

DRAFT
Minutes of the District 6 Business Meeting
November 6, 2004
Kahler Hotel, Rochester, Minnesota

District Governor Mary Swanson called the meeting to order at 2:38 pm.

Public Relations Officer, Michelle McMullen provided an inspirational opening.

Immediate Past District Governor Steve Lockwood read the District Mission.

Additions to the printed agenda:

- George Deliduka will be giving the Report of the Audit Committee
- Kirk Johnson will present the Eastern Division Governor's report for Joan Watson.
- Jim Miller and Shirley Daniel will have New Business.

District Governor Mary Swanson reviewed conduct for meeting. Each member will be allowed to speak up to two times, for no more than 2 minutes under each item.

Agenda adopted with above additions.

Minutes have been posted throughout conference; two corrections have been brought forward. Page 2; add the word "status" to "Under New Business, Mike Orr requested a (status) report on the Speakers' Bureau."

Page 3; add quotations to "Mary's Musings" to the statement "The meeting adjourned after Mary's Musings stated the upcoming events of the day." Minutes approved with corrections.

Confirmation of Appointed District Officers:

List has been posted throughout conference. Motion made and seconded to approve all appointed officers as posted. Passed.

George Deliduka presented the report of the Audit Committee. He stated that in 2003-2004 District 6 made a profit. The report has been sent to Toastmasters International and approved and has been posted throughout the conference.

The Audit Committee recommends that the District consider putting the District Directory on the website rather than printing copies for clubs and officers. This recommendation is based on the cost of providing the directories.

George Deliduka made a motion that the audit report be approved. Motion unanimously approved as posted.

Cathy Gray stated that the 2004-2005 District budget has been posted throughout the conference. Cathy made a motion that the 2004-2005 budget be approved. Motion unanimously approved.

Sue Tinklenberg reported that the Treasurer's Report has been posted throughout the conference. There were no questions about the report; reports will be filed subject to audit.

Officer Reports

District Governor Mary Swanson presented progress on Critical Success Factors.

- Membership: Goal is 2% above last year; 2004-2005 goal is 9694 payments. As of September data, District 6 is slightly ahead of last year. District
- Clubs: Goal for 2004-2005 is 3% growth. Need 267 clubs by June 30th. So far, 2 new clubs have been chartered and paperwork for a third club was sent in last week. Mary added that we also need to help existing clubs, especially those low member clubs
- ATMs: Goal is 95. Mary explained that Advanced Toastmaster Awards is a good indication of retention of members. Currently at 32, which is one behind last year's pace
- CTMs: Goal is 332. Currently we are at 72, which is 6 behind last year's pace

Mary stated that the club goal is the area of greatest concern; she will be placing special emphasis on this area.

Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training Theo Black presented his report.

- District has already recognized 10 Distinguished Toastmaster Awards at this conference
- 75% of clubs met the officer training goal for first of officer training
- Encouraged all to set individual goals through their clubs

Lieutenant Governor of Marketing Jeannette Bauch presented her report

- So far the District has chartered three new clubs
- Several new club leads in progress, there will be needs for club sponsors and mentors for clubs that will be chartered
- Jeannette showed of list of 10 clubs that are potential club losses. If these clubs are lost, we will need to charter at least 14 new clubs to make the club goal for 2004-2005. Jeannette asked anyone who knows of other clubs who are struggling to let her know so that the District can help them
- Club Coach program: Encouraged all to consider volunteering to be a club coach. Serving as a club coach is one point toward earning your Advanced Leader Designation

Public Relations Officer Michelle McMullen presented her goals for 2004-2005.

- Michelle is working to spark awareness and participation in the Toastmasters program both internally and externally.
- Michelle explained three PR contests
 - Club flyer, for flyer created after 7-1-04
 - Club newsletter, created after 7-1-04 and consisting of at least three issues
 - Club website

Deadline for all contests is 3-28-05.

- Also working on promotion of events, has had media coverage for top three officers in their local areas, including an article written on Jeannette Bauch.
- Recognized members for their efforts in getting proclamations for Toastmasters month:
 - Terry Regan for obtaining the Rochester proclamation
 - Sheri French for obtaining the Pine Island proclamation
 - Mary Torno for obtaining the White Bear Lake proclamation.
- Speaker's Bureau brochures available in the foyer
- On October 21, 2004, Michelle and District Governor Mary Swanson participated in Education Minnesota conference. They set up a booth and talked about Toastmaster's program, Speaker's Bureau and Youth Leadership opportunities.
- State Fair, special thanks to Sheri French for coordinating the booth
- Working on promotions for the upcoming TELI and Spring Conference.

Division Governor Reports

- Ray Quinn, Central Division Governor
 - Club lead in Young America
 - One club folding
 - Great Central Division Contest
 - One club already close to being distinguished club
- Kirk Johnson, for Eastern Division Governor
 - 2 new club leads
 - Currently have 4 clubs in trouble
 - 10 low member clubs
 - Currently setting up officer training dates for second round.
 - Thanks to all Area Governors for their hard work!
- Mary Linz, Frontier Division
 - New club lead at Country Insurance
 - One new club and one transferred charter so far

- CheckMates, a company club, has folded, due to lay-offs at the company
- Membership building underway at two clubs
- Area Governors doing a great job and all area visits have been completed

- Minerva Honkala, International Division
 - 3 new club leads
 - 1 club in trouble – working to help them
 - 5 of 16 clubs have fewer than 12 member
 - Major concern is to build future leaders, especially in Thunder Bay area

- Evamarie Pokladnik, Metro Division
 - Metro Division contest went well
 - New club at Capella University
 - Encouraged all to serve as club sponsors or mentors to assist new clubs
 - Encouraged all to consider the benefits they have gained from Toastmasters and to help bring the message of Toastmasters to others

- Pat Passon, Northern Division
 - Chartered new club
 - Transferred another charter
 - 77% of club visits completed
 - Members have earned 1 DTM and 2 HPL to date

- Scott Miller, Southern Division
 - Club lead in Winona
 - 10 clubs with fewer than 12 members
 - Concern for Wordmasters club, membership is below 6 for October renewal
 - All clubs meet goal of having 4 officers trained and dues submitted on time
 - Looking for club coaches to help build membership

- Linda Schweiss, Western Division
 - Chartered one new club
 - Western Division has a few struggling clubs
 - Worthington, a small member club recently did a Youth Leadership program which was very successful

Credentials Chair, Keith Hardy was asked to give his report. He reported for the Credentials Committee that we had 198 delegates in attendance, 24 more than the 174 required to conduct business.

Other Committee Reports

Ken Nelson gave the District Expansion Committee report. The committee was asked to explore the addition of a ninth division to the District. The committee based their recommendations of effective management of the Division, Area, and Clubs over the next five years.

Ken made a motion to recommend a ten (10) Division structure be put in place beginning in 2005-2006.

Scott Miller asked if this proposal will provide enough support for small clubs, especially in the current Southern and Western Divisions.

Bruce Trippet stated that we need to focus on growth but need realignment if new structure is to work. He asked if there was any direction from Toastmasters International?

Judy Southwick stated that as a District Governor, it is difficult to find 8 Division Governors today, this proposal would need 10. Also, District contests would have 10 contestants. She feels that it may be difficult to manage 10 Divisions.

Steve Lockwood stated that it would have been easier for him to work with 10 people than it is for Area Governors to have a large number of clubs that they are responsible for.

Ray Quinn spoke in favor of the motion.

Rick Holtmeier stated that he recently moved here from District 46 and that District found successes in getting Area Governors and Division Governors when they had fewer clubs that they were responsible for.

George Deliduka stated that the District had a similar proposal in 1990. He supports this change as it supports growth of the District.

Jim Miller stated that it would be easier to find people willing to serve with smaller number of clubs in the area and Division.

Jonathon Goosen spoke in favor of the motion. He stated that he served as an Area Governor with 7 club area; he felt that this was difficult to manage and required too much time.

Noel Field expressed support of the motion; she has been a Division Governor twice and feels that we need to function better than we are now.

Mary Torno stated that we are here to serve members and she would like the clubs in the District to have a chance to discuss before voting, Mary moved to postpone the motion indefinitely. The motion was seconded.

Bruce Trippet expressed opposition to new motion, feels that area leaders are the most impacted by original motion.

Dan Fields stated that the new motion is out of order. Parliamentarian Len Glaser stated that the motion is appropriate and would need a majority to pass. A vote was taken and failed.

Dick Peterson commended the group's work and stated that he was not in favor of the change if the recruitment of Area Governors and Division Governors does not change. He stated that we need new recruitment plan and vision.

Dennis Chada called for a vote to close discussion. Motion passed.

District Governor Mary Swanson called for a paper ballot.

Spring Convention Co-chairs Laura Hutt and Pat Casello provided information on the Spring Convention. The theme is "Art of the Matter" and it will be held at Mystic Lake April 29th and 30th, 2005. Early bird registration will be available until the end of the fall conference for \$75.00 if you pledge a donation to the Silent Auction.

New Business

Shirley Daniel made a motion that a memorial plaque in the name of our beloved Past International Director Lou Novak be established and given annually to a Toastmaster, excluding the top three elected officers, who exhibits extraordinary efforts in attaining new clubs. The motion was seconded and was passed.

Jim Miller made a motion that District 6 endorse the candidacy of Cliff Heinsch for International Director. The motion was seconded and passed.

Results of paper ballot announced. Motion to expand the District to 10 Divisions beginning in 2005-2006 carried.

Announcements

The following candidacies were declared:

District Governor
Lt. Governor Education & Training

Theo Black
Jeannette Bauch

Lt. Governor Marketing
Northern Division Governor
International Division Governor

Pat Croal
Anne Groetsch
Henry Korpela

Next meeting will be held April 30, 2005.

The meeting adjourned after “Theo’s Tidings” stated the upcoming events of the day.