



Minutes

District 59 Executive Committee Meeting

Sunday, 13th of May 2018 Virtual

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

At 10:00 a.m. Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director, called the meeting to order. She welcomed the members and celebrated the fact that we were having our first virtual DECM.

B. District Mission

Clara Noble, Administration Manager, read the District's Mission: "We built new clubs and support clubs to achieve excellence."

C. Certificate of Quorum

Clara Noble, Administration Manager, reported that a quorum was reached (50 District Officers were present throughout the meeting).

D. Adoption of the Agenda

Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director, informed that the agenda has had no changes, from when it was timely sent.

There were no objections, so the Agenda was adopted.

E. Parliamentary Procedure

Pablo Garcia explained the procedures that had to be followed specifically for this online DECM including the procedures to vote on the motions.

F. Approval of last DECM Minutes (Paris)

Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director, reported that the minutes of previous District Executive Council Meeting had been sent in due time and asked if there were any objections to the approval of the minutes.

There weren't, so the minutes were approved.

II. District Business

A. Core Team Reports

1. Alignment with our Goals

Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director, informed that there were some good news and not so good news – we have grown around 30 clubs (number not final yet), have a significant number of Distinguished Divisions and Areas and have exceeded our expectations in terms of Pathways visits. Finally, we have managed to nominate and appoint fantastic future leaders.

However, it will be almost impossible to be President distinguished, which is sad because the results do not fully reflect the effort that was put in. We can still be Select distinguished if we will keep up the good work and the members are registered and paid for.

2. Program Quality Report

Ulrike Laubner, Program Quality Director for future D109, presented on behalf of the 3 PQDs.

She talked about the Youth Leadership Program, the quality of Division Contests, Educational Awards, Division and Area Awards.

We exceeded the goal for Distinguished Clubs.

She made a call to action for all the Club visit reports to be submitted and for everyone to support the COTs organized in June.

3. Club Growth Report

Siegfried Haack, Club Growth Director (future D59) presented on behalf of the 3 CGDs.

He talked about the Growth of Clubs being aligned with last year but the fact that we lost more clubs – some to agora and a few corporate clubs.

As to renewals we are a bit below last year's figures.

We still have 48 days to go so do your best – there is support available and awards to be won. Let's finish strong!

4. PR Report

Sara Magalhaes, Public Relations Manager, presented the PR Report.

5. Finance Report

Ray Noble, Finance Manager, presented the accounts for the 9 months ended 31/3/2018.

He also commented on some of the main numbers in the Profit and Loss Account and made a call to action for everyone to submit their expenses as soon as possible.

6. Q & A

Cristina Juesas, H Division Director, commented that it was important to know about the clubs lost to Agora not just because of this year but also for next year.

There were 4 clubs lost in Portugal.

Antonio Mendes, D2 Area Director, asked how he can go to a Club and spend it in Marketing, since in the budget there was such a significant amount that was not used. Ana Isabel suggested that he presented a specific plan to Nacho Arenas, the Club Growth Director for Future District 107, who knows what the money can be spent on and has to pre-approve it.

Marketing suggestions from Francesco Fedele, Club Growth Director for Future District 109: Facebook advertising, printing advertising materials, posters, Club Demos or Open House meetings.

Robert van der Meer, Division D Director asked if there were any intentions of expanding on the Speaker to Trainer and Speech Craft modules since they are modules that could add value and expand the community.

Ulrike Laubner, Program Quality Director for Future District 109 said that this year there were no plans for that, so any plans for that should be on the Future District Strategic Plan.

Robert van der Meer, Division D Director asked what the reasons were for the 4 clubs to move to Agora because he knows there is a club in his Division that is considering the same thing.

Nacho Arenas, Club Growth Director for Future District 107 said they were already weak clubs. One of the reasons was cost another was misalignment from the club leaders with Toastmasters.

Valbona Zefi, B1 Area Director, asked about the exact procedure for the Area Directors to help club officers get the money for Marketing activities.

Siegfried Haack, Club Growth Director for Future District 59 said the easiest way was to write an email to the CGD and there if it is for a Demo Meeting there is a form to be filled.

At the end of the Q & A Ana Isabel Ferreira gave a call to action for Area Directors to talk to the CGDs about any specific ideas they may have to help grow the clubs,

B. Division Director Reports

Division Success Plans were presented according to the agenda, in a non-alphabetical order, grouped by the Districts they will be incorporating next year.

- Division D report presented by Luís Prazeres
 - Division H report presented by Cristina Jueas
 - Division K report presented by E.F.
 - Division L report presented by Alexandra Nunes
 - Division M report presented by Flavio Oliveira
 - Division A report, on the absence of Nathalie Damas, presented by Mark Finneran and Christine Coat-Morel
 - Division B report presented by Lucien Bollen
 - Division C report presented by Robert Van der Meer
 - Division F report presented via video by Pascal Vilarem (he was absent)
 - Division N report presented by Arnout Nederpelt
- 5 minutes break
- Division E report presented by Bigi Vitolic
 - Division G report presented by Metaxia Kritsidima
 - Division I report presented by Thomas Schneider
 - Division J report presented by Aires Marques

III. Current Business

A. Alignment Report

Irina Hauser presented alignment report.

Division A – complete reshuffle – Future D59 Division A

Division B – Division Split - Future D59 Divisions B and D

Division C – small movements – Future D59 Division C

Division D – Lisboa Oriente moves – Future D107 Division D

Division E – no change – Future D109 Division E

Division F – small movements – Future D59 Division F

Division G – Division Split plus Bulgaria that is going to be one of the Areas in Division B – Future D109 Division A and B

Division H – 2 new areas – Future D107 Division A

Division I – no change – Future D109 Division C

Division J – new area – Future D109 Division D

Metaxia Kritsidima, Division G Director raised a point of information that in two places in the presentation FYROM is mentioned differently. FYROM is the correct way and it should be consistent throughout the presentation.

Division K – new area – Future D107 Division B
Division L – reshuffle – Future D107 Division C
Division M – no change – Future D107 Division E
Division N – no change – Future D59 Division E
New Division - Austria – Future D109 Division F

This is a draft proposal that will be voted in the DCM in Athens.

Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director said we need a motion to approve this draft to be presented in the future District Council Meetings in Athens.

Christine Coat-Morel, Area 3 Director, presented a motion to swap 2 clubs Division A – Lutece 75 Club from A1 to go in A3 in the place of Club Avance de Paris, which would move to A1.

Ana requested that this be sent in writing together with the other Area Directors and clarified that what we need now is a decision that this is close to the final proposal and that it can be presented at the DCMs in Athens.

Suggestions on minor changes should be sent by email to Irina Hauser, Alignment Chair.

Robert van der Meer, Division C Director, moved to present the proposal as presented and amended with the result of the discussion at this DECM to the District Councils in Athens.

Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director clarified that the proposal will be presented in the Future Districts Council Meetings, not in the joint DCM.

The motion was seconded and Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director opened the floor for discussion.

Votes opposed: 0

Votes in favor: 42

Abstentions: 1

Motion carried.

B. DLC Report

Valerie Fraser, Chair of the District Leadership Committee presented the team DLC report.

There were 150 applications for 104 roles.

The only challenge is that we are missing one Area candidate for Future District 59 Area E5 and Lucy Sennef, Future District 59 Area C5 potentially will not be able to do her job.

The lesson learnt for the future is that Area Directors should start to look for leaders to step in their shoes because these were the most challenging positions to fill in.

She reminded all of the time line for the process from Call for Nominations to Elections.

C. Proxies Information for Athens Conference

Clara Noble, Administration Manager, explained the proxies' system and rules, and stressed the need to have 1/3 of the Presidents and VPEs present or represented by proxy (the District Officers do not count for quorum).

She thanked all Division and Area Directors for the help so far and made a call to action for everyone to make sure that everyone who goes to Athens has a proxy of their club (if the President and VPE are not going).

We need a comfortable surplus, because we can't count the votes until people actually get there and register.

IV. New Business

A. Fall Events

Nelson Emilio, Program Quality Director for future District 107, pointed out that Fall Events are not Official Toastmasters Events, but a group of people that are organizing events.

We have three events, one by Future District.

Future District 59 – Pascal Vilarem, Division F Director – they decided to join the ALLeGRO event.

Future District 107 – Vera Cunha, Area L2 Director is organizing an event in Coimbra, an Iberia gathering that everyone is invited to join in October 27 and 28.

Future District 109 – Patricia Mansencal, Area G3 Director, presented the ALLeGRO Toastmasters Floating Academy.

B. Additional New Business

No one suggested anything so we will address anything that comes up in the Q & A section.

C. GDPR

Francesco Fedele, Club Growth Director for future District 109, informed that on the 25th of May there will be a new Privacy Law. The information gathered is on the District website: <http://www.district59.org/gdpr/>.

The representants for each of the future Districts are:

Future District 59 – Valbona Zefi, B1 Area Director.

Future District 107 – Sandra Almeida, K2 Area Director.

Future District 109 – Natalia Liaropoulou.

The Club Presidents have received guidance through a document that is also included in the District59 website.

Clubs should update the Privacy Notice and Toastmasters have prepared a template that they can use.

He strongly suggests that DOTs include training in this area.

D. Q & A

Valbona Zefi, B1 Area Director – question for Clara Noble: can clubs assign their proxies to another Toastmaster in the same Area, because 3 clubs from B1 cannot have anyone in Athens.

Clara Noble, Administration Manager – Unfortunately NO, it has to be a member of the same club.

Pascal Vilarem, Division F Director – question for Francesco: what about Toastmasters.org compliance with GDPR?

Francesco Fedele, Club Growth Director for future District 109 also in charge of IT – Toastmasters International are also updating their site to be GDPR compliant.

E.F. Division K Director – question for Francesco – what about the data that is shared on District 59 website like Meeting's presentations and Minutes? These are open and other info like documents for preparation (Agendas, etc) are password protected.

Francesco Fedele, Club Growth Director for future District 109 also in charge of IT – we are working on making everything GDPR compliant and the help of our officers and members is very important to call attention to possible problem areas.

Cora Hollander, Area C3 Director – question for the PQDs – a few weeks ago you sent out a call for proposals for the 2019 Conference. Is there any progress in that discussion that you would like to share, or need help on?

Nelson Emilio, PQD for Future District 107 – we received proposals for all future Districts and they will be discussed in each DCM because they relate to the future Districts.

Arnout Nederpelt, District N Director – question regarding GDPR and keeping data from members so that they can rejoin at a later date.

Francesco Fedele, Club Growth Director for future District 109 also in charge of IT – the current suggestion is to use EasySpeak because it allows you to store data from members

and guests in a controlled and compliant way. EasySpeak has now a function that allows people to erase their data partially or fully.

V. Adjournment

Ana Isabel Ferreira, District Director, adjourned this meeting at 13:30 pm.

All presentations will be accessible via:

<http://www.district59.org/officer-resources/district-executive-committee/>