



Minutes

District 59 Council Meeting

Friday, 21 May 2016 Luxembourg

Opening

Call to order

At 11:45 District Director Marike Dijksterhuis called the meeting to order
Reminds us of Robert's Rules of Order

The district mission

Administration Manager Bess Stonehouse reads the district mission:

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence

Certification of Quorum

Jaap Ruschenberg IPDD validates that at the opening of the meeting a quorum of the DCM was present, namely **204 club officers**; a quorum of **145** is required ($217 \text{ clubs} \times 2 = 434:3 = 145$). Of the 71 district officers 37 voting cards were issued, so in total 241 voters were present
We have special guests at the meeting who will present reports
Timer is Bea Bincze from D95

Adoption of agenda

Changes:

Order of Special committee reports

Marike will present Alignment instead of Sarah Magelhaes

Tulia Lopez and Cécilia Bastien-Rémy will present Winterthur

Q: Bill Monsour 52, should we add new business now? Or add during committee reports?

A: Marike - 2 new items were received beforehand and have been added

Adopted

Approval District Council Meeting Minutes, Amsterdam, 13 Nov.2015

No objection = Minutes approved after a correction in financial report wording

Changes in the team announced

Maarten Voorneveld resigned (AD C7), is replaced by Andy Baker (AD C1)

Core team reports

District Director report – Marike Dijksterhuis – slides in Annexe

Rise and Shine Motto, European Reformation committee worked very hard for an unprecedented reformation, felicitations. Wish for success for the end of the year and handover.

Program Quality - Manie Conradie – slides in annexe

Growth in Speaker to Trainer, YLP and Special Events

106 out of 207 base clubs are already Distinguished

Challenge to our club leaders, what now? Don't disappear, you've been working and learning, pass that on to your successors. Build on what you started.

Q: Bill Monsour 52 – Is surprised to hear that chief judge is an esteemed guest, but from another District? Why did we miss this opportunity to assign this to an officer in our own District?

A: Manie -Decision was made by conference committee. Selection is based on choice of skills and potential of each speaker.

Club Growth – Manie Conradie for Dominique Carrasco – slides in annexe

20 new clubs registered at TMI this year, 32 prospect clubs in pipeline, +6 Areas

Slightly behind on membership payments, we can make it!

Public Relations – Nelson Emilio – sides in annexe

Challenge with web-site, new hosting provider. Results in impressive cost reduction, individual control per country, volume increase, faster response

Clarion relaunched – your feedback helped to “clarify” what and how to share information.

Websites, newsletters and club promotion are our channels, we decided to reward your work with recognition prizes (see slide)

Q: Julia Roca, What is the general purpose of the website and who visits?

A: It gives access to TM's and non-TM's, France created 2 in two languages to reach 2 audiences, visits are increasing, retention and potential members are more visible

Q: Bill Monsour 52– What about training and support for official website, Easy Speak?

A: This is a focus area for us, to promote use and train up in Easy Speak

Finance Manager Assistant – François Matthey – slides in annexe Financial report 2015-2016

Introduces participants in the audit (see slides)

Balance sheet – net income is increased 12K€ in one year

P&L - 18K€ net income overall, may be less in the end due to outstanding payments

Variance report on expenses – see slide

Q: 172 Sandra Van de Cauter Great variance on budget vs actuals, do we have difficulty budgeting? Do we get guidance, how can you explain the differences?

A: Budget is dynamic, we examine the results and tell officers what actions they can take. Manie adds - we are expecting a lot of disbursements in the coming month. We recently asked for a

transfer of 20K from the bank (which is shown in the +18K..) when all spending is accounted for, the results will be closer to predictions

Q: 1050 Marcel Damen – Are there any activities or thoughts on spending money more in favour of our members (education, marketing, etc)

A: Allocation is “as you see fit”, some of the money is not requested and we cannot force it, nor can we spend all the way to 0, we are obliged to keep a reserve of 25% at all times, for transitional reserve to new committee

Q: 173 Markus Keunkel– Please detail why there is such a huge difference in Conference organisation costs? 33% higher than what was forecast (+/-10K€)

A: Bar chart shows expenses and not revenue side, results have always been positive, and went beyond expectations. Marike adds - the only difference from the past years was that Amsterdam conference went over partly due to DTM reception (uninvited extra participants)

Subcommittee Reports

Realignment – Marike Dijksterhuis – detailed slides in annexe

Thanks to Sarah Magelhaes for her hard work.

