

District 6 Toastmasters
Semi-Annual Meeting of the District Council
Fall Conference
October 20, 2012

District Governor, Dru Jorgensen, DTM, called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM

Inspirational Message was given by Area Governor 83 Doug Blakesly

District Secretary, Teresa Fehn, DTM, read the District Mission

District Governor, Dru Jorgensen welcomed everybody and gave introductory remarks.

Credentials Chair, Sue Koering, DTM, announced the following:

The numbers required for a quorum were represented as follows:
1/3 are needed for a quorum = 188 club votes required
Total votes = 116
We do not have a quorum.
The Credentials report was adopted.

With the lack of a quorum, there will be no new business conducted. We will only present the district reports and budget. There were no objections to follow through with this format. This format was adopted. The adoption of the meeting stand rules and appointment of a teller is not needed since there is no quorum. The adoption of the agenda was adopted with no objections.

District Governor, Dru Jorgensen appointed Edward Chavan as the Timer. There were no objections.

District Governor, Dru Jorgensen, DTM, announced that the minutes from the 2011-2012 Spring Conference hard copies have been on display at the hotel for everyone to review. Typo corrections were noted and these minutes will be updated and ready for approval for the Spring Conference 2012-2013 business meeting.

Audit Committee Chair, Terry Ragan, DTM, announced that the 2011-2012 audit report was submitted and approved at Toastmasters International.

District Governor, Dru Jorgensen, announced that the District Budget was posted and displayed at the hotel for everyone to review.

District Treasurer, Don Rollefson, provided the following treasurer's report.

So far we are staying pretty well on track from a budgetary standpoint. If you looked at the Summary Report posted on the Tri-Fold display you saw that we had a variance in September of a positive \$7541 most of that being in the Communications and PR category where we had \$5000 budgeted and nothing spent in Sept. That coupled with an extra \$1500 in revenue created the majority of our September variance.

In the year to date columns we see that I probably budgeted some areas too high right out of the gate, without giving enough thought to our new officers and chairpersons needing time to acclimate themselves before really tackling the specific actions of their positions. We will however begin more incentive programs and member and club building activities to help us become Distinguished District 6. Please keep doing what you're doing with your reimbursement forms and receipts. Remember when it comes to getting reimbursed, more information is better than too little. Please make certain that everything is clearly tracked both on your receipts and on your reimbursement vouchers. Please be sure to use the Reimbursement forms from the D6 website as they already have information on them that would otherwise have to be entered by hand. Thank you for all that you do for District 6.

Are there any questions?

There were no questions.

Officers Reports:

District Report was given by District 6 Governor, Dru Jorgensen, DTM

5092 Members
3850 Members
92.6% of the members are paid

Membership of the club – July Dues 97%
We need to pay dues for all our members.

Turn in club alignment to Toastmasters International – Completed and turned in on-time
Division and Area Governors trained
Trio trained by regional advisor – Completed
District Success Plan – Completed and turned in on-time
Budget – Completed and turned in on-time

Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training, Sharon Rollefson, DTM, gave her report regarding Education and Training:

10 New Distinguished Toastmasters for 2012-2013
10 New Triple Crowns for 2012-2013
177 District Officers Trained
248 clubs – 4 or more officers trained
93 clubs – all 7 officers trained
3 areas had all club and all 7 officers trained – Area 21, Area 56 and Area 75
Let's be the McDonalds of Toastmasters – Same agenda, meetings, speech evaluations every time.
Make club follow all the rules. Distinguished Club Program is the Toastmasters road to success.

Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, Clinton Hunt, DTM provided the following report:

- Club Coach Appointments:
 - July 1, 2012 to present
 - Nine Coaches (one coaching 2 clubs)
 - Eight Clubs (one club with 2 coaches)

- Club Mentors & Sponsors – 12 assigned since 7/1/12:
 - New Clubs & Kick-Offs
 - Club Goal for year – 9 Net
 - FOUR New Clubs Chartered (I, M, 2W)
 - Fifth Club Ready to go – officer elections pending (N)
 - Sixth Club at 19 applicants (P)
 - Seventh Club at 18 members (F)
 - One Kick-Off scheduled for 10/30/12 (E)
 - Second Kick-Off scheduled for 12/7/12 (E)

- Marketing Initiatives/Incentives:
 - New lead that becomes a club
 - Rolling Backpack, or
 - HPL Project Packet
 - Summary
 - We need everyone involved in helping us build clubs, maintain/strengthen existing clubs & members. AS we build and strengthen clubs, so goes membership.

