



The District Council Meeting convened on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 8:00 AM as a hybrid meeting for both in person and virtual attendees.

The District Council Meeting began with a welcome from District Director Jackie Houser. She then introduced all officials for the meeting. An inspirational moment was shared by TM Malay McNair.

### Meeting Protocols

The meeting protocols were presented by District Parliamentarian Roger Pritchett.

<h2>Meeting Protocols</h2>	
<p>While all members of the district may attend the meeting, <b>only voting delegates (members of the District Council) are allowed to speak.</b> You must be a district officer or a President/VPE of a club in good standing.</p>	
<h3>Virtual</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If you wish to speak, type a message in the chat with your name, club, officer role, and business.</li><li>• Please stay muted prior to being acknowledged and re-mute once your time has elapsed.</li><li>• If your camera is on, please minimize visual disturbances.</li></ul>	<h3>In Person</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If you wish to speak, raise your hand to be recognized by the chair.</li><li>• Please state your name, club, officer role, and business.</li><li>• Please respect the time allotted to speak so that others may be heard.</li></ul>
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District Parliamentarian Pritchett presented the following motion to limit debate to be entertained by the body.

<h2>Motion to Limit Debate</h2> <p>Since we have limited time to conduct our business, the chair will entertain a motion to limit debate in three ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Speakers may take only one minute to state their position.</li><li>2. Debate on any given topic will be limited to 12 minutes, which can be extended at the discretion of the chair if deemed necessary.</li><li>3. No person may speak twice on the same topic, until all others who wish to speak had have the opportunity</li></ol> <p>Comments should be germane to the motion or topic currently on the floor. During debate (discussion), we will alternate between those in favor and those opposed.</p>
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The motion was made by TM Christopher Little, Area Director and voting delegate of the Boulevard Toastmasters. The motion was seconded and voted on in person through a show of hands and virtually through a zoom poll. A 2/3rds majority was achieved, and the motion passed.

**Adoption of the Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes**

The agenda was adopted without objection. District Director Jackie Houser requested general consent to move forward with the meeting reports while votes were being tallied on Election Runner and was met with no objection. The previous business meeting minutes from September 2023 were adopted without objection. The District Mission was read by District Director Jackie Houser.

**Voting Procedures & Credentials Committee Report**

The Credentials Committee Report below was presented by Credentials Committee Member Cary Shillcutt. He confirmed and announced that the quorum requirement for conducting business had been achieved.

## Quorum & Voting Protocol

- Only District Officers, Presidents, and VP of Educations are eligible to vote.
- No proxies are permitted in hybrid elections, however a President or VPE can carry two votes for a club.
- An individual can have a maximum of 2 club votes.
- District Officers have an additional vote.

District 43 met quorum for the 2024 Spring Business Meeting	
Paid Clubs	75
Votes per Club	2
Maximum Votes	150
Minimum Quorum (33%)	150/3 = 50
Registered Club Votes (73%)	109 > 50
Registered DEC Votes	23
Total Eligible Votes	132

The following voting procedures were shared to accommodate all attendees, both virtual and in person. The credentials committee report was adopted without objection.

## Spring Council Meeting

- Council Voting**
  - Before we begin, please access the email used for voting registration.
  - Online and in-person help desk are available
  - If you don't have an electronic device, please seat at the table marked for "Assisted Voting."
  - Voter ID: Your Member ID (listed on your name badge)
  - Voter Key: d43
- Internet & Wi-Fi**
  - If you have access to personal internet, that is preferred.
  - Wi-Fi: Please refer to the table tents for the password and network.
- Courtesies**
  - Please silence all cell phones and eliminate side conversations for the council meeting.
  - If attending virtually, please stay muted unless called upon to speak.

**Test Ballot**

Voter ID: Member ID  
Voter Key: d43

**District Leadership Committee (DLC) Report**

Immediate Past District Director Lu Zhang presented the 2023-2024 District Leadership Committee report.

## 2023-2024 District Leadership Committee (DLC)

### Committee Chair

- Lu Zhang, DTM, IPDD

### Committee Members

- Jolene Steinbicer
- Eric McKisick, DTM
- Tammie Polk
- Eugenia Sims
- Suman Das, DTM
- Larry Haug, DTM
- *(For equal representation, there was one member per Division.)*

Jan 15, 2024 – Feb 22, 2024 Call for nomination for elected positions



Mar 8, 2024 DLC Chair submitted DLC report to DD



Mar 23, 2024 Share DLC Report, Candidate information, Annual Meeting time and Electronic vote format with the District Council Members



Apr 17, 2024 Publish pre-recorded Candidate Showcase

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The nominated candidates are shown below.

