



District Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

July 10, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

District Director

Nancy Potts, DTM

Program Quality Director

Denise Alder Gutherz, IP2

Club Growth Director

Lance McMahan, DTM

Administration Manager

Minda Fernish, DTM

Finance Manager

Kristine Porter, PM1

Public Relations Manager

Veena Vijayaraj-Kadidal, DTM

Logistics Manager

Cindy Hatano, VC2

District Parliamentarian

Rick Sydor, PID, DTM, RP-R

Immed. Past District Director

Ed Johnson, IPDD, DTM

District Mission

"We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence."

Toastmasters Brand Promise

Empowering individuals through personal and professional development.

District 39 Toastmasters

www.district39.org

Toastmasters International

www.toastmasters.org

- 1. Call to Order.** District Executive Council Meeting (DECM) was called to order at 9:00 am by Immediate Past District Director (IPDD) Ed Johnson.
- 2. Protocol for Zoom Meeting.** Mute audio and turn off video unless speaking or called upon. DECM meeting is being recorded. If you do not wish to be recorded do not speak.
- 3. Inspirational Thought.** Inspirational thought was given by last year's Herb Yarborough award winner, Pat Knight, DTM.

"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment." —Ben Franklin

- 4. Reading of the Mission Statement.** District mission Statement was read by IPDD, Wes Johnson. "We Build New Clubs and Support All Clubs in Achieving Excellence".
- 5. D39 Officer Installation.** District officers were installed by Regional Advisor, Mark Lucas. They included Area Directors not identified by name, Division A Director Louisa Swann, Division B Director Laura Gregory, Division C Director Adrienne Haylor, Division D Director Lynda Mendez, Division E Director Nisreen Jaradat, Division F Director Amrik Chima, Division G Director Pat Knight, Division H Director Michael Lamont, Division I Director Jim Crestwood, and Division J Director Jay Chacko, Club Growth Director (CGD) Lance McMahan, Program Quality Director Denise Alder Gutherz, and District Director (DD) Nancy Potts. Newly installed District Director, Nancy Potts announced George Jarosik, PDD and Sondra Nunez, RA will receive Presidential Citation Awards from Toastmaster's International at the Intl convention on August 25, 2021 at 5pm eastern. Congratulations George and Sondra!
- 6. Roll Call.** Administration Manager, Minda Fernish called roll. 24 of 33 District officers were present according to District Parliamentarian Rick Sydor.
- 7. Certification of Quorum.** Quorum was certified by Administration Manager Minda Fernish
- 8. Adoption of Agenda.** Meeting agenda was approved and adopted by District Director Nancy Potts.
- 9. Approval of Minutes, June 2021.** Minutes of June 12, 2021 DECM stand

~ *Our Path Forward* ~



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July 10, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

10. District Officer Reports – (Division Director reports not required this month)

a. Administration Manager, Minda Fernish, DTM

- June 10th letter from Toastmasters International (TI) regarding in person speech contests. Contents to be discussed in new business.

b. Finance Manager, Kristine Porter, PM1

- Highlighted report prepared by Connie Leni. \$11,938.00 retained by TI for the upcoming year. Estimated expenditure of \$6,500 for awards in June. Closed PayPal account which can be reopened. District mailbox in Roseville that has not been used is paid thru mid July. We will need to let TI know if we open a new one

c. Public Relations Manager, Veena Vijayaraj-Kadidal, DTM.

- Veena outlined her Public Relation strategy which includes but is not limited to creating a large committee to help get the word out, greater use of Social Media to showcase Toastmasters, promote TM branding so that people will immediately recognize Toastmasters as the Voice of Leadership and Communication, promote youth leadership in recognition that tomorrows leaders are today's youth, start a new Linked-in page, and make our Facebook page more active than it has been. Finally Veena plans to use a variety of multi-media to showcase members stories and achievements including a video interview with Sondra Nunez and George Jarosik.

d. Club Growth Director Lance McMahan, DTM.

- Lance quoted Past International Director Greg Scott who said "Recognition equals Motivation" and proceeded to recognize members who helped drive D39 successes in 2020-2021, They included fifteen successful **club coaches**, Ming Ma, Carla Carr, Angie Rodriguez, Dee Frewert, Guleena Bakshi, Anita Lake, Louise Houdelette, Brandon Flatt, Lynda Mendez, Bill Dean, Staci Nauman, Brian Reublinger, Katherine Mellon, Emmeil Davis, and Rose Cooke; ten **club sponsors**, John Pasamonte, Maria Esguerra, Melanie Start, Patricia Berlant, Denise Gutherz, Maryam Khosraviford, Jonathan Faridian, Raham Nawar, Brad Mahoney, and Jag Nagendra; and two Club Mentors (Awarded), Aileen Hidalgo and Deborah Littleton who brought their club Laugh A Lot Toastmasters to Distinguished within six months. Congratulations to all for jobs well done. Lance went on to note that District 39 currently has a baseline of 125 Clubs, 6 active mentors for 4 clubs, and 3 prospective Clubs have paid their new club fee. Lance stated that club growth goals for 2021-20-22 included that each division have one or more new clubs by year end; that all clubs with status of "Active" or "Low" as of July 1, 2021, are "Active" on June 30, 2022; and that 75% or more of all clubs with "Active" status s of July 1, 2021, are at distinguished membership level on May 5, 2022. Lance also recognized his two Club Growth Team Leadership Chairs, Club Extension Chair Joey Waldrop, DTM, PDG and Club Retention Chair Angie Rodriguez, DTM. Details for Lance's first 90-Day Action Plan may be found in his report on www.District 39.org.

e. Program Quality Director, Denise Alder Gutherz, IP2.

- Denise identified her 2021-2022 Program Quality Goals to include, offering monthly education and training opportunities at the district level, continuing Pathways Training,

Assisting clubs with “hybrid” meetings if interested, host hybrid leadership events, 40% of district club base to reach Distinguished or better club status [over the course of the year], and encourage and identify club members to accept district leadership positions. Denise recognized 2020-2021 year successes including a total of 36 Distinguished Clubs (7 clubs Distinguished, 6 clubs Select Distinguished, and 23 clubs President’s Distinguished. Denise also recognized **Division I as a President Distinguished Division, Area 94 as a President’s Distinguished Area, and Areas 11, 14, 21, 84, and 91 as Distinguished Areas**. In her report Denise also recognized this years’ program quality team including District Training Manager Russ Steele, DTM, PDG; Pathways Manager Angie Rodriguez, DTM; Events Manager Katherine O’Ray, DTM; and Facilities Chari Marci Johnson. Full report available at www.District39.org.

f. District Director Nancy Potts, DTM.

- Nancy stated that we start “our Path forward” with 125 clubs in good standing, and although down from 140 clubs we chartered six new clubs in 2020-2021. Retaining and chartering new clubs in 2021-2022 is a top priority. Eighty clubs are currently eligible for club coaches and fifty one are currently assigned and working with clubs having twelve or less members. District 39 currently has 1942 paid members and welcomed 381 new members since July 1, 2020. 216 members will celebrate their 20th to 56th year Toastmaster member anniversaries this year. Our members earned 1143 educational awards last year, including 131 Triple Crown recipients, and 29 Distinguished Toastmasters joined the ranks of our most accomplished members. Thirty-six clubs were recognized as Distinguished at year end and thirteen clubs accomplished ten of ten goals; Reno Storytellers, Jibboom Street, Capital Nevada Toastmasters, Kaiser Thrive Talkers, Skillbuilders Toastmasters, EdTalkers Club, San Juan Speaks, Tracy Toastmasters, Manteca Smooth Talkers, Speaking Machine, Bits ‘N Speeches Toastmasters, Natomas Pop-Up Toastmasters Club, and Los Oradores Toastmasters Club. Nancy further recognized Distinguished Area Directors Linda Bedell (Area 11); Rick Santos (Area 14); Steve Anderson (Area 21; Ming Ma (Area 84), Theo Pope (Area 91); Melanie Stark (Area 94 President’s Distinguished; and Joey Waldrop Division I Director President’s Distinguished Division. Nancy referred to Russ Steele’s post that “these accomplishments mean even more than usual since they were in probably the most difficult year in the history of Toastmasters.” Nancy also reminded us of Toastmasters International statement that “A district leader has one of the most important leadership roles within Toastmasters International. The success of the district, its clubs and the members within each club depend on how well district leaders execute the responsibilities of their office.” Kudos to every leader and member in District 39 for your successes this year. See full report at www.district39.org.

g. Parliamentarian, Rick Sydor, PID, DTM, RP-R.

- Rick reminded all Toastmasters of the June 11 memo from International President Richard Peck that the virtual Annual Business Meeting will be Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 5:00 am Pacific time. Each club as 2 votes. Any member of your club can be assigned the right to votes or the club can assign the votes to any Toastmaster planning to attend the Annual Business Meeting. Important dates to keep in mind: Proxy assignment will close on August 16, 2021The online Credentials process will be conducted August 17-20, 2021.Voting will be open for 24 hours after the Annual Business Meeting. In his report, Rick referred to several emails to all Toastmasters [that have not opted out] as follows: June 22nd email inviting all Toastmasters to register for the International Convention to be held virtually between Aug 23 to Aug 28, 2021. There are two (2) packages available, the “ALL-Access Pass” for \$25 OR the “Limited-Access Pass” that is free. June 25th email from WHQ Club & Member Support Team with an attached “Club Officer Agreement & Release Statement”

that is to be signed by EACH Club Officer and kept in the club's records indefinitely by the Club Secretary. This is a new procedure that is now part of being a Club Officer, along with reading and following the Club Leadership Handbook. Finally Rick reminded all Toastmasters that if you want to know what's happening "down the road" with the future of Toastmasters, the Board minutes are available on the WHQ website from August 2010 forward. The latest Board Minutes that were available are from April 2021. He encourages all that are interested to read and become informed. See full report is at www.district39.org.

11. Old Business Audit Committee Update. Ed Johnson DTM, IPDD

Lance McMahan, has stepped down as chair of the Audit Committee by virtue of his being elected District Club Growth Director. Donna Lewis, DTM will replace him as Chair of the Audit Committee along with committee members Louise Houdelette, DTM, Victor Jenkins, DTM, and LaWanna Parker, DTM. Ed Johnston went on to thank Connie Leni for her services as Finance Manager. He also indicated that the audit was being held up pending some information from Toastmasters International relative to the profit and loss statement.

12. New Business. Nancy Potts, DTM, DD

- District Speech Contests format. Administrative Manager Minda Fernish, DTM read the letter from Toastmasters International dated July 10, 2021 regarding this year's speech contests format and the requirement that the District Executive Council (DEC) make a decision regarding the format of their 2021-2022 speech contests, either in-person or online, and report this to World Headquarters no later than July 31, 2021. The format selected by the DEC will apply to all Area, Division, and District contests. Following lengthy discussions and a poll conducted by Wes Johnson, DTM/PDD, the DEC voted that District 39 Area, Division, and District speech contests will be conducted online for 2021-2022. Twenty three (23) votes were cast with the results 21 for online contests, 2 for in-person contests.
- District Humorous Speech Contest. Denise Alder Gutherz proposed bringing back the District Humorous Speech Contest with Area and Division Contests to be held in the fall, and the District contest to be held at the District conference in the spring. Russ Steele, DTM, PDG called for the vote. Wes Johnson, DTM, PDD conducted a poll. Twenty one (21) votes were cast, all in favor. The DEC approved the holding of on-line District Humorous Speech Contests during the 2021-2022 Toastmasters year.

13. Announcements – Nancy Potts, DTM, DD

- a. Wes Johnson invited everyone to IPDD E Johnson's roast.
- b. Rick Sydor wished Minda Fernish a happy birthday.
- c. Next DECM: August 14, 2021; 9:00-11:00 am
- d. Next DEC: September 11, 2021; 9:00 – 11:00 am

14. Adjournment – Nancy Potts, DTM, DD

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 am.