- Appendix I (Club Coaches):
 - 3699, Smooth Talkers Toastmasters Club, Michelle Mattsen-Kraljic, ACG, CL, 09/05/2012
 - 183, Gopher Toastmasters Club, Anandram Seriram, CC, 08/09/2012
 - 183, Gopher Toastmasters Club Glen S. De Guzman, ACB, ALB 08/09/2012
 - 2509, Speak Up And Out Club, Jeff Lee, CC, CL, 08/08/2012
 - 652257, Forest Lake Toastmasters Club, Dave A. Basham, DTM, 07/20/2012
 - 5554, Hazelden Toastmasters Club Dave A. Basham, DTM, 07/20/2012
 - 687051, Expressly Speaking Club, Sandi L Robarge, CC, ALB, 07/06/2012
 - 4217, Butler Expressors Club, Daniel Norman Nelson, CC, ALB, 07/05/2012
 - 4415, The Hill Speakers Club, Maureen H. Mady, ACG, ALB, 07/05/2012

- Appendix II (Sponsors & Mentors):
 - 2580419 AECOMradz 08/13/2012 MENTOR James Edward Kickul
 - 2580419 AECOMradz 08/13/2012 SPONSOR Jill Lee Marcinkowski, CC, ALB
 - 2657873 Zenith City Toastmasters 08/10/2012 MENTOR Lee Swen Swenson
 - 2657873 Zenith City Toastmasters 08/10/2012 MENTOR Nikolas Thomas Bayuk,
 - 2657873 Zenith City Toastmasters 08/10/2012 SPONSOR Gregory James Scholz
 - 2657873 Zenith City Toastmasters 08/10/2012 SPONSOR Susan L.R. McCoy
 - 2717197 Morning Glory 09/18/2012 MENTOR Cindy Rae Dainsberg,
 - 2717197 Morning Glory 09/18/2012 SPONSOR Dave Dollahan
 - 2717197 Morning Glory 09/18/2012 SPONSOR Helene Gagoud
 - 2752754 Happy Hour 10/01/2012 MENTOR Helene Gagoud, ACB, CL
 - 2752754 Happy Hour 10/01/2012 MENTOR Jessica Albrecht
 - 2752754 Happy Hour 10/01/2012 SPONSOR Benjamin A. Smith, ACS

Public Relations Officer, Diane Windingland, DTM, provided the following:

- Have you ever called a business and gotten the message that the “number is not in service?”
- Have you ever clicked on the contact information for a business, sent an email, and gotten no response?
- How likely are you to do business with a business like that?
- So, how likely are people to visit a club when they can’t get information?

- Recently Ravi Rai, who has been working with Clubs to get their websites updated, got a call from Max, a man looking for a club in Coon Rapids. Max called a couple of clubs and neither of them had working phone numbers.
- Does your club have correct contact information on the TI website? A prospective visitor is a terrible thing to waste.
 - Area Governors—we have a request. Please go to the TI contact information for each of your clubs and actually try to email and call them—find out if the contact information works.
- All the PR in the world doesn't do much good if people can't find your club.
- And the PR team has been busy:
 - Lisa Burnside and Dave Basham led a successful State Fair effort
 - Steve Beaman and myself have been busy with Social Media
 - Randy Haukom is working on growing the Speakers Bureau
 - Shirley Daniel and Marj Johnson have been getting volunteer speakers for clubs
 - Brian Rice led an effort to get out some city proclamations
 - Lori Ziebarth has been putting out Press Releases
 - And, we've also been doing PR with 4 Twin Cities Chambers and attending Chamber Events
- We also have a special event planned for the Twin Cities area: A free screening of the movie, SPEAK! On Thursday, November 29 at the Brookdale Library
 - Speak is a documentary film that follows 6 people as they overcome challenges to compete in the Toastmasters World Championship of Public Speaking. It is a story of hope, perseverance and transformation—one that everyone can relate to. Come to the screening and invite your friends. Be inspired by this movie

Central Division Governor – Eric McBrayer

We had a successful contest season, with great participation across the division. Even without an area governor, the rest of them pitched in to help out with the contest and club visits. Most of the club officers were trained in the first round, and we're putting together a plan to get even more trained in the 2nd round. Club visits are continuing and coming in regularly. Most will be complete by the end of October. We are also going to start the planning for the spring contests early so that we have a really successful contest season. All in all, even though we are struggling a bit, things look good for the Central Division.

Eastern Division Governor – Jean McAllister

Great Area Governors
 All contests completed
 All Area Visits
 1 club struggling
 Encourage all clubs to focus on existing club members so they stay with toastmasters.