			
<b>Lisa Smith, DTM</b> DD Candidate	<b>Rhonda Mattox, DTM</b> PQD Candidate	<b>Shirley Kyles, DTM</b> CGD Candidate	<b>LeNelle Thompson</b> CGD Candidate
		<b>Division A Director – Open</b> <b>Division B Director – Open</b> <b>Division C Director – Open</b> <b>Division D Director – Open</b>	
<b>Christine Holliday, DTM</b> Division E Director Candidate	<b>Daniel Tu</b> Division F Director Candidate		

IPDD Zhang reviewed the rules for floor candidates shown below. She also reminded the body that nominations for Area Directors are open until May 31, 2024 and can be submitted to her or District Director Jackie Houser. The credentials report was adopted without objection.

## Floor Candidates

### • The Trio and Division E & F Director roles

- Only declared candidates who have been evaluated but are not nominated by DLC can run from the floor
- Provided they submit their intent to run at least seven (7) days prior to the election to District Director Jackie Houser, DTM.

### • Division A – D Director roles

- **These roles are open.**
- Qualified candidates may run from the floor *without* being evaluated by the DLC Provided they submit their intent to run at least seven (7) days prior to the election to District Director Jackie Houser, DTM.

## Election of District Officers, 2024-2025


All nominated candidates except Program Quality Director and Club Growth Director ran uncontested and were elected via single secret ballot with no objection.

TM Craig Nunemaker nominated himself from the floor for Program Quality Director and accepted the nomination. Each candidate delivered a 2-minute speech prior to the vote. The following instructions were utilized for voting.

### Voting Instructions- PQD

#### In Person & Online

- Electronic
  - Use registered email **OR**
  - QR Code
    - Voter ID: Your Member ID (listed on your name badge)
    - Voter Key: d43



<https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/8YkMO>


**\*If you did not register by April 17<sup>th</sup>, you will be ineligible to vote.**

#### Online

- Please reach out to the online help desk for assistance
  - Last Names
  - A-J: Elijah Barnett
  - K-S: Holly Tu
  - T-Z: Swapnaja Bhosle

#### In Person

- Please reach out to the in person help desk for assistance




TM Rhonda Mattox was elected as the 2024-2025 Program Quality Director with 75% of the vote.

TM Eric Treat nominated himself from the floor for Club Growth Director and accepted the nomination. Each candidate delivered a 2-minute speech prior to the vote. The following instructions were utilized for voting.

### Voting Instructions- CGD

#### In Person & Online

- Electronic
  - Use registered email **OR**
  - QR Code
    - Voter ID: Your Member ID (listed on your name badge)
    - Voter Key: d43



<https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/VfZrU>


**\*If you did not register by April 17<sup>th</sup>, you will be ineligible to vote.**

#### Online

- Please reach out to the online help desk for assistance
  - Last Names
  - A-J: Elijah Barnett
  - K-S: Holly Tu
  - T-Z: Swapnaja Bhosle

#### In Person

- Please reach out to the in person help desk for assistance



TM Shirley Kyles was elected as the 2024-2025 Club Growth Director with 54% of the vote.

Division A-D Directors will be appointed by the District Director Elect and confirmed by the District Council in September 2024 as there are no nominated candidates and no one has declared their intent to run 7 days prior to the election.

Vacancies filled in District Offices since the Fall 2023 District Council meeting were reported. There were no questions or objections.

### **PRM Report**

PRM Erica May reviewed the 2023-2024 public relations goals.

### **2023-2024 PUBLIC RELATIONS GOALS**

- Protect the Toastmasters brand.
- Revitalize and maintain the district website.
- Disseminate a monthly newsletter.
- Update LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram weekly
- Publicize and celebrate our clubs and members.
- Dedicated PR campaign to attract Gen Z members.

She reviewed growth across the district social media accounts and highlighted several clubs promoting themselves on social media. She also announced that TM Ron Williams recently received the Member Ambassador award from the PRM team.

PRM Erica May reviewed program year successes to complete her report.

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#### 2023-2024 PROGRAM YEAR SUCCESSES

8  
published  
newsletters

20

member  
spotlights  
(website)

6

"30 Under 30  
Spotlights"

6  
club spotlights  
(website)

1,800 +  
newsletter views

8% growth  
in Facebook  
followers

14

YouTube videos  
published/900+  
views



5

Communication Channels: Email,  
Facebook, Instagram, GroupMe &  
LinkedIn

### **District Profit & Loss Statement**

Finance Manager Cynthia Bardwell presented the Profit & Loss Report through 3/31/2024. The district remains on track with the approved budget and is projected to finish the year financially strong.



