

## **2021 – 2022 District 31 Council Meeting (9/25)**

### **District Director Trevor Crippen calls meeting to order at 10:05am**

Welcome to District Council, acknowledgement of dignitaries: Past District Governor Sherri Raftery, Past District Governor Ruth Levitsky, Past District Director Christine Lewis, & Past International Director Stefano McGhee

Beri Recher PRM presents District Mission

### **Agenda is approved with no amendment or objection**

Meeting Roles: Megan Heffernan as Timer, Carly Cox as chat monitor, Christine Lewis as Credentials Chair, Stefano McGhee as Parliamentarian

Stefano McGhee reviews the format and expectations of today's meeting

### **Credentials Report – Christine Lewis**

- Clubs Eligible x 2 = 318
- Quorum (1/3 of Clubs Eligible x 2 – required number of Presidents and VPEs) = 106
- Presidents and Vice Presidents of Education Represented = 131

Quorum is achieved

- Presidents and VPEs Represented = 131
- District Executive Committee Members Represented = 33
- Total Ballots Available = 164
- Simple Majority (50% of Total Ballots Available + 1) = 83
- 2/3 Majority = 110

Credentials report is adopted with no objection

5/15/21 Spring District Council Business Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no amendment

Appointed District Leaders were reviewed and approved with no objection.

Remaining Area Director vacancies were also reviewed.

Calls for Break 10:38AM for 10 mins.

### **Trevor calls meeting back to order at 10:48am**

Deb Siwik presents the Audit Report

Trevor calls for any questions regarding the Year-End Audit report to Q&A – YES

**QUESTION** - Hilary Wilson VP Ed # 5414 Articulators - Do we get a copy of the full report?

**ANSWER** – Deb said that everyone should have a copy of profit and loss statement but referred to Bert Beander and he confirms. Trevor states the full picture of finances is available and Carly Cox will share link to report in chat.

Report was adopted by District Council with no objections.

The 2021-2022 District Budget was reviewed by Finance Manager Glenn Fernandes

Trevor calls for any questions, open for discussion and any motions.

**QUESTION** – Gail Costelas, VPE Sharon Toastmasters – Asked for more detail on spending for Club Growth promotional items.

**ANSWER** – (CGD Carly Cox) we are buying items from the TM store for promotions, marketing projects on getting TM more publicity (to be shared in announcements)

**QUESTION** – Peter Swan-Division I Director-Boston West Toastmasters-4735...Question: Can you help me understand why we are spending more towards recognition instead of PR- if I remember my numbers correctly? We are having a hard time growing and maintain membership overall and drawing attention. So just wondering philosophy behind this

**ANSWER** – Trevor reviewed 3 different budget categories (Club Growth, Marketing Outside of Toastmasters, and PR) which are collectively more spending than recognition. Mentioned the importance of recognition on membership growth – e.g., triple crown and pathfinder awards, etc.

**QUESTION** - Roberta Miller, President, Chelmsford Toastmasters 4031 -- How did our reserve with TI get so far above the maximum above which they start withdrawing it into the general fund?

**ANSWER** – Pandemic meant District wasn't spending funds on in-person events, food, travel, lodging, etc that normally make up a big % of the budget. It has taken time to figure out what to spend money on, so lower costs have far outpaced reduced revenue in pandemic, leading to more money collecting in our reserve account.

**QUESTION** - Hilary Wilson # 5414 Articulate VPE - Are TI going to let us keep more of the reserve to rebuild after covid?

**ANSWER** – Trevor states no and we must break even. Bert states TI already made an exception to this in the past year and did not take money from the reserve in height of COVID, but they will begin doing that now.

**Bert Beander PQD moves to approve the budget**

**Carly Cox CGD seconds the motion.**

District Council votes on approval of budget using ElectionRunner.

Trevor calls to 10 min break while voting is processed and then will return to provide results. (11:46AM)

Trevor calls the meeting back to order at 11:56am.

## **District Budget Approval Vote Results**

Total votes cast	116
Votes to Approve	116
Votes to Disapprove	0
Abstained	0

The Budget is Approved

### **Trevor confirmed as APPROVED**

Trevor calls up District Leadership to provide additional reports.

### **Bert Beander PQD – PROGRAM QUALITY REPORT**

**QUESTION** – Claire Martinez VPE Toast Host- Is the VP of education training mentioned from last year available online?

**ANSWER** – Carly will be posting links in the chat and advise is also posted in SLACK channel

**QUESTION** - Peter Swan, Division I Director - What do you feel we can do to increase attendance in the winter for TLI?

**ANSWER** – Bert says holding the TLIs via ZOOM helps with attendance over past years, though winter attendance is typically lower than summer.

### **Carly Cox CGD – CLUB GROWTH REPORT**

**QUESTION** - Joe DeVincentis, President, AspenTech Toastmasters, 5053195 How many new clubs were formed during this period?

**ANSWER** – Carley provides examples via PPT (refer to presentation deck)

**QUESTION** – Stephanie Snow, VPE Crimson Toastmasters Club Number 977250 - I'm wondering if there's been an analysis of trying to grow membership for struggling clubs vs. chartering new clubs? I wonder if resources for chartering new clubs might be better served on supporting/strengthening clubs that are under 20 members.

**ANSWER** – Reviews strategy as both struggling and new clubs will be both be supported by most initiatives – it's not one or the other.

**QUESTION** - Joe DeVincentis, President, AspenTech Toastmasters, 5053195 How many new clubs were formed during this period?

**ANSWER** – Carly confirmed 6

**QUESTION** – Christian Austin, Lincoln laboratory Toastmasters, Club number 00909842, area 24 director

Consider identifying projects of value to clubs or districts and linking them to pathways projects

**ANSWER** – Carly provides examples that support district along with DTM requirements.

**QUESTION** – Peter Swan-Division I-Boston West-4735...is the district this year running a Distinguished area and division program (different then DCP for each club- rather x amount of clubs in area equals distinguished area/select/presidents)? Just thinking how this ties into growth and quality- our Division I team was speaking through this at our last group meeting

**ANSWER** – Trevor explains recognition program. Carly discusses nomination recognition within our district. Trevor discusses about the event in JUNE that will highlight distinguished areas and divisions.

**Beri Recher PRM – Announcements**

Beri reviews announcements (refer to PPT)

**NEXT MEETING**

The Spring Business Meeting for District 31 Council will be held on May 7, 2022 @ 10am

Christine Lewis was introduced as District Leadership Committee Chair.

Trevor requests motion to close the meeting.

Bert Beaner 1st motion vote

Glenn Fernandes, Finance Manager 2nd motion vote

No objections to closing the meeting.

**Trevor adjourns meeting.**

**Minutes duly submitted by Administration Manager Missy Oliver.**