

**District 27 Council Meeting Minutes**  
**September 17, 2022**  
**10:00am via Zoom**

Call to Order

Logistics Manager, Tonithia Reid called the meeting to order and opened the meeting by reading the online Toastmasters statement. Toastmaster Reid introduced the presiding officer, District Director Distinguished Toastmaster LaShawn Foster.

Welcome & Introductions

Presiding Officer, District Director Distinguished Toastmaster LaShawn Foster welcomed attendees and thanked each one for attending and reported that District 27 is off to a great start.

Accomplishments since July 1, 2022:

- Submitted the 2022-2023 District Success Plan to Toastmasters International
- The 2022-2023 District 27 Budget has been reviewed and approved by Toastmasters International
- District Leadership Roles
  - 99% of the positions have been filled for the 2022-2023 program year
  - 100% of Area and Division Directors have been trained
  - 48% of the 1<sup>st</sup> round Area visits have been completed and submitted

Inspirational Moment

District Chaplain, Tiffany Ross provided an inspirational message to let us know, we are doing great.

Status of Meeting Quorum

District Credentials Chair, Distinguished Toastmaster Iris Taylor, PDD presented that a quorum has been established.

District Mission and Vision

District Administration Manager, Deborah Jones read the District Mission and key factors required to meet the mission.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was provided to members through email and posted using the chat function during the meeting. There were no objections to the agenda and the agenda was adopted.

Meeting Rules

District Parliamentarian, Distinguished Toastmaster Elizabeth Holland, DTM explained the voting procedures, election, and discussed the rules for the meeting.

Credentials Committee Report

District Credentials Chair, Distinguished Toastmaster Iris Taylor, PDD. presented the Credentials Report. There were 93 eligible clubs in the district, each club receives two votes, one

for the Club President and one for the Vice President Education. To achieve a quorum, one-third of the Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education of eligible clubs must be checked in, which is 62. There are total of 97 Club Presidents and Club Vice Presidents Education represented; a quorum has been achieved. There are also 25 District Executive Committee Members represented. They do not count towards achieving a quorum, total ballots available are 122, if everyone votes, a simple majority would be 122 votes, a two-thirds majority would be 81 votes. A quorum has been achieved.

### Voting Procedures

You will receive at least one email. Many of you will receive more than one email, for example, if you are representing both the President and Vice President Education for your club, you will receive two ballots. If you are also a member of the District Executive Committee, you will receive a third vote. You will need to respond to all emails to fully represent your club. Once voting opens you will start receiving emails.

To vote by email, you will receive a message from District 27 with the subject, "Vote Now." It will go to the email you used for registration, and the same one that you received your Eventbrite confirmation from.

Once you receive an email from Election Buddy, click on the secure election link and enter your votes.

Two items of business required a vote using Election Buddy.

1. 2022-2023 Area Director and district staff appointment, and the district.
2. Approval of the District 27 budget

Once you vote, verify your selections and click submit.

### Approval of the May 7, 2022, District Council Meeting Minutes

Without objection, the minutes were approved as written.

### Year End (2021-2022) Audit Report

District Audit Committee Chair Distinguished Toastmaster Ivana Miranda presented the District Audit Committee Report. Please see the September 17, 2022, Delegates Package for additional details.

Question #1 (from chat): Verifying that the District Committee Chair stated that the district did not have a bank account.

Answer: District Committee Chair stated yes, that is correct.

### District Alignment Report

The District Alignment Chair Distinguished Toastmaster Jenny Genser-White presented the District Alignment Report. Please see the September 17, 2022, Delegates Package for additional details.

Question #1: Do we have any new clubs?

Answer: District Director stated five that are slated to be chartered, but no new clubs at this time.

#### Review of the District Success Plan

The District Success Plan was provided via email for review. District Director Distinguished Toastmaster LaShawn Foster will offer additional details during her final remarks at the end of the District Council meeting.

#### Business Requiring Adoption

##### ***1. Appointment of District Leaders***

District Director, Distinguished Toastmaster LaShawn Foster presented the 2022-2023 District 27 leaders appointed since the last District Council Meeting.

