



District 50 Council Annual Business Meeting

April 13, 2024

The meeting convened on Zoom on April 13, 2024, at 10 AM.

District Director Kellie McMaster, DTM, called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM. She welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Kellie asked everyone to mute their microphones. She reminded the group that only voting delegates may speak and asked them to either use the “Raise Your Hand” feature of Zoom or the Zoom Chat to request to speak at the meeting.

District Director Kellie McMaster, DTM, used a PowerPoint presentation for much of the meeting.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1hnPSvYtAVxOWyP42Hg7NOTw4nY_BLIC4/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=111047973784875401378&rtpof=true&sd=true

District Director Kellie then led the Pledge of Allegiance and the statement of the District Mission. She briefly reviewed the ground rules for the meeting, as outlined on Slides 5-8.

The Meeting Agenda was adopted with no objections or comments.

District Director Kellie introduced the officials for the meeting:

- Timer and Zoom Co-host – David Dunn, SR5, MS3. David is the District Chief Judge and a member of Bossier Speakers and Speak EZ.
- Zoom Master – Dawane Wanek, DTM. DaWane is a member of 5 clubs and his home club is Tyler Evening Toastmasters.
- Credentials Committee Chair –Yvonne Broach, DTM. Yvonne is a member of 5 clubs including Confident Leaders, Metrocrest Toastmasters, RKT Toastmasters, Speak Up Allen, and Expressive Toastmasters.
- Parliamentarian –Bob Beideck, DTM, is a member of PMI Dallas Toastmasters.

The District Director briefly reminded Council members of the election procedures using ElectionBuddy.com. When voting begins, it will be open for 20 minutes.

Credentials Committee Chair, Distinguished Toastmasters Yvonne Broach was called and presented her report.

- There are 105 eligible clubs in the District.
 - Each club receives two votes, one for the President and one for the Vice President Education.
- To achieve a quorum, one-third of the Presidents and Vice Presidents Education must have registered to vote.
 - Quorum was established with those who pre-registered by April 10, 2024.
 - There are Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education of 53 clubs represented.
 - Therefore, we have a quorum.
- There are also 24 District Executive Committee (DEC) Members represented. DEC members do not count towards achieving a quorum.
- The total ballots available are 130 (53 clubs x 2 +24).
 - If everyone votes, a simple majority would be 66; a two-thirds majority would be 87.

The credentials committee report was adopted without comments or questions.

The Minutes of the 2023 District Council Annual Business Meeting were adopted without questions or objections.

Audit Committee Chair DaWane Wanek, DTM, presented the Mid-Year Finance Audit Report prepared with the assistance of Anne Barab, DTM, AS, and Zoila Mojarro-Ibarra. Financial documents for the period July –

December 2023 were reviewed, including statements, receipts, and protocols. The Audit was satisfactory. There were no questions about the report. Without objection, the Audit Report was accepted as presented.

District Finance Manager Herb Kulp, PI5, presented the Finance Report for the period July – December 2023. Herb walked through the Finance Report on Slides 15-19 of the PowerPoint Presentation. He then asked if there were questions about the report.

- Shane Gilmore, EC4, EH5, PI1, Vice President Education, Unique Toastmasters, asked for clarification of the difference between Travel Expenses and Lodging Expenses.
 - Travel Expenses are airfare costs, vehicle costs, Uber costs, and the like.
 - Lodging Expense is limited to hotel costs.
- Shane Gilmore, EC4, EH5, PI1, Vice President Education, Unique Toastmasters, also commented on the low spending in the account Marketing Outside of Toastmasters.

There were no other comments or questions.

Without objection, the finance report was accepted as presented.

The proposed 2024-2025 Alignment Report was provided by Alignment Committee Chair Ezekiel Setne, DL3, and was posted on the District 50 website. The alignment Committee included the 6 Division Directors. District Director Kellie McMaster served as Advisor to the group. Ezekiel is on vacation out of the country, so she presented the report on his behalf. The floor was opened for questions.

- There was a comment that Metro Division Director Rhonda Bunte, DTM, reviewed the data for the Division. She used location, club size, and club strength as criteria. The recommended moves align with TI requirements and efforts to reduce travel time for the Area Directors.
- Shane Gilmore, EC4, EH5, PI1, Vice President Education, Unique Toastmasters, asked when the data was captured.
 - Response: Initial TI Dashboard pull was February 2024. Data was updated twice during the review process.
- Daniel Foyt, PM5, EH2, Area 32 Director, asked for the location of the detail behind the report.
 - Response: Detail appears along with the other documents posted on the District 50 website. We posted the link in Zoom chat for convenience.
 - <https://d50tm.org/district-council-meeting-documents/>
- The Alignment Report summary appears on Slides 21-28 of the PowerPoint.
- There were no other questions.

District Director Kellie stated that, since there must be a vote to accept the report, it will be included on the ballot for Club Growth Director.

District Director Kellie McMaster the District Leadership Committee Chair, Kristy Pedersen, IPDD, DTM, to present the committee's report.

- Kristy recognized her committee members. She explained that, following TI guidelines that the committee must have an odd number of members and therefore she was required to recruit a member from the same region. To fill the position, Kristy recruited Immediate Past District 30 Director, Distinguished Toastmaster Valerie Fuson. The Committee interviewed all candidates. There will be no candidates to be nominated from the floor.
- The Committee Members and the Nominated Candidates are listed in Attachment 9, as well as on Slides 31-33 of the PowerPoint.

The District Director stated that the election is next.

- For the office of District Director, Program Quality Director, and the Division Directors, all races are uncontested. She then asked if someone would like to make a motion to accept the uncontested slate into office.
 - Susan Ellingburg, Area 24 Director, made the motion to accept the slate. Susan Thomas, President of Metrocrest Toastmasters, seconds the motion.
 - Hearing no objection, District Director Kellie asked Administration Manager Nancy Manning to cast a single vote for each uncontested race, to complete the election.
- Next is the contested election for Club Growth Director.
 - Since two people were nominated, the election process provides that each candidate can make a two-minute speech.

- o Timing is green at 1 minute, yellow at 1 ½ minute, red at 2 minutes. At 2 minutes 15 seconds, the candidate will be muted.
- o Candidates spoke in alphabetical order, with Rhonda Bunte first and Shane Gilmore second.
- Next step is to release the election buddy email and to confirm that there will be 20 minutes for voting.
 - o Note that there are 2 votes to cast, 1 for the Club Growth Director position and the other for approval of the proposed alignment.
 - o District Director Kellie released the email.
 - o She directed the Zoom master to move Administration Manager Nancy Manning; Election observers Amy Bemis and Latayah Beauchamp Andrews; and herself to the breakout to observe the voting results.
 - o The District Director was summoned back to the main Zoom room briefly to address a few Council members who did not receive the email.
- At the close of the election period, Kellie announced the following results.
 - o Alignment report passed with 96.91% voting to approve.
 - o 2024-2025 Club Growth Director is Rhonda Bunte with 57 votes over Shane Gilmore with 40 votes.

District Public Relations Manager, Scott Jordan EC5, could not attend the meeting. Kellie presented his report, as shown on Slide 33.

Program Quality Director, Kim Ross DTM, presented her report, as shown on Slides 38 and 39.

Club Growth Director, Denise Castille DTM, presented her report, as shown on Slides 36 and 37.

District Director, Kellie McMaster DTM, presented her report, as shown on Slides 40 through 43.

Administration Manager, Nancy Manning DTM, presented her report, as shown on Slide 44.

Plains Division Director, Brian Doan EH5, presented his report from Japan, as shown on Slide 49.

Eastern Division Director, Holly Graham EC3, presented her report, as shown on Slide 46.

Frontier Division Director, MJ Presley DTM, presented his report, as shown on Slide 47.

Metro Division Director, Rhonda Bunte DTM, presented her report, as shown on Slide 48.

Southern Division Director, Sarfaraz Nazir DTM, presented his report, as shown on Slide 50.

Town North Division Director, Akash Navneeth DL5, VC3, presented his report, as shown on Slide 51.

District Director Kellie McMaster asked if there is any Unfinished Business to be addressed. There is none.

District Director Kellie McMaster asked if there is any New Business. There is none.

District Director Kellie McMaster then moved to Announcements.

Program Quality Director Kim Ross announced deadlines for registering for the District Conference and shared that there is a Great Gatsby Theme.

Silent Auction Chair Nancy Manning announced that the Silent Auction opens at Noon on April 13. Donations are still being accepted.

The meeting adjourned at 12:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Manning, DTM
 District 50 Administration Manager 2023-2024