Frontier Division Governor – Daniel Grundtner

Majority of clubs have 4 club officers trained.
 Each area conducted club officer training
 3 Frontier Area Governors are here: Laurie Richardson, Mary Adams and Jodi Fritsche
 90% of area contests had people who were doing this for their first time outside of the club and they were the toastmasters and chief judges

Lost 1 club – Area 21 Governor, Dave Basham is working on new club form improv club for Thursday Night in White Bear Lake.

International Division Governor – Sue McCoy

Now, that it is all over, what did you really do yesterday that is worth mentioning? By Coleman Cox International Division has some things worth mentioning. Let me tell you just a few things that have been going on with officers trained, speech contests and out and about things.

Officers Trained: Successful in training a minimum of 4 officers from all clubs except for 2 of which are no longer meeting. 8 clubs had all 7 officers trained.

Club, Area, and Division contests were successfully completed with the Division contest held in Grand Rapids. Many volunteers made it a wonderful contest with a good turnout on a beautiful day.

Out and about: Our efforts with the chamber of commerce in Duluth; Some success has been made from efforts there with 2 new members joining local clubs and a third planning to attend .

Last but not least: Club visits are still underway. Some Area Governors are stacking up their visits on paper but with assurance they will be entered in a timely fashion.

Now, wasn't all that worth mentioning?

Metro Division Governor – Glen DeGuzman

Metro Division is on track to being Presidential Distinguished Division. In order to be Presidential Distinguished, we need to achieve 3 goals, namely:

Goal #1: We need a net growth of 1 club.

AECOMradz Toastmasters Club is a corporate club that recently chartered last August. We already have a net growth of one new club.

Goal #2: Keep the current existing clubs.

We have 4 small clubs in Metro Division that has less than 12 members. All 4 clubs have assigned club coaches.

32 out of 33 clubs have already paid their October Dues. We already followed up the one club that did not pay yet. They had some issues because they did not submit their officer list on time.

Goal #3: We need 16 distinguished clubs.

So far nobody has reached 5 DCP Points. 3 Clubs have reached 4 DCP Points. Since 32 clubs submitted their dues on time, 29 out of the 33 clubs have at least one DCP point.

Special thanks to all the hard-working Area Governors who are all knowledgeable and enthusiastic. The future looks bright for Metro Division.

Thank you very much.

Northern Division Governor – Colbert Fong

Thank you, madam District Governor. The Northern Division is Awesome. I have to borrow it from Stephen Shaner, since I am lucky to work with seven great Area Governors. My report will be around what we did well, what our challenges are, and how can you help.

What we did well: We have about 90% clubs with at least four officers trained, and more than ten clubs with all officers trained during the first round of club officer training. All seven areas also hosted speech contests before the Northern Division Contest successfully. Our area governors are working on their club visits, with six reports submitted to Toastmasters International as of today.

Our challenges: We still have 2 clubs haven't get their dues submitted. We are currently working with them to get that completed as soon as possible. However, membership is our major challenge. With

half of our division's clubs having less than 20 members, it would be difficult for our clubs to conduct their normal meetings.

I am here to ask for your help: if you know anyone who lives in the Northwestern Twin Cities Metro Area, please ask them to visit one of our clubs. We would like to invite them to our club's meeting and welcome them to become a part of Northern Division. We just had a kick off meeting with Clinton in Plymouth on Monday, and we can do more to build our membership together. Thank you very much.
Madam District Governor

Prairie Division Governor – Jon Chalmers

There is a drought in Minnesota, and with that a risk of destructive fires that can decimate a prairie. Over the last 4 months a figurative wildfire has laid waste to the Prairie Division: Our membership is down 51%. Three-quarters of our clubs have had a net loss of members; nearly half have lost a quarter of their members and in five of those clubs it is over 50%. We also have one club that has not submitted their dues.

As grim as this seems, there is hope, because fire clears away old brush and deadwood and in their place new growth springs up. Two-thirds of our clubs have added new members in the last few months and membership building activities are strong. The area governors are helping to cultivate the prairie, visiting clubs and lending assistance. Half the fall club visits are complete, and the remaining visits are scheduled.

While a pall of smoke lingers over the prairie now, I am confident that with the winter snows and spring breezes the smoke will clear, the soot will dissipate, and the prairie division will emerge more alive and vibrant than ever!

Rivers Division Governor – Laurie Buchberger

Reach out to get help

One new club trying to get started

Looking at Burnsville for new clubs

Area 75 - All clubs have 7 officers trained

Division Governor needs to have better communication skills.