- Administration Manager – Deborah Jones
- Finance Manager – Joshua Smith, DTM
- Michelle Carter – Public Relations Manager

The following were appointed as Area Directors:

- Judith Albury – Area 11
- Hasani Jaali – Area 12
- Cate Kinney, DTM – Area 13
- Amanda Chestnut – Area 14
  
- Bacilia Herrera – Area 21
- Carol Nicholas, DTM – Area 22
- Devagus Waters – Area 23
- James Loper, DTM – Area 24
  
- Veleana Hurd-Whitaker – Area 31
- Harriet Brown – Area 32
- Tammy Brown – Area 33
- Dr. Janice Boss, DTM – Area 34
  
- Rudy Moralez, DTM – Area 41
- Stephen Thompson - Area 42
- Tyisha Owens – Area 43
- Karen Nightengale – Area 44

- Diane Harley – Area 51
- Vacant – Area 52
- Ida King – Area 53
- Pierrette Michel – Area 54
  
- Linda Zhou, DTM – Area 61
- Margaret Anthony, DTM – Area 62
- Xavier Wong, DTM – Area 63
- Renee Moore, DTM – Area 64

These appointments were confirmed by the District Executive Committee and must be acknowledged by the District Council.

## **2. 2022-2023 District Budget**

Finance Manager, Distinguished Toastmaster Joshua Smith presented the 2022-2023 District 27 budget.

Highlighted items:

- Approximately 25% of the \$45 payment provided every 6 months is given back to the district your club resides in
- Modest cost relating to publicity
- Upcoming Region Advisor visit
- Largest line items
  - Travel, lodging, and food/meals
- Speech Contests
- District 27 website
- Hail and Farewell

Please see the September 17, 2022, Delegates Package for additional details.

The items above can now be voted on. A ballot has been emailed to all voting members. A vote will be conducted using Election Buddy. The voting will remain open until 12:00pm.

### Division Reports

*Division A Director*, Annette Sanks; *Division B Director*, Maria Killian; *Division C Director*, Johnnie Patterson; *Division D Director*, Sonya Ponds; *Division E Director*, LaMonica Nelson; and *Division F Director*, Thanh Trang provided reports highlighting the accomplishments of their respective divisions. Please see the September 17, 2022, Delegates Package for additional details.

### Club Growth Director Report

Club Growth Director, Distinguished Toastmaster Tommye Grant, DTM presented the Club Growth report. She motivated the attendees by saying, “We Have Work To Do.”

Please see the September 17, 2022, Delegates Package for additional details.

### Program Quality Director Report

Program Quality Director, Distinguished Toastmaster Jeanna Lee, DTM presented the Club Growth report.

Please see the September 17, 2022, Delegates Package for additional details.

### District Director Report

District Director, Distinguished Toastmaster LaShawn Foster presented the District Director report.

The next District Council Meeting will be Saturday, May 6, 2023, during the 2023 District Conference.

Please see the September 17, 2022, Delegates Package for additional details.

### Announcements

Public Relations Manager, Michelle Carter presented the following announcements:

- Renewals are due September 30, 2022
- Fall Area level speech contests begin October 1, 2022, and end November 4, 2022
  - Humorous Speech
  - Table Topics
- Virtual District 27 Holiday Celebration
  - Saturday, December 17
  - 7:00pm – 10:00pm
  - Looking for planning committee members
    - Contact District Director Foster at [dd27@d27-tm.org](mailto:dd27@d27-tm.org)
- Winter TLI begins November 5, 2022 – February 28, 2023
  - Information to register can be found on the [District 27 website](#)
- Newsletter submission
  - Deadline for submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the each month
- 2023 District Conference
  - Virtual on May 6, 2023
- Spring Speech Contests
  - International Speech
  - Evaluations
  - Dates will be provided by Program Quality Director Jeanna Lee, DTM

**Question #1:** What happened to prospective clubs that were provided last year?

**Answer:** District Director, Distinguished Toastmaster LaShawn Foster stated that there is a time limit once the \$125 charter fee is paid. Once those clubs fall off the list, suggested reaching out to the POC to assist them. For additional assistance, reach out to District 27 Club Growth Director Distinguished Toastmaster Tommye Grant.

Voting Status

Due to issues that need to be resolved relating to Eventbrite, voting will remain open. The results will be sent out by the end of the day, Saturday September 17, 2022.

District Director, Distinguished Toastmaster LaShawn Foster appreciated everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting!

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah. Jones  
District 27 Administration Manager, 2022-2023

LaShawn Foster, DTM  
District 27 Director, 2022-2023