Last week we updated the report of Prospective to Charter clubs

Resumé of changes, 6 new Areas, Greece will join with 2 new Areas

Two clubs in Areas C 1 and 7 have switched, no change to the Division composition

DECM motion was accepted to recommend this proposal to DCM as we have seen it in this presentation

Open floor for discussion

Vote – No opposition, no abstentions, **Motion adopted unanimously**

Markus Seppala 118, Point of order, please ask for positive votes, not only opposed. Agreed.

Reformation – Morag Mathieson – slides in annexe

Marike explains procedure, DECM voted in favour of a motion recommending DCM to adopt the reformation as presented. After the vote here it will be sent to the BOD for decision. Everything we say here, all points will be appended to the report. The BOD asked explicitly to know how the District Executive Committees and District Councils think about the reformation

Morag: Dialogue with World HQ staff began 6 months into a new configuration in 2014 to examine the status of the plan due to increased growth.

Thanks to participants in the reformation, Odile Petillot, Daniel Mouqué, to all Division Directors asked to contribute to the discussion.

Task (slides) explained

After 22 different proposals, we found one that made sense to all concerned. Presented to both Districts 59 and 95 at the same time, a first. The information was made public on District websites, including financials and detailed data. Only one opposing proposal was made...it was not in line with global reformation mission.

3 of the undistricted countries have applied to join the district structure. Croatia has been included in district F instead of District E since it will be better served there.

Should our numbers or implementation deviate from what is required, we must change either structure or timeline, in such a case it will come back to the Districts for a vote.

Floor open for discussion on motion regarding Reformation, 2 minutes per speaker, room disposed in 2 lines: opposed and in favour.

Joao de Mendonca 91- Point of Information: Please read the motion, what are we voting for?

Marika: To adopt the reformation proposal as presented, 6 districts as shown on the map, from 1st July 2018 if approved by the BOD

Point of Information Markus Seppala 118 – who made this motion?

A: It was worded by DEC, motion made by the European Reformation Committee

In favour: Arnout Nederpeld 85, 88 It is painful to change, but we will still remain in touch as Continental Europe, in contests, conferences. This is good opportunity for our future

Opposed : Percy Roland 236, 269 Appreciates hard work, and it's clearly necessary. Being the United Nations of Europe is not the mission of TM. The numbers concern me, we will be 101 clubs in our District, what is the plan B if we do not reach the forecasted growth in each District, is it realistic? Would it not make more sense to have a "Mediterranean District"?

In favour: Sandra Van de Caeter 49, 172 Explains her experience of reformation in the past, feels it was always the right decision. "When we give the right support, budget, mentoring, we will have the growth we expect. Who are the leaders we want to lead this amazing plan? I know from experience it took an amazing committee to put this together. We'll not only have what we need, but better than that."

Point of Information: Percy Roland 236, 269 can we have answers to the Q before we vote?

Morag – If we deviate from the plan, the Board asks that we return to them to change structure or timeline.

Vote on motion

Opposed – 41

Abstentions – 13

In favour - 154

Motion is carried

Joao Mendonca 91 We have approved the motion about the change, but not the way to do it. The motion says from 1/7/2018.

Makes a **motion** in favour of extending the reformation over a period of 2 years, with a committee of two CGD and two PQD.

I move to recommend to Toastmasters International, through the reformation committee, to plan the transition into new districts over 2 years, and composed of a transition team limited to 2 CGD and 2 PQD. Motion seconded

Debate from the floor:

In favor - Arnout Nederpeld 85, 88

Opposed - Jaap Rauschenberg 1010, This motion is not in favour of continuity. I see the challenge but I am sure we can do it.

In favour – Joao de Mendonca 91, I'm in favour of the motion, is this a question for this forum or is it a question for the reformation committee? We have only half of our 6 eventual districts present today.

Opposed - Stacey Wallaberger 214, Response to Joao, with all due respect. If we don't utilise the traditional timeframe of completion in 2 years, we will have to revisit the whole procedure, don't forget it was done with the advice and support of TMI.

In Favor – Joao de Mendonca 91, Both scenarios are possible. During the previous reformation working with two teams was already a challenge, we had to split conferences, 3 teams would be impossible. TM has not proposed anything specific, it's completely new, which is why I want to suggest this. I am sure they will accept our recommendation.

Opposed - Roland Studer 1026, – It's premature to address the "How" of getting there.

