

**District 35
2016 Fall Conference**

**District Council Meeting
The Abbey Resort, Lake Geneva, WI
November 5, 2016**



The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. by District 35 Fall Conference Master Host Ken Bjorkquist, DTM.

District Director Cindy Laatsch, DTM welcomed members to the District 35 Council meeting.

Credentials Committee Report—Rhonda Williams, DTM, IPDD

- There are 124 clubs in District 35. A quorum is 1/3 of Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education. Therefore, $124 \times 2 = 248 \times 1/3 = 83$ for a quorum.
- The credentials chair has registered 126 members and proxies.
- A quorum is present.
- In addition there are 30 voting members of the Executive Committee present for a total of 157 votes.
- A majority is 50% plus one or 79 votes. 75% is 117 votes.

District Administration Manager—Kathleen Rader, DTM

Minutes from the May 7, 2016 Council Meeting are posted on the TM35 website at <http://d35.toastmastersdistricts.org/downloads.html>. There were no corrections to the minutes and they are approved as posted.

District Finance Manager—Ryan Frank, ACG, ALB

NO Written report submitted. Financial P&L submitted

The 2016-2017 budget was posted on the TM35 website at <http://d35.toastmastersdistricts.org/downloads/html>. It has been submitted to the Financial Department of Toastmasters International and was approved and accepted.

Ryan Frank moved for adoption of the 2016-2017 District 35 budget. Motion was seconded by Julia Boss – GE Speaks club #1295732. Kathy Vielhuber – Madison Achievers club # 1521807 asked if budget would be viewed during meeting. Ryan explained budget had been posted on District website. Kathy accepted the response and the motion to approve the budget as presented was passed.

At the end of September, there was \$27,800.19 in the checking. The September reserve statement had a balance of \$35,457.22 for total available funds of \$52,932.80 including \$10,324.61 must be kept in reserves and may not be spent.

Report of Audit Committee 2015-2016—Thomas Rozga, DTM, PDG

Written report submitted.

The annual audit was held on August 18, 2016 to review last year's books. All reimbursements have the appropriate approvals and adequate documentation. All debit card expenses had appropriate voucher documents and approvals. The total District Revenue exceeded the budget plan and the Total District expenses were under the Budget Plan. Conference revenues

exceeded Conference expenses. The committee provided a few recommendations for future actions by the District. The audit committee commended District Treasurer, Sue Kohut, for the excellent job of recordkeeping and the accuracy of the reports.

(Committee included Thomas Rozga, DTM, PDG, Harvey Hoernke, DTM and Justin Gottfried, DTM)

New Business— No New Business

Division Directors' Reports

Division A — Amy Linn-Strosin, DTM

Written report submitted.

- First half TLI events were successfully co-hosted by Divisions D-F-A-B
- Division A had 65% of its members trained and 15% of clubs had all 7 officers trained
- 100% of clubs had dues paid 2 days before the October 1st deadline
- Div A has 14 clubs with 1 newly chartered club this year and 32 new member payments. This is the highest new member growth of any Division in the state.

Division B—Tim Bailey, CC, ALB

Written report submitted.

- Two new clubs added this year (DJAB and the Waukie Talkies)
- Two clubs turning in their charters (Team SP and Speaking of Cisco)
- All clubs are current with dues payment
- Contests were a challenge with low attendance and difficulty filling volunteer roles. Lessons learned in Fall will be used for Spring events
- Area and club visits are going well with several clubs having visits more than once

Central Division—Laura Croft, ACS, ALB

Written report submitted.

- 21 clubs strong. 70+ officers attended summer TLI.
- 1 Area Director stepped down, remainder are an excellent team!
- Getting clubs to focus on DCP Monthly
- Teaching clubs to be inviting to new and current members
- Using networking opportunities to build membership
- Celebrating club educational achievements
- Area Directors are engaging and inspiring members and first time attendees to attend Area/Division events as well as find more opportunities for speaking

Division D—Theresa Flynn, DTM

Written report submitted.

- Area Directors are engaged and learning. 2 mastered chief judging and contest running for the Division, 1 had their club visit reports in a month before they were due, 2 are working to encourage members to step into District leadership and one is the District resource for Education, helping everyone focus on the member experience.
- Joint TLIs with A-B-D-F Divisions trained over 300 Toastmaster officers and members.

- All areas were fully represented in the Division contests
- Division D has one club with 7 DCP goals completed

Eastern Division—Maria Arbrust, CC

Written report submitted.

- 3 TLI events were held for officer training. Each was in a different area to maximize accessibility. Every club in the Division had at least 1 officer trained and 2/3 had 4 or more officers trained
- There are 4 clubs with low membership, 1 of which has requested a coach. Area Directors are working with all clubs.
- 1 new club has chartered – Truckmasters started the year with 5 officers trained!
- Half the club visit reports have been submitted and remaining reports are in progress
- Make up sessions for Winter TLI are scheduled for February 12th and February 24th.
- Spring Contest dates have been set and details will be the focus of the next Division council meeting.

Division F —John Scott, ACS, ALB

Written report submitted.

- All clubs have been visited several times. Area Directors have built excitement throughout the division during these visits
- TLI was well attended
- Resource Advanced club earned a Smedley award and other clubs are on track for Distinguished.
- Area contests went well and the Division contest had over 80 people in attendance.

Northern Division —Brian Cychosz, ACG, ALB

Written report submitted.

- All Club visits have been completed
- Renewals were completed without any clubs falling below 8 members, however, some clubs are in the danger zone and will need help to become healthy
- Strongest clubs are using Speechcraft. Stevens Point and Sentry clubs have been very successful with this tool.
- Succession planning has begun for next year.

Western Division —Brenda Michels, ACS, ALS

Written report submitted.

- Western Division has a base of 16 clubs with 15 paid. 1 club has 5 members and is working to reach 8
- 3 of the 15 remaining clubs are struggling with membership and are working on membership drives to strengthen their base
- All Areas and the Division held successful contests
- Two Area Directors have completed their visits and are working on submitting Area Reports
- Special shout out to Tony Cooper for his thoughtful and detailed reports regarding what would be helpful to the clubs in his area.

Public Relations Manager Report—Christine Piela

NO Written report submitted.

- Web updates were done at the beginning of the year. Putting key points at the front so it was easier to find.
- Working on improving the format of the monthly newsletter and adding PR tips each month
- Social media continues to grow. 496 followers on Facebook and 461 twitter followers

Club Growth Director Report—Ed Thelen, DTM

Written report submitted.

- 2 clubs chartered within the 1st two months of the year. Truckmasters and Finest in Speaker
- At dues renewal time, 2 clubs folded (one was expected) and a 3rd club came in with only 5 members
- Currently down 1 club with 122 and a goal of 127 to be Distinguished
- Area and Division directors are contacting all clubs to ensure they did not simply forget to send dues in on time
- Incentives have been increased to encourage more member payments (Double Smedley award)
- Working with potentially struggling clubs before they become unhealthy
- 4 - 5 clubs currently in the pipeline

Program Quality Director—Keith Cumiskey, DTM

Written report submitted.

- Redistricting means more Areas and Divisions than ever before. Because of this, Areas with 4 or less clubs and Divisions with 4 or less Areas were allowed to send 2 contestants per club or Division to the next level contest
- 528 or over 60% of club officers were trained in Summer TLI sessions
- District wide TLI will be held in Madison on February 4, 2017
- Incentives were offered for submission of club success plans. 21 clubs submitted their plans.
- Banner replacement incentive is in place to move everyone to the new logo
- Planning for Spring Convention will begin soon. Event is May 5-6, 2017

Immediate Past District Governor Report—Rhonda Williams, DTM, IPDD

Written report submitted.

- Last year the District missed Distinguished status by 60 member payments. This means 30 members would have made the District reach the goal.
- Every club matters and every member matters.
- Be sure to approach guests before they leave and ask about their interest in Toastmasters. If each club asked one guest to join, that would have been 125 member payments. 65 more than the District needed to be Distinguished.
- Keep the fighting spirit as we aim for Distinguished by June 1st!

District Director Report—Cindy Laatsch, DTM

Written report submitted.

- As Toastmasters, each of us have the opportunity to step up and lean in – supporting each other in our personal growth and development while continuing to reach out and share Toastmasters with others.
- My vision for the District is that each member of the club fully and completely dives into their Toastmaster journey.
- Growing, thriving and learning organizations provide meaningful experiences to each member. Ours is measured through the Distinguished Club Program.
- Developing new clubs offers the experience to others, growing membership brings diversity and new insights to the clubs, by each club reaching Distinguished status we reaffirm our commitment to our own personal development while supporting the club's goals.
- Begin with the end in mind – make the choice to engage, embrace and enjoy our time together as we drive toward our goal, measured by the Distinguished Club Program
- Please remember your personal 'why'. Your passion and drive is the lifeblood of the District. Lean in with me as we continue on our journey to become Distinguished by June 1st!

Announcements—Cindy Laatsch, DTM

The next District 35 Council meeting will be held at the Spring Convention on Saturday, May 6, 2017 at the Hotel Marshfield in Marshfield, WI

The District Council meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Rader, DTM
District Administration Manager