



District Director
Rose W. Bradford, DTM

Program Quality Director
Jo Idoux, DTM

Club Growth Director
Chandra Munagavalasa,
DTM

Public Relations Manager
Terrie Green, DTM

Administration Manager
Robert B. Bailey, DTM

Finance Manager
Rae Ann George, DTM

Immediate Past District
Director
Kathryn R. Kest , DTM

Parliamentarian
John Robert Behrman,
DTM

District website
www.tmd56.org or
ToastmastersHouston.com

Toastmasters International
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 56 Executive Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
7:32 – 9:07 p.m.

Call to Order

Rose W. Bradford, DTM 2020 – 2021 District Director – opened the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Administration Manager, Robert B. Bailey, DTM was present and recorded minutes.

Pledge

The pledge was led by Administration Manager, Robert B. Bailey, DTM.

Certification of Quorum

Steve W. Jones, DTM provided the credentials report. DEC membership is 54. Quorum required is 28 members. Total members who voted was 36. Quorum was achieved. Rose W. Bradford, DTM, District Director, announced that there was quorum.

District and Toastmasters International Mission Statements

Both were recited by Program Quality Director Jo Idoux, DTM.

District Director Opening Comments

Comments were made by Rose W. Bradford, DTM. Rose introduced several special guests and their roles for the meeting. Rose then explained the composition of the DEC and the rules that the meeting would follow. Rose explained the timing of the discussions, overall process and way speakers should present themselves. She announced that we have a special guest attending at the end of the meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda

Rose W. Bradford, DTM asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Rose noted that the date of the last DEC meeting should be September 8, 2020. No other changes were noted and hearing no objections, Rose moved the agenda be adopted with the minor date change.

Approval of the Minutes -- DEC Meeting, September 8, 2020

Last DEC meeting was held on September 8, 2020, Rose asked are there any corrections to the last meeting minutes: Administration Manager, Robert Bailey shared that the minutes had been posted on the website and been made available prior to tonight's meeting. Rose asked if there were any objections. Having heard no objections, the minutes were approved as presented.

District Realignment Report

The Alignment Committee Chair, Balaji Madana, delivered the committee report on the proposed District 56 Realignment recommendations for the 2021-2022 Toastmaster year.

- The report included:
 - Toastmasters guidelines for annual realignment, including the 4 to 6 club limit for areas
 - All clubs except suspended clubs count against these limits
 - A District 56 overview showing 208 active clubs and 1 suspended club
 - Recommendation to stay with 7 divisions

- Recommendation to remove 2 areas, N26 & O15, resulting in a decrease from 41 to 39 areas for next year
- Reassignment of 1 club (Houston Methodist Willowbrook) from L42 to R60 to support adequate R areas.
- Reassignment of 1 club (Capgeti Toasties) from O10 to Q51 due to a relocation of the company office from downtown to the Galleria area.
- The report showed 8 new clubs in District 56 within the last year, and has been corrected to show 7 new clubs.
- Tammy Garner raised a question about the movement of the new Exxon club in baytown from R to L based on an error in the report. This new club originally assigned to R65 (NW Houston) will be assigned to P2 (SE Houston) based on the expected meeting location at the Baytown plant.
- Harold Eaton answered based on the mention of a club move between R & L, that the only club that moved between R & L was the Houston Methodist move from L to R.
- Tammy made a motion to accept the report, Brent Jatco seconded the motion. The DEC 100% approved the report

District Leadership Committee Report

IPDD Kathy Kest, DTM presented the results of the 2021 – 2022 DLC activities. She first recognized the members of the DLC and thanked them for their help and their hard work. She then read through the list of nominated candidates and noted that none of the offices had more than one candidate competing for the position. Rose then asked for the DEC to vote to approve the slate of officers so they could be presented to the District Council. Steve Jones, DTM announced that 29 of the 36 eligible members voted and the candidates were approved.

Rose asked if anyone needed a break. No one spoke, so we did not take a break.

Division Director Reports

Each Division Director reported on the health of their respective Division, relative to some primary goals: Area Director visits/reports, club meeting status, member retention/payments, Area/Division councils and DCP status. They all used a standard PowerPoint slide supplied by our District Director for uniformity.

Division:	Division Director or Designee
L	Nadia Cremers A.D. L43
M	Sharla Ozen, DTM
N	Jose Betancourt, DTM (Interim)
O	Otto Fanini, DTM
P	Patricia Carreras, DTM
Q	David Bell, DTM
R	Tammy Garner, DTM

Executive Reports

Audit Committee Report – David Rebeles, DTM, PDDG

David first reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Audit Committee. He mentioned that both the mid-year and end of year audits are filled with the IRS annually. Audit Committee met on Friday February 12, 2021 to review the Profit and Loss statements from July 1 2020, Dec 31 2020. David discussed several audit procedures performed and stated that the review confirmed that the financial statements accurately reflect the revenue and expenses. He also listed the members of the Audit Committee. He stated that the statements are on the website.

Finance Manager - Budget and P&L Statement – July 2020 to February 2021

Rae Ann George, DTM, presented the Finance Manager's Report from July 2020 to Feb 2021.

Available funds at 2/28/2021 Bank \$30,925 District Reserve \$83,192.32

Revenue: Budget \$40,259 Actual \$ 50,474

Expenses: Budget \$40,083 Actual \$27,107; conference and speech contest expenses are coming up

Profit and Loss Statement was presented with a line by line breakdown. The statements are available on website under Resources.

Revenue items that were not planned/budgeted were: District Store Revenue, Fundraising Revenue and Conference Revenue.

Rae Ann reviewed each expense category and elaborated on the details. Net Income is \$23, 367.02, but expenses are pending.

Rose reiterated that these are information only reports and are available for viewing on the website.

Public Relations Report – Harold Eaton, DTM



Harold reviewed the Social Media strategy that Avi created by sharing a slide which creatively demonstrated how the strategy works in District 56. Harold discussed the intake process and asked the leaders present to take this information back to their clubs. He mentioned the email addresses for the PRM team. He asked members to send the PRM team stories to be published. Harold discussed the various types of Social media outlets that we use (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.) Rose thanked Harold for stepping in for Terrie.

Club Growth Director, Chandra Munagavalasa, DTM

Chandra presented slides showing the number of clubs in our district. Base of 189; as of today 152 in Good Standing and 37 with low to no membership. He also discussed the Club Visits by Area in Round 2. Division P is leading the group at 93%. Pinar Sikes in P2 is the first AD to complete Round 2 reports! Since the speech contests are ending he hopes club visits will pick up. 14 other Area Directors have completed all of their reports. So far we have 7 new clubs with 2 more clubs expected to form soon. Chandra promoted the benefits of Area Councils and how they help struggling clubs. Lastly he discussed incentives for both clubs and members.

Program Quality Director, Jo Idoux, DTM

Jo presented educational achievements. 1,216 awards were received from July 2021 to March 2021 and 124 Triple Crowns were earned. She then reviewed the Pathways adoption rate by members, officers and new members. She challenged the AD's to present an educational session on Pathways enrollment. She then discussed the Spring Conference that is free but limited to the first 500 members who register. Jo promised an exciting conference! Rose thanked Jo for her energy.

District Director, Rose W. Bradford, DTM

Rose reminded us of ROTOKO. She reminded us to stay connected, to mentor others and to stay involved. She then quoted Helen Blanchard.

Announcements

April 30 is Business meeting. Save the date!

Will get the link this week.

Book store pop up will be on May 8 and May 15. Flyers will be posted.

Hall of Fame – will be at Year End Celebration, around August.

Finish Strong: Area Director Visit Reports and Area and Division Council Meetings need to continue.

Make sure clubs update their addresses and any other information that may have changed.

Rose then Introduced Dan Rex, CEO of Toastmasters International

Rose introduced Dan Rex by mentioning many things about him; some were professional and some personal.

Dan started by asking us 'How are you all doing and asking us to turn on our Microphones. He acknowledged the challenges of leadership during COVID. He talked about how the changes that we have experienced this year have been difficult, but we have made it due to perseverance. He reminded us that we had to learn how to do things "online" for the first time. He said that the true course of leadership is adapting to adversity. He also stated that, "we learn who we are as leaders when times are tough". He told us how much we are appreciated and how much we are valued for completing our commitments. Dan challenged us to explore how we come across to others. He challenged us to find a deeper understanding of reality and to seek new beginning; to increase our leadership skills. He closed with a saying: Smooth seas never made a good sailor; if you want to be a good sailor hope for rough seas.

Meeting adjourned

Rose W. Bradford, DTM, adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Robert B. Bailey, DTM – Administration Manager.