Southern Division Governor – Jean Pearson

S is for Southern. Bigger than some of the other Divisions

2 Areas are still shakey

1 club had no officers trained

2 clubs has 2 officers trained

All the rest meet minimum number of club officers trained

Some clubs did not submit dues yet.

6 Area Governors – 4 of them are fantastic, the other 2 need some help

Western Division Governor – Colleen Hamilton

The Western Division Area Governors worked hard with the support of Marvel Kummer our Marvelous Western and Northern Division Training Coordinator to train the club officers in the division, achieving nearly 90% of the clubs meeting their training requirement. We lost one club very early in the year, but have welcomed two new clubs to the division, Morning Glory and Happy Hour, two new clubs based at Starkey Labs in Eden Prairie. All Area contests ran smoothly, culminating in the Western Division Contest held September 24th at Lifetouch corporate headquarters. The Lifetouch, Visually Speaking Toastmasters club, were our very generous hosts for the contest and their Club President, Craig Brubaker, acted as our Toastmaster for the evening.

Nominating Committee Chair, Catherine Rai Cardenuto, DTM, provided her report.

The nominating committee for the 2013-2014 Toastmaster year is now in the process of being formed.

I am looking for a representative from each division to serve on the committee. There are no particular criteria for an individual of the committee, but I do ask that you be willing to go out to your division and help search high and low for the best candidates. If you accept this role, you will not be able to run for an elected position for the 2013-2014 TM year. Also, a member who served as a committee member last year may not serve again. Please let me know if you are interested in serving on the committee.

The Call for Nomination for the following positions is now open.

- District Governor
- Lt Gov Education & Training
- Lt Gov Marketing
- Division Governor for each of our Divisions

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, you may announce your intention to run for office when and if asked to do so by our District Governor at a District Business Meeting. You will then be asked to fill out the nomination form.

If there is someone that you feel would be a good candidate for one of these positions, please complete the District Leader Nomination Form, include this person's name and submit it to the Nominations Committee Chair: Catherine Rai Cardenuto. You do not have to get the person's permission to do this as this does not commit them to anything. It simply gives the committee a lead to follow in our search for the best leaders. You may submit as many names as you would like.

The nominating process this year is as follows:

- 1- A call for nominations goes out to the district and the committee is formed.
- 2- Names will be collected and the committee will actively search out people throughout the district that we believe will be the best candidates for the open positions. It is the committee's job to select 1 candidate, preferably 2 for each position. Deadline for submission of names to be considered by the nominating committee is February 15, 2013.
- 3- All nominees will be contacted to determine their level of interest. If there is no interest the process for that person will go no further. If there is interest the potential candidate will receive additional forms to fill out. The committee will then evaluate all interested parties using a combination of methods including, but not limited to:
 - a. the Candidate Evaluation Form
 - b. personal interviews
 - c. group interviews
 - d. phone calls
 - e. references

The committee will select the best candidates for nomination, communicate with all interested parties and present a complete list of candidate nominations to the District Governor on March 15, 2013. The committee will be using the TI guideline for Deliberations and voting for these candidates. Please note that Nominating committee deliberations, including vote tallies, are confidential and cannot be divulged to anyone except the district governor, World Headquarters, and the Board of Directors. Information about all nominated candidates will be posted on the D6 website by March 22, 2013.

At the District 6 Business meeting on May 4, 2013 only the names of the nominated candidates will be printed on the ballots for election.

Any person wanting to run for a position after the nomination committee has completed their duties, or any person who did not receive the nomination from the committee may run for a position from the floor at the District 6 Business Meeting on May 4, 2013.

Please note that floor candidates will not be added to the website nor will their names be printed on the ballot.

Any person who has an intention of running for a position may campaign for that position using the guidelines set forth by Toastmasters International and District 6. Campaign activity does not indicate that a candidate has been nominated for a position by the committee.

Additional information about open positions and the election process can be found on the Toastmasters International website and the District Leader Handbook.

District Governor, Dru Jorgensen, DTM asked the question for any nominations for the District Officers for 2013-2014. The following nominations were made during the meeting:

- Sharon Rollefson for District Governor
- Clinton Hunt for Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training
- Larry Marik for Lieutenant Governor of Marketing

Announcements:

Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI), February 9, 2013, Ramada Mall of America, Bloomington
District 6 Spring Convention, May 3-4, 2013, Ramada Mall of America, Bloomington
Business Meeting, May 4, 2013 at 10:00 am
International Convention, August 21-24, 2013, Cincinnati, Ohio

Adjourn at 10:23 am