Vote on motion

Opposed - 114

Abstention -23

In Favor – 67

Motion not carried

Nomination Committee– Jaap Russchenberg

Explains, thanks committee members, explains timeline

Presents candidates and roles.

Elections – Marike Dijksterhuis,

30 Moves to recess for 30 minutes for Lunch. Motion seconded.

Open for debate. No debate

Opposed – Majority, motion not carried, we continue the meeting

District Director, no candidate from the Floor

Manie Conradie, ACB/ALB 107 votes

Markus Kuenkel, DTM 115 votes is the new **District Director**

6 invalid votes

Program Quality Director, no candidate from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Ana Isabel Lage Ferreira, ACB/ALS is the new **Program Quality Director**

Point of Order Joao de Mendonca 91, those who count votes should be able to listen to the speeches.

Point of Information Sandra Van der Cauter 175, can we proceed to the uncontested candidates and vote and come back to the others?

Point of Order: Robert van de Meer 1013– as Siegfried Hack is absent can we proceed to validating Francesco as PR Director?

Club Growth Director, no candidates from the floor

Nelson Emilio, DTM 106 votes is the new **Club Growth Director**

Ulrike Laubner, ACB/ALB 105 votes

5 invalid votes

Public Relations Director, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Francesco Fedele, DTM is the new **Public relations Director**

Division A, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Uta Bunde, ACS/ALB is the new Division A Director

Division B, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Crista Filip CC/ALB is the new Division B Director

Marike proposes to see the **Madrid conference** presentation with Alicia Mancheno, while we wait for the votes for Division C.

Division C

Chantale Evertsz, ACS/ALB 135 votes is the new Division C Director

Sabyasachi Sengupta 232, nominates Robert Van der Meer running from the floor 79 votes

Invalid 3 votes

Marike proposes to see the Spring 2017 presentation while we wait for the vote on Division D

No objection to the **motion** to have **Spring 2017 conference in Wintherthur Switzerland**

By show of hands, Winterthur is approved.

Division D

Joao Sarmiento 1071, Nominates Barbara Piedade running from the floor 122 votes

Barbara Piedade is the new Division D Director

Luis Filipe Silva, ACB/ALB 59 votes

Invalid votes 8

Division E, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Angela Saxby Robbins, ACS/ALB is the new Division E Director

Division F, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Wilfried Rouquet is the new Division F Director

Division G, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Francesca Gammicchia, CC/CL is the new Division G Director

Division H, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Benito Vega Gonzalez, CC/CL is the new Division H Director

Division I, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Nina Carrasco, ACB/ALB is the new Division I Director

Division J, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Pavel Savitch is the new Division J Director

Division K

Bill Monsour 52 nominates Emilia Fossati 93 votes

Emilia Fossati is the new Division K Director

Rayanne Bachammar, CC/CL 81 votes

Invalid votes - 9

Francesco Fedele presents the 17-19/6 Rome training weekend.

Division L

Noberto Amaral, ACS/ALB 105 votes is the new Division L Director

Rui Henriques, DTM 80 votes

Invalid votes -3

Division M, no candidates from the floor, no objections to a single ballot, single ballot cast by Bess Stonehouse

Gustavo Amaro, CC/ALB is the new Division M Director

New Business

Duarte Gouveia 1038, makes a **motion** that District 59 Council disagrees with the members' dues increase and votes to publicly manifest its position to TMI (Int'l Board and Districts) as the need for the increase is not properly justified. Seconded.

In Favor: Duarte Goveia 1038 91, explains financial status of TMI actually, including 400% salary increase in 8 years for the CEO.

No Opposed

No manifest Abstentions

Bill Monsour 52, proposes a show of hands as vote, **motion** is carried by a large majority

Point for reflexion proposed by Agnes Tarnai 199, 122. Recommends that the new District team finds ways to give the professional trainers group a different status, suggests..."The European Trainers Network" has a website, tasked to find resources, keynotes, trainers. Asking for a more formalised interaction with Toastmasters, in order to improve quality in the District.

Joao de Mendonca 91, makes a **motion** recommending that the District 59 buy country banners and use them in the opening ceremony, seconded.

Point of Information from the floor: how much do they cost? Marike "Not very much"

Vote: Motion carried by majority show of hands

Announcement: Call for volunteers for a replacement for the actual IT manager Pau Rey.

Adjournement

Motion to adjourn

Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 15:35 until 12/11/2016 in Madrid

Annexe - Slides from all presentations of 21/05/2016 to be found here:

[DCM Lux Final Presentation](#)