## **Club Growth Director District Report**

Club Growth Director Rhonda Mattox reported that membership renewals are progressing on target to distinguished and member engagement during Members Matter has increased with good feedback. She also shared the following club growth wins: 15+ demo meetings, 5 new clubs with submitted paperwork, 10 prospective clubs in the pipeline, and 1 club slated to close was repurposed and kept open. CGD Mattox also reviewed some ongoing club growth incentives and announced the upcoming Members Matter topic and meeting date.

## **Program Quality Director District Report**

Program Quality Director Lisa Smith began her report by reviewing the dashboard. She reported that we currently had 18 distinguished clubs and 76 paid clubs. She recognized all clubs that had reached distinguished status by name and reported that Area F-2 had already reached distinguished status. She encouraged all clubs to submit their education awards and recruit members to help them reach distinguished status. PQR Lisa Smith also reviewed elapsed program quality incentives as well as ongoing program quality incentives.

## **District Director District Report**

District Director Jackie Houser reviewed the 2023-2024 District 43 accomplishments below. She reviewed the overhauled District website, the digital newsletter, and referred back to PRM Erica May's report on social media engagement. She reported that Members Matter engagement has increased to 50-60 people per session. She shared an update on the different digital tools now being used by the district including Event Create as an event and communication platform, Canva for generating marketing materials, and google workspace for retaining our documentation to ensure a smooth transition across leadership teams. DD Houser also shared that specific emails have been created for various leadership roles in the district that can be transferred as new leaders step into those roles. She reviewed the creation of additional roles including the DTM Coordinator and District Historian. District Director Houser also announced that we are currently attending the first District 43 Hybrid Business Council Meeting.

Robust Public Relations Plan

Increased Participation in Members Matter

Streamline District Operations

Increased Committees to Lighten the Workload

Executed the First Hybrid Business Council Meeting

District Director Jackie Houser also announced that as of July 1, 2024, District 43 will be reassigned to Region 4 as a result of the regional re-alignment announced during the 2023 International Convention. She also reviewed the updated protocol from Toastmasters International in regard to the Club Coach Program and encouraged those who are qualified to take the training to help combat the shortage of club coaches.

# Club Coach Program Explained

Reference Protocol 2.3



## 1. Club Coach Program

- A. The objective of this program is to coach struggling clubs back to a healthy membership, and to instruct club members in strategies to encourage continued member enthusiasm and interest in continuing with the Toastmasters Education Program.
  - I. Eligible clubs and prospective coaches may approach the District Director to request the appointment of a club coach to a given club. The District Director may also determine a club is eligible without external prompting.
  - II. Once it has been determined that a club requires coaching, the District Director arranges a meeting between the eligible club, a qualified club coach, and either the District Director, Program Quality Director, or Club Growth Director. The purpose of this meeting is to fill out and sign the Club Coach Agreement.
  - III. Once all parties have agreed to the specific terms of the Club Coach Agreement, the document is sent to World Headquarters for final approval and filing. Once this confirmation has been received, club coaching may begin.

## 2023-2024 Alignment Report

Alignment Committee Chair Ron Williams presented the 2024-2025 Alignment Report. No questions were asked. The alignment report was approved without objection.

## Mid-Year Audit Report

Due to technical difficulties with the video report from Audit Committee Chair Vanessa Sweet, the physical report was shared to the screen with the recommendation that the video report and document be shared out after the meeting via email or the website. This proposed action was approved without objection.

## New Business

District Director Jackie Houser presented the following new business proposal to be voted on by the body. A motion was made to adopt this proposal by TM Eric Treat. The motion was seconded by TM Lessie Hayes. The proposal was voted on, and the motion passed. Proposal A has been adopted.


### Proposal A

District 43 will formally honor Toastmaster Charlean Grayer for her dedication to mentorship by establishing The Charlean Grayer Mentor of the Year Award. This award shall be awarded, annually to a Toastmaster who meets the below requirements.

In addition, nominations for this award and all other District Awards must be submitted to the trio no later than February 28th of each year to ensure adequate time to select winners and order awards in time for presentation at the Annual Spring Conference.

Charlean Grayer Mentor of the Year Award Requirements:

- Must be a member of a club in good standing for the last 2 years
- Must have completed a path
- Must have mentored a club in the past 5 years
- Must have mentored at least 3 members in the last 2 years
- Must be able to present evidence of mentoring



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## Announcements

Announcements were made about ongoing activities at the District 43 2024 Spring Conference. District Director Jackie Houser declared the 2024 April District Council Meeting Adjourned at 10:12 AM.