% of the officers were trained with a requirement of 80% to be trained to reflect success. 13 new clubs were reported. The educational report lists 107 Triple Crown members and 32 new DTMs. We have 1,190 members who have achieved awards this year already.

Pathways: 71% adoption rate  
50% involved in Pathways  
58% officers Training completed.

Spring Conference cancelled; location – Sheraton-Brook Hollow Hotel in Division R.  
Contest dates and zoom information will be posted on the District Calendar.



#### **District Director**

Kathryn Kest, DTM closing thoughts. When we lost the ability to have the conference, Rose was able to negotiate so we did not lose the deposit with the hotel.

#### **Announcements**

Spring Conference – May 1 & 2 has been cancelled.

Tall Tales Contest – May 1, 2020 at 7pm

International Contest – May 2, 2020 at 7pm

Bi-Annual District Council Meeting – May 23, 2020

- ❖ Head count begins at 7:30 a.m. to achieve Quorum
- ❖ Candidate showcase begins at 9:00 a.m.
- ❖ Meeting Begins at 10:00 a.m.

***No Proxy allowed for voting at the Zoom District Council Meeting***

#### **It's Time**

Division Area Health-Check

Kathryn Kest made closing remarks

Pamela McCown DTM, PID, said we are doing a great job and she is proud of us all.

#### **Meeting adjourned**

Kathryn Kest, DTM, adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Submitted by Karen Charleston, LD2 – Administration Manager.