



Minutes for District Council Meeting held on - Saturday, 18 September 2021
Venue: Zoom Meeting

1.	Call to Order	Mr Njabulo Thela the District Director called the meeting to order and thanked the guest speakers; Oltesh Thobias DTM, District 114 and Verity Price, World Champion of Public Speaking for their participation and contribution.
2.	Welcome and Introductions and District Mission	<p>The District Director as Meeting Chairperson welcomed the new countries, Angola, Madagascar, and Mauritius to the District and everyone to the first District Council Meeting of the new Toastmasters year.</p> <p>This meeting serves two purposes; to conduct the business of the district and serves as an educational session for all Toastmasters.</p> <p>Chairperson introduced Cabinet Members: Andrew Tsuru DTM (Program Quality Director), Angie Kivido (Club Growth Director), Vusi Maupa (Public Relations Manager), Thando Cofu DTM (Finance Manager), Lynnette Vermaak DTM (Administration Manager), Vuyi Vuthela DTM (Logistics Manager)</p> <p>The Chairperson then introduced the Division Directors: Madhav Meetarbhan (B), Billy Mwape (M), Lorraine Penduka DTM (Y), Ntsako Selaule (L), Angela Rogers (E), Bhekisisa Ngomane (A), Nwabisa Ndzuzu (D), Erica Mulondo (O), Tiro Molebatsi (S), Andreé Venter DTM (H), Michelle Yenson DTM (I), Kuhle Mthembu (P), Future Moyo (Z)</p> <p>Cabinet and District Directors form the district 74 Directorate.</p> <p>Chairperson then recognized Area Directors present on the day. The Cabinet Members, Division Directors, and Area Directors form District 74 Executive Committee.</p> <p>Chairperson then recognized Club Presidents and Club Vice Presidents of Education present on the day. The Cabinet Members, Division Directors, Area Directors, Club Presidents, and Club Vice Presidents of Education form District 74 Council. The decision-making body of the district.</p> <p>District Coordinators were recognised and thanked for their contribution to district.</p> <p>Past District Governors, Past District Directors, Nikki Quinn DTM, Sandra Cooper DTM, Rob Douglas DTM, Keith Bowen DTM, Tim Knights DTM, Aletta Rochat DTM and members present on the day were also recognized and welcomed.</p> <p>Chairperson reminded the council meeting of the District Mission “To build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.”</p>

3.	Credentials Report	<p>Admin Manager, Lynnette Vermaak (DTM), presented the Credentials Committee Report to the District Council noting that that a quorum had not been reached.</p> <p>Quorum would constitute 162 registered members who hold the Vice President and/or President role.</p> <p>The credentials desk was reopened for further registrations whereafter it was confirmed that the meeting was quorate.</p> <p>There were a total of 202 Presidents & VPE'S 64 District Officers resulting in 266 in members in total in the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting has met its requirements for a quorum and was duly constituted. All decisions taken in the council meeting would hold.</p>
4	Parliamentarian Address	<p><u>Our method of business</u> refers to several documents in the following order of priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Toastmasters International Articles of Incorporation. ● Special Instructions from the Board of Directors. ● District Administrative Bylaws. ● Roberts Rules of Order. ● Standing Rules laid down in our District Code of Practice. <p><u>District Standing Rules for this meeting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Toastmasters have the right of attendance at this meeting. ● The right to speak during this meeting, however, is reserved for Members of Council Past DG's and Past DDs in active service, but all these people must have registered with the Credentials Officer beforehand. ● Observers may speak if the Chairperson so authorises, but priority will obviously be given to Members of Council. ● Please keep discussion as concise as possible. We have specified time limits and must work within these time limits. ● Please ensure that microphones are muted when you are not speaking. ● In order to participate in the discussion please raise your hand ● Chairperson would recognize individual speakers before speaking. ● Please wait until recognised before speaking, ● Speakers are limited to two minutes to ask questions or make a statement unless presenting their report. ● The host reserves the right to mute attendees as needed. ● Voting will be conducted via Zoom poles when required once discussion has been conducted in the chat feature. This will be used to ascertain if it is required to move to an electronic vote.
5	Apologies	<p>Several apologies have been received by the Administration Manager. Due to time constraints these will not be read out. Should there be any further apologies please present them in writing to admin@toastmasters74.org before the conclusion of the meeting for inclusion in the minutes.</p>
6	Adoption of the previous minutes	<p>There was no objection to the minutes of the previous Council Meeting.</p> <p>The Chairperson adopted the minutes which were proposed by Mr PQD Andrew Tsuru and seconded by Bhekisisa Ngomane Division A Director</p> <p>There were no corrections to the minutes.</p>
7.	Adoption of the Agenda	<p>There were no proposed amendments to the agenda.</p> <p>The Chairperson adopted the agenda which was seconded by Angie Kivido</p>

8.	Ratification of appointments	<p>Due to resignations submitted the following new appointments were made: Michael Ijeoma Area Director I5 Ettian Raubenheimer Area Director Y1 There were no objections to the new appointments, and they were therefore considered ratified.</p>
9	Ratification of alignment	<p>Changes in alignment were required after the May council meeting for the following reasons: Clubs did not all charter by 30 June as had been expected Some clubs were revived These are the changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In D1 Universal did not charter. • KWASAA moved from E4 to E2. • Thuthuka and Soaring Eagles were revived and added to the count in E4. • Sell the Sizzle chartered in H2 • Division O Mazars Botswana was added in O4 • Z4 Bulawayo Diamonds chartered <p>Alignment was ratified without objection.</p>
10.	District Director & Finance Manager Reports	<p><u>Division Directors Reports:</u></p> <p>A - Bhekisisa Ngomane B - Madhav Meetarbhan D – Nwabisa Ndzuzo E – Angela Rogers H – Andree Venter I – Michelle Yenson L – Ntsako Selaule M – Billy Mwape O – Erica Mulondo P – Thandokuhle Mthembu S – Tiro Molebatsi Y – Lorraine Penduka Z – Future Moyo</p> <p><u>Cabinet Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration Manager: Ms Lynnette Vermaak – report tabled, no additions • Logistics Manager: Mr Vuyisile Vuthela - report tabled, there are no additions <p><u>Finance Manager's Report: Thando Cofu</u></p> <p>The Finance Manager shared Financial Statements: Purpose of the Finance Manager's role is to manage District Funds 2010/2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25% of the revenue sent to Toastmasters International comes back to the district and this is the money used by the district to manage the district. - There is a variance as TI gave an additional 10% support to districts - Conference revenue – it had been anticipated that conference would be in person, but conference was online. This expense was less than the budget. - District store revenue was lower than budget due to reduced sales. - Expenses: budget was higher than actuals. - The budget is to enable district to fulfil its mission of building new clubs and supporting all clubs in achieving excellence. - The budget is Zero based and lower than last year as the income is lower. <p><u>Approval of Half year Audit Report for 2020/21</u></p> <p><u>Question and Answer session</u></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S'bo Vilakazi AD P3 – what has been the impact of moving online? - Finance Manger responded that the new budget was similar to last year. - Mzonjani Nkomo Club President in Y1 - Is it possible to simplify the finance report for lay persons to understand? <i>Noted for next financial report.</i> - Barbara Girios Club President – surprised about the budgeting for phone calls data and food for district but these expenses are not allowed at club level. <i>The finance manager replied that as she must approach district for budget approval, so the club must authorise club expenses.</i> - The report was not tabled the requisite 2 weeks prior to the meeting. <i>Mr. Keith Bowen, District Parliamentarian replied that the reports must be available to download 5 days before the council meeting. However, it is more of a requirement that the budget is passed than that you meet the 2-week requirement.</i> <p>The chairperson, Mr Njabulo Thela stated that it is a requirement the finance report be adopted in order to fulfil the district mission. He asked that the Zoom master explain how the voting would work.</p> <p>Zoom master Anke Stow explained the voting process and opened the Zoom pole</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you approve the report – report approved 96% • Do you approve the budget – budget approved 96% <p>The report was approved, and the budget was adopted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PR Manager: Mr. Vusi Maupa – report has been tabled, there are no additions • Club Growth Director: Ms Angie Kivido - report has been tabled, with no additions • Program Quality Director: Mr. Andrew Tsuro – report has been tabled. There are two additions. 1. Conference will be virtual on 6 & 7 May 2. There have been 219 registrations for the Leadership Development program <p>District Director Report: Mr Njabulo Thela Highlights shared: Welcome to Angola, Madagascar, and Mauritius Plan is not for a single year, but for the next few years until reformation. The theme is to Exceed Expectations because Every Member Matters</p> <p>Adoption for the district Directors report: Proposed by Past District Director, Nikki Quinn Seconded by Finance manager, Thando Cofu Zoom pole results: report unanimously adopted</p>
11.	Motions	<p>One motion was received.</p> <p>Motion: Evaluation and Table Topics Contests at District Proposer: Nikki Quinn (President of Sell the Sizzle Club) Seconder: Karen Levy Strauss (VPE Standard Bank Club)</p> <p>I propose that District 74 hold Evaluation and Table Topics Contests at District level (Including Area and Division).</p> <p>Motivation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With the experience we have gained over the last 18 months the complexities around running these contests can be overcome 2. We are well equipped to ensure fairness throughout the contest.

Nikki Quinn Spoke for the motion

The debate was opened

- Dorothy Chanakira (President Golden Gavel) *spoke for the motion*. In 2015 a member won the District Evaluation Contest. In 2021 that same member, Verity Price won the World Championship of Public Speaking. It is our responsibility to give our members the opportunity to evolve.
- Lorraine Pendula (Division Y Director) *spoke against the motion*. Our priority is to rebuild clubs and grow membership that has dropped during the pandemic. Evaluation and Table Topic contests will distract us. We should postpone this decision for another year, to allow us to focus on membership growth.
- Wence Kutekwatekwa (Area Director, Z5) *spoke for the motion*. The reason we have a membership problem is because the 'Fun' is missing in meetings. Table Topic and Evaluation contests will help to bring the fun back into Toastmasters. Other districts are holding these contests.
- Andrew Tsuro (Program Quality Director) *spoke against the motion*. Contests are fun, but the organisation is protocol centric. The priority is rebuilding quality clubs, let us allow the clubs who are able the option to hold contests at club level and allow other clubs the time to focus on education and growth, without the distraction of contests.
- Zeenat Fugurally (Area Director, B3) *spoke for the motion*. Competition allows members to measure growth. Division B wants to train members in contests as they were previously un-districted and unable to participate beyond country level. Now they will be able to measure growth against others in the district. Contests will contribute to member and membership growth. Last year Mauritius was able to hold all contests, District 74 can surely do the same?
- Keamo Molebalwa (VP Education, Midrand Ground breakers) *Spoke against the motion*. As VPE putting a program together for each meeting is a strain, contests will add too much additional pressure.
- Johnathene Beyers (President, Morningside) *spoke for the motion*. Contests allow small steps in member growth.
- Bhekisisa Ngomane (Division Director, A) *Spoke against the motion*. District mission is to build new clubs and support all clubs. The logistics required to deliver contests takes away from the mission. Park additional contests as we do not have the resources to do this.
- Maria Teresa Huber (VPE Executive Club, Division Z) *Spoke for the motion*. the achievement of Verity Price is the reason to hold contests.
- Noma Muzunze (AD, Z4) *Spoke against the motion*. Our plates are full with rebuilding our lives and our clubs after the pandemic. Let us not lose focus of the District Mission, we do not have the capacity to run additional contests.
- Nikki Quinn summed up and thanked everyone for the robust debate. Variety is necessary in our growth but is missing at area and division level as we do not compete against others in these contests. A part of the district experience is not there now.

District Director, Njabulo Thela called for the vote. The Zoom master, Anke Stow was asked to guide us through the vote. The question is a simple selection of Yes or No. The Zoom pole was opened. Results were sent to the Credentials master. Mr. DD commented that the variance needs to be above 20% to carry. If not, we will need to move to verify the votes received.

The initial result is close, but as there are members in the room who are not part of council the result must be verified by the credentials desk.

A 5-minute break was called.

		<u>The result of the District Council vote:</u> 199 votes - For the motion, 96 votes - Against the motion and Therefore the motion to have Evaluation and Table Topics Contest passed
13.	Date of next District Council Meeting	The next District Council Meeting will take place on 7 May 2022.
14.	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 11:40