



District Council Meeting Minutes 2024-04-11

District 53

This document is a DRAFT and is not FINAL until approved at the 2024-09 District Council Business Meeting. For greater detail on meeting discussion, please see the full meeting video at the link provided below. For the most current copy of this document, go to: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-Meeting-Minutes.pdf>.

The District Council is the governing body of the District and includes the President and VPE of each active club plus all Area Directors, Division Directors, and the District Senior Staff.

Minutes prepared on June 24, 2024

References

- Full meeting video: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ga72pxkqu50busymjelb1/D53-DC-2024-04-11.mp4>
- Full meeting audio: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/bfk7z90st72c42nr5zror/D53-DC-2024-04-11-Audio.m4a>
- Meeting Info Kit: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-Info-Kit.pdf>
- District Realignment Plan: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-Realignment-Plan-2024-2025-with-Amendment.pdf>
- Finance Manager's Report: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-DFM-Report.pdf>
- PR Manager's Report: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-PRM-Report.pdf>
- CGD Report: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-CGD-Report.pdf>
- PQD Report: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-PQD-Report.pdf>
- DD Report: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-DD-Report.pdf>
- Meeting Attendance Report: <https://d53tm.org/wp-content/uploads/D53-DC-2024-04-11-Attendees.pdf>

Opening

- DD (District Director) Patti Walter welcomed members at 7:00 pm, and introduced the meeting functionaries.
- CGD (Club Growth Director) Mohan Padamati read the Toastmasters Mission, the District Mission, and the *Toastmasters Promise*.
- District Services Manager Norm Thibodeau summarized the procedures for online meetings and online voting *via* SurveyMonkey.
- Parliamentarian Tom Farrelly reviewed the District's *Special Rules of Order*. They were passed without objection.
- DD Walter moved on to review the Agenda, which was approved with no objection.
- DD Walter initiated the meeting roll call and all delegates who did not register their credentials during the gathering period were requested to register so they could vote during the meeting.
- Credentials Chair Paul Randolph presented the Quorum Report:
 - We have 83 clubs eligible to vote with 2 votes each for a possible total of 166 club votes.
 - Quorum minimum is 56 club votes (1/3 of total possible, rounded up).
 - We achieved quorum for the business meeting with 85 club votes present.
 - There were also 18 DEC representatives in attendance, so the total votes present were 103.
 - A simple majority required 52 votes and a 2/3 majority required 69 votes.

Business Decisions

- The *District 53 Council Business Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2023*, assembled by District Administration Manager, Norm Thibodeau, were approved by unanimous consent.
- The *Mid-Year Audit Report for 2023-24*, was summarized by Audit Committee Chair Rich Derksen. The report was approved with 95 "yes" votes, no "no" votes, and 5 abstentions.
- The *District 53 Realignment for 2023-2024* was summarized by Realignment Committee Co-Chair, Norm Thibodeau. The Realignment was approved with 86 "yes" votes, 2 "no" votes, and 15 abstentions.
- The Interim District Leadership Chair, Andrew Watt, presented the DLC Report. This year's report is considered valid but incomplete because the team was unable to nominate two candidates for the Club Growth Director role, as required by Protocol 9.0. The following members were nominated for the officer positions listed below.
 - For District Director: Bettyann Peck
 - For Program Quality Director: Rick May and Mohan Padamati

For Club Growth Director: Jackie Kessler
For Division A Director: Melanie Lee
For Division B Director: Scott Davis
For Division C Director: Rick May
For Division D Director: Stephanie Roy
For Division E Director: Elizabeth (Liz) Keeling

After the DLC report was completed, Rick May dropped from both nominated roles for personal reasons. Since nominations from the floor are not currently allowed, per Protocol 9.0, the Division C Director position will remain vacant until the incoming District Director can appoint a member to that role. This appointment, along with all other appointed roles, will be subject to approval by the District Council during our September 2024 meeting.

Since there were no contested roles, all candidates were elected to their nominated positions by unanimous consent.

Reports

- The meeting concluded with District Leadership Reports. The reports were distributed for preview by all Council delegates to save time for questions and comments during the meeting. A link to each full report is included at the top of this results summary.
 - 2023-2024 Finance Manager Glendalys Ramos summarized and led discussion on the DFM Report. There were no comments or questions on the DFM report.
 - 2023-2024 Public Relations Manager, Zach Fisk, summarized and led discussion on the PRM Report. There were no comments or questions on the PRM report.
 - Club Growth Director Mohan Padamati summarized and led discussion on the CGD Report. There were no comments or questions on the CGD report.
 - Program Quality Director Bettyann Peck summarized and led discussion on the PQD Report.
 - James Ault (Club 1331435 KAPL Toastmasters President) asked if there was any further information from Toastmasters International regarding the transition to a new Learning Management System for Pathways. PQD Bettyann Peck responded with encouragement to continue working Pathways projects and getting them logged, but there is no additional information or dates available from Toastmasters International at this time.
 - Lynda Starr (Regional Advisor) added that additional information will be forthcoming after June.
 - Norm Thibodeau (DAM/DSM) asked if there is any information available about improvements to the BaseCamp Management functions for use by the club Vice Presidents Education. PQD Bettyann Peck responded that one improvement is known, elimination of the requirement to approve awards in Club Central as a 2nd step after approving in Pathways.
 - Andrea Currie (Club 7452812 Liberty St. of Schenectady Toastmasters President) also had a question about the awards double entry, but said it was already answered satisfactorily.
 - Lauren Hofer (Club 865 Greater Stamford Toastmasters VPE) offered that she made a how-to guide for pulling reports from Basecamp and can provide it to anyone interested.
 - District Director Patti Walter summarized and led discussion on the DD Report. There were no comments or questions on the DD report.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.
- The next District Council meeting will be held in September (date and time to be confirmed).

Respectfully Submitted by

Norm Thibodeau, PMP, DTM

D53 District Administration Manager

D53 District Services Manager

Project Manager, Retired

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