



Meeting Minutes
Virtual District Council Business Meeting
Saturday, May 1, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9am by District Director (DD) Barbara Strasdas, DTM.

The Inspirational Message was delivered by Past District Director Jeanine Kinsey, DTM.

The purpose of the meeting was stated by DD Strasdas.

The agenda was provided by email and posted in the meeting chat. A change to the agenda was announced – the Meeting Rules would be presented by Parliamentarian Hieu Huynh, DTM. Without objection, the agenda was adopted.

The credentials chair and committee and technical team support for the meeting were introduced. Parliamentarian Huynh read and posted the Meeting Rules in chat at 9:09.

At 9:11am, Credentials Chair Pamela Rolle, DTM, PDG stated the Voting Procedures and Credentials Committee Report. Rolle stated a quorum was achieved with 208 Presidents and Vice Presidents Education registered. There were also 44 District Executive Committee members represented, resulting in 252 total ballots available, with a simple majority of 127 votes if all 252 voted; and a 2/3 majority vote of 168 if applicable. Without objection the credentials report was adopted.

The September 26, 2020 District Council Virtual Business Meeting Minutes were presented by email prior to the meeting for review by the Council members. DD Strasdas stated “if there is no objection, the reading of the minutes is dispensed with. With no corrections the September 26, 2020 minutes were approved and accepted at 9:20am.

At 9:21am Past International Director and District Advisor Kristina Kihlberg, DTM presented the Realignment Committee Report and motioned that approval of realignment be presented to the 2021-2022 District Executive Committee (DEC). Ernesto Williams, DTM of Cable Beach West Club #6796, seconded. DD Strasdas stated without objection the realignment will be reviewed by the incoming DEC.

Audit Committee Chair Jennifer McDougle, DTM delivered the Audit Committee Report at 9:33 am. All expenditures were reconciled and there were no irregularities as per the committee.

District Leadership Committee (DLC) Chair and Past District Director Maurice Fuller, DTM gave his report on candidates and recognized the following DLC members: Jose Alvarado, Division A; Andrew Bern, Division B; Sheree Thomas, Division C; Maritza Coscarelli, Division D; Sandra Jackson, Division E; Elaine Bullard, Division F; George Mallis, Division I.

Beginning at 9:46 am, DD Strasdas began the 2021- 2022 election process. District Director candidates Shakira Taylor, DTM and Ivan Thompson, DTM were given 2 minutes each to speak to the voting members.

Sandra Jackson, DTM of Club # 305 Speaks asked for an additional 10 minutes on the clock before voting for members who were having difficulty with email. Past District Director Kinsey confirmed with CC Rolle that time could be extended for 5 minutes.

DD Strasdas announced voting closed at 10:12 am. Program Quality Director Shakira Taylor, DTM gave her report update while votes were being tallied.

At 10:23am DD Strasdas announced of the 215 votes cast, candidate Shakira Taylor received 140 votes; candidate Ivan Thompson, 75.

Candidates for Program Quality Director – Austen Canonica, DTM and candidate Andre Kelly, DTM – each spoke for 2 minutes to voting members.

CGD Austen Canonica delivered the Club Growth report while the votes were being tallied.

At 10:29am DD Strasdas announced the voting results: Of 212 votes cast, candidate Austen Canonica received 109; candidate Andre Kelly, 103.

Candidates for Club Growth Director – candidate Lois Margolin, DTM and candidate Price Polynice, DTM each spoke for 2 minutes to voting members.

While the votes were being tallied, Public Relations Manager Andre Kelly delivered the PR Report.

At 11:11am DD Strasdas announced of the 207 votes cast, candidate Lois Margolin received 145 votes and candidate Price Polynice received 62.

DD Strasdas asked that without objection there be no secret ballot, and that a single ballot be cast by a voice vote by Administration Manager (AM) Patty Stevenson for the following unopposed candidates: Division A Director - Andrea Robinson, Division B Director – Roosevelt Jean-Francois, Division C Director – Elizabeth George, and Division F Director – Simon Gerard Rolle. AM Stevenson cast a single ballot for these candidates. Each was elected.

For the position of Division D Director, candidate Arun Krishnamoorthy nominated himself, seconded by Division D Director Valerie Johnson. Tiffany Burrell-Roberts, Legalities, Club #7180192 nominated Deandra Dorsette of The First Breakfast Toastmasters Club of the Bahamas, Club #7775252, who accepted the nomination. Area Director Lori Bailey asked that the floor be closed for additional nomination, DD Strasdas accepted. DLC Chair Fuller confirmed that both floor candidates were interviewed and qualified by the DLC. Each candidate spoke for 2 minutes.

DD Strasdas Asked DLC Chair Maurice Fuller to clarify a question from voting member Parisa Hamzetash, Club # 5576592 El Cid TM about the difference between a nominated candidate and a candidate running from the floor. Candidates applying before April 15 were interviewed and nominated with 13 being interviewed, 12 nominated; 1 withdrew from nomination. After April 15 others had up to 1 week before the May 1 meeting to apply. Three applied to run from the floor and were approved. Approval prior to the meeting was required.

At 11:36am Finance Manager Ann McLaughlin gave the Financial Report while the votes for Division D Director were being tallied.

Cindy Beckles, Riverwalk Toastmasters Club #8664, asked if 25% of funds not used (in excess of budget) were being returned to Toastmasters International (TI) as had been previously stated. DD Strasdas stated that after the onset of COVID-19, TI suspended the requirement.

At 11:48am DD Strasdas announced of 194 votes cast, candidate Dorsette received 122 votes; Krishnamoorthy's 72.

There was 1 candidate from the floor for Division E Director, Tiffany Burrell-Roberts DTM, nominated by Euvunka Paul, Pinewood Trendsetters Club #7773401 and candidate Burrell- Roberts accepted the nomination. DD Strasdas confirmed with the DLC Chair Fuller that the candidate had been interviewed and qualified. DD Strasdas asked for a single ballot to be cast by AM Stevenson, AM Stevenson cast a single voice vote for Burrell-Roberts. Burrell-Roberts was elected Division E Director.

Division I Director candidates Ancin Munnings and Derek G. Rolle each spoke for 2 minutes. Voting closed at 12:06pm.

DD Strasdas opened the floor for questions while votes were being tallied. At that time Parliamentarian Huynh clarified that if someone nominated themselves, there need not be a second.

At 12:10pm DD Strasdas announced of the 169 votes cast, Munnings received 75, Rolle 94.

DD Strasdas adjourned the meeting at 12:11pm.

Note: Quorum

*Of the 166 eligible clubs, (332 votes, one each for President and Vice President Education) one-third must be registered to achieve a quorum, resulting in 111 votes.