



**MINUTES**  
**DISTRICT 33 - DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**ZOOM**  
**June 27, 2020**

**I. Call to order**

**2019 2020 District Director, Flora Turner, DTM**, called the meeting to order at 09:00 AM.

**II. Pledge**

The pledge of allegiance was led by **Program Quality Director, and Incoming District Director, Joseph Skoda, DTM**.

**III. Inspiration**

**Club Growth Director, and Incoming Program Quality Director, Clarisse Kresser, DTM**, shared an inspirational thought. Be strong but not rude...

**IV. Mission Statement**

**Division A Director and Incoming Club Growth Director Debbie Allmon, DTM** read the District Mission Statement.

**V. Confirmation of Appointed Officers**

The list of all selected officers was read by **Incoming District Director, Joseph Skoda, DTM**. a motion was made by Gary Miller to accept **all** appointees, the motion was seconded by 2019 - 2020 District Director, Flora Turner. The motion to accept the appointed officers was confirmed.

**VI. Installation of Officers**

The swearing in of the District 33 Area Directors, Division Directors, and Districted Leaders: Administration Manager, Finance Manager, Public Relations Manager, Logistics Manager, Committee Chair, Operations Chair, Parliamentarian, Club Growth Director, Program Quality Director, and District Director was conducted by Past Regional Advisor, Dietmar Wageknecht,DTM.

**VII. Quorum Report**

Certification of the Quorum was established at the beginning of the meeting and conducted by Katy Porter, DTM. The Committee has 40 current active members; a quorum requires 21 members. There were 36 members and a quorum present.

**VIII. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted without objection.

**IX. Approval of the Minutes from the April 25, 2020, Meeting**

The minutes from the meetings were previously sent to all Committee members, and can be found on the District 33 website. Copies are also available from the incoming Administration Manager, Vanneca Phelps, DTM. The Administration Manager (AM Phelps) asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, District Director, select, Joseph Skoda called for a motion to approve the 25 April 2020 minutes. *Tan Phan and seconded by Greg Mauro Hearing no objections the minutes were approved as submitted.*

**X. Finance Manager's Report**

Incoming District 33 Finance Manager Patrick Chandler, DTM, submitted the financial report for the month of April 30, 2020, prepared by Al Moore, DTM. The District received membership revenue of \$45,949. The total district revenue of \$51,938. Expenses are \$42,250 Net Income is \$8,687.89. The checking account has a balance of \$5,037. The World Headquarters account has \$50,000. The total District revenue was \$51,938.

Travel expenses were questioned "why so expensive?" "that is crazy." Reimbursement for travel is not out of "wack". Flora Turna responded to the question, she stated, the district pays for the Trio to travel to Denver Colorado X2, to the International Convention, training and TLIs, this includes, airfare and milage. It will always be one of the biggest expenses, because the pandemic travel expenses have actually been less. Are there any other questions regarding travel? Hearing none... I turn the floor back to the FinanceManager.  
We are starting off the year pretty good actually.

District Director, Joseph SKoda, stated we will vote on the budget in September.

**XI. Division Director Reports**



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### ***Division A: Greg Crawley, DTM***

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I want to show people how to face their fears and not give up whenever things don't work out as expected.

Together, we continue to learn to speak by speaking and HOW we speak is almost as important as WHAT we have to say. In a world where millions of people don't have access to clean air, clear water, decent education, effective medicines, and good paying jobs, we need INFORMED and PURPOSE-DRIVEN people who are equipped with the skills needed to communicate and solve problems.

We understand that as Toastmasters, we have the opportunity to be part of SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS that we might not otherwise so greatly appreciate. Furthermore, WE CAN HAVE FUN in the process of being the change that we want to see in the world.

I look forward to being the 2020 - 2021 Division A Director. Thank you for thl've been a Toastmaster since 2013. My youngest sister Catherine inspired me to join Toastmasters when she invited me to a club meeting at Guelph Public Speakers Toastmasters in Canada.

Division A consists of 6 areas with a total of 33 clubs. Primarily due to COVID-19, 3 to 5 of the Division A clubs appear to be at risk of shutting down. We'll do what we can to keep these clubs open and we look forward working with the Club Growth Director to build new clubs.

I'm looking forward to working with a wonderful team of Area directors including: James, Suzy, Corey, Steve, Shelli, and Carolyn. We'll lead by example and focus on ensuring that clubs receive what they need to grow. Over two-thirds of the Division A membership is made up of people who are new to Toastmasters. We will focus our energy on ensuring that clubs are thriving and we'll do what we can to minimize membership turnover.

Aside from modernizing and improving our education program, Pathways was introduced to help reduce turnover. We believe that Pathways is working for many clubs. We're going put on our problem-solving caps and figure out how we can help all clubs reduce membership turnover. We also want to understand the individual goals of our leaders and help guide them on their respective paths to greatness.

We understand that strong clubs are goal oriented. They put emphasis on quality speech evaluations and they help with special events even