



Toastmasters District 18
Fall Conference 2017 – District Council Business Meeting Minutes
Double Tree Hotel, Wilmington, DE
November 4, 2017

Call to Order, within the confines of Toastmasters International Guidelines, Robert Rules of Order, and the Standard Guide of Parliamentary Procedure

The meeting was called to order at 2:42pm by District Logistics Manager Theresa Hoeltzel, DTM followed by the introduction of District Director Tony Whitten, DTM.

Welcome Remarks

Tony Whitten, DTM, District Director welcomed everyone and read the District Mission “We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence”. Thanked everyone for attending.

Acknowledged the Head Table: Elizabeth Carter, DTM, Program Quality Director, Cristol Johnson, DTM Club Growth Director, Marion Boatwright, DTM, Parliamentarian, and Margaret Russ, DTM District Administration Manager.

Certification of Quorum

Mervin Bierman, DTM Immediate Past District Director, gave The Credentials report. Accordance to the bylaws of Toastmasters International Article 10 District 18 has 135 eligible clubs yielding 265 eligible ballots. There are 38 members of the DEC. There are zero at large ballots. Therefore, there are 315 eligible ballots. 34 proxies – 2 of which were spoiled. For a total of 32 proxy ballots.

Article 11 Section 1: to have a Quorum it must have one-third (1/3) eligible ballots plus one. Yielding 104 eligible ballots. The chair has issued 110 ballots. Mr. Chair, you have a quorum.

Karen Hess, Advancing Toastmasters Club - Motion to accept Credentials Report
John Nicademius, Toast of Severna Park - 2nd the motion
Credentials reports was adopted

Adoption of the Agenda –

Tony Whitten, District Director stated there is one correction to the agenda which is noted in the book. We will have the Finance Managers report go before the adoption of the budget.
Are there any objections or any questions about the agenda? There were none.
The agenda was adopted.

Adoption of Amended Previous Minutes from May 20, 2017

Submitted by the immediate past District Administration Manager, Theresa Hoeltzel, DTM

Theresa Hoeltzel, District 18 Logistics Manager -Corrections to the minutes:
Michael Hoy's name was spelled incorrectly

Michael Hoy, Delmarva Toastmasters – addressed the floor – Realignment Committee Chair Reports states “The Chair, District Director Mervin Bierman, DTM stated he accept the as a voice vote that the amendment of the Realignment Plan is return the Committee for reconsideration.” That motion required to be brought before the Fall Conference for a vote. Correction to the minutes

Tony Whitten, District Director stated the committee reconsidered and sent out a vote across the District. Based on the results of the vote, it was moved forward to Toastmasters International.

Michael Hoy, Delmarva Toastmasters – Stated the motion was that it was to be brought to the Fall Conference at this Business Meeting today for a vote, not to be done another way.

Tony Whitten, District Director opened the floor for discussion.

Vincent M. Ellsworth Advancing Toastmasters - There was a question during the discussion directed to the Chairman, what would happen if this motion passed by a voice vote. We were told at that time it would be taken back to the committee and would be voted on at the next DEC meeting, which is today. That whole section was omitted from the minutes.

Robert Logan, VPE Carroll County Club – Is this worth discussing because you said the deadline must be submitted before the deadline of July 1st. Toastmasters International has already approved the realignment as submitted. There is nothing to vote on no matter what was said. It has been accepted.

Theresa Hoeltzel, District 18 Logistics Manager -President of Phase II - The amendment will go back to the committee for reconsideration. What she has on the document is what was on the video and audio recording.

Tony Whitten, District Director – we can have an amendment to the meeting minutes which we will post of the District 18 website that will show the outcome – the action of presenting a vote across the District – and the outcome of that actions as it was stated. Once it is submitted to Toastmasters International it cannot be reversed.

Michael Hoy, Delmarva Toastmasters – From the minutes “Realignment Committee Chair, Karen Storey, responded that the before and after alignments plans were emailed to voting club officers and district leaders.” How the report from the committee communicated – it was emailed to the district leaders and emailed to the club officers. Then the committee choice to email this for a vote. I stand on record to say as a club officer, President of a club, I did not get the email. Nor did Kathy Young who was also president of a club in the area that was impacted by the realignment. Why was that not communicated to me as President of the club? Or Kathy as a President of a club. If we didn't get it how many others did not get it?

Vincent M. Ellsworth, Advancing Toastmasters - as also as voting member of this DEC, I never received any of the emails of any of the alignments. I was told I would not because I was not a member of an affected club. As far as the vote goes, I have not received that either. But I also have another problem with the vote being taken by email. How did you preform credentials?

When we come in here it is done in person. How did you preform credentials on an email vote?

Karen Storey – Towson Toastmasters – 1st Talked to Toastmasters International after the District Conference – they told us – there is no need for credentials because once you notify -it is all who votes – that count.

We were told we had to use the DEC database. The DEC database was not really updated and kept current. So, some people dropped out because the DEC database wasn't updated. But the majority of the District did receive

it. 2nd the report had to be completed and submitted at the end of last year. This discussion is a moot point. It was submitted, it was voted on, we did exactly what Toastmasters International told us to do. There was no need for a credential chair, we followed to the letter what International told us to do with Tony and Elizabeth's help and with Mervin's support. The vote was 113 to 10. Thank you.

Tony Whitten, District Director - we will have one more minute for this discussion.

Karen Hess, Advancing Toastmasters - Point of order: the motion is to adopt the minutes as written they have been corrected, at this point no further discussion should be allowed. If new business about the alignment needs to be brought up should be brought up at that time.

Tony Whitten, District Director – Karen Hess is correct

Michael Hoy, Delmarva Toastmasters – assuming this is true, and the minutes have been corrected that would include the statement – that vote is to take place at the fall conference, so if that being true -then we need to put on the agenda under old business today.

Vincent M. Ellsworth, Advancing Toastmasters- we already adopted the agenda – it would have to be put under new business

Tony Whitten, District Director – that is correct – we are addressing whether we are adopting the minutes as corrected or not. We can address this under new business.
Minutes adopted with correction.

Confirmation of Appointments by the District Director Tony Whitten, DTM

Confirmation of the appointments and the 25 Area Directors appointments in the District –

Mervin Bierman VPE Chesapeake Club – motion to accept the above

Tammy Wiley – Meadeators Club- 2nd the motion

Tony Whitten, District Director - Motion is adopted

Adoption of the Audit Committee

Audit Committee Chair, Clyde Middleton – the audit was held on August 24, 2017 committee was Clyde, Taz, and Deborah. The results are everything balanced, and TI closed the books.

Mervin Bierman – VPE Chesapeake – I move we accepted the report

Clyde Middleton Catonsville Toastmasters – 2nd the motion

Report was adopted

Finance Manager Report

District Finance Manager Gerri Sanchez, DTM presented the following report:

Two main goals this year:

1. To keep us on track with our budget

District 18 in financial fit.

Concerning the budget there are two components: Income and Expenses

Our income is derived primarily from members' dues. A portion of our dues paid to Toastmasters International is put into the District reserve. District requires us to retain 25% of our starting balance at the beginning of the year. That amount for this year 2017-2018 is \$13000, at the end of the year we should have 3-4 times that amount of money.

Our expenses this year 2017-2018 will exceed our income by \$10,000. What are we doing with all our money?

This year we will be President's Distinguished! Our strategy is to maintain and increase membership levels. We will build new clubs, train members and officers, work with struggling clubs and provide educational and leadership mile-stones.

2. Concur on-line expense reimbursement

Beginning December 1, 2017, we will no longer except the vouchers through email. When you come to the DEC meeting on December 9th we will cover this in detail. If you are excited and can't wait, go to Toastmasters International – type in Concur and you will see the training there.

Louise Harris, Frederick Toastmasters – What are the gross receipts?

Gerri Sanchez, District Finance Manager – Our gross income for this year will be \$105,000.

Karen Hess – Advancing Toastmasters Club Motioned to accept the Financial Managers Report

Astrina Calame - State Center Toastmasters 2nd the motion

Report was adopted

Adoption of the Budget

Tony Whitten, District Director – are there any questions about the budget?

Pearl Matibe – Chesapeake Toastmasters -What percent of the budget is Public Relations?

Gerri Sanchez- District Finance Manager – 1.9%

Pearl Matibe – Chesapeake Crofton Toastmasters – If the budget is 1.9% does Toastmasters International not allow up to 25% for public relations?

Tony Whitten, District Director – up to 25% is for marketing

Gerri Sanchez- District Finance Manager - Marketing is 60% of the budget. Toastmasters International allows an unlimited amount for marketing.

Pearl Matibe, Chesapeake Toastmasters -For the record PR does not have an allocation of the budget.

Clyde Middleton, Catonsville Toastmasters – PR comes under Marketing is that correct?

Tony Whitten, District Director – yes that is correct. There is an allocation for PR it is in the Budget which is on the website.

Tammy Wylie, Meadeators Club motion to accept the budget

Liza Richards, Powermasters Club 2nd the motion

Budget was accepted

Public Relations Manager Report

Pearl Matibe, DTM

Extremely humbled, by July 1st we had an excess of 15 volunteers for the District Public Relations subcommittee.

We have held volunteer sign ups each month – each month we have received an excess of 200 emails requesting to come on to the PR subcommittee. That is a win for District 18.

We did a press release for our semi-finalist Vince Schettini. It was published by 47 newspapers across the country.

On July 1st we had a Facebook page and a Facebook group page. Today we are on 10 other social media pages.

Twitter, Goggle plus, YouTube channel account, we are all over social media. Toastmasters International in now following us on Twitter.

We have done 9 events in the past three months. We have cleaned out the email list; we had 15 email lists from May 2013 – June 2017. The email list is now done to 8 lists.

Tony Whitten, District Director – any questions about the PR Managers' Report?

Stan McCluskey, Meadeators Club – Motion to accept

Claudia Hanson, Phase II – 2nd the motion

PR Manager report has been accepted

Trio and Division Director's Reports (attached and posted to the District 18 website)

Melinda Romay presented the Division A report
Marc Hunter presented the Division B report
David Morris presented the Division C report
Natasha Pierre presented the Division D report
Cynthia Williams presented the Division E report
Kannan Sankara presented the Division F report
Cristol Johnson presented the Club Growth Director report
Elizabeth Carter presented the Program Quality Director report
Tony Whitten presented the District Director's report

New Business

Michael Hoy – Delmarva Toastmasters – Would like there to be some discussion about Realignment.

I move that the District appoint a realignment committee to look at to come up with a report at a specified time concerning realignment for 2018-2019.

Tony Whitten, District Director - there will be a realignment committee for the next Toastmaster year. Which will need to be presented at the spring conference.

That will be done automatically each year. We will have a representative from each division to work on this realignment. We will make sure that each Division is well represented.

Frank Storey – Co-chair of the last realignment committee – We contacted every division director and area director. We had a committee composed of someone from every Area and Division. There was complete 100% agreement from the Division Directors before it was submitted to all the Presidents and VPEs. We realize some did not get it. The emails went to the addresses you have at Toastmasters International. There we multiple meetings before and after the conference.

No motion needed for a realignment committee it is already a standing committee.

Tammy Wylie, Meadeators Club - What will be District incentives given the roll out of Pathways?

Elizabeth Carter, Program Quality Director – I have to first fully understand the efforts in Pathways. We still have a ton of mugs to use. It is more electronic now and you will earn badges. We will bring items for discussion in the spring.

Announcements

Elizabeth Carter, Program Quality Director – Spring conference will be April 28, 2018 in Division E, at the Double Tree in Columbia, MD. Still working on the keynote speaker for the event. Welcomes suggestion if their price is free.

Tony Whitten, District Director - Candidate Declaration of intent to run will be due to the District Leadership committee by December 15, 2017. Open for anyone interested in running for an elected position in District 18.

Next Meeting

The next District 18 Executive Council Meeting will be held at the District Spring Conference on April 28, 2018 in Columbia MD.

Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 3:56pm.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret Russ, District 18 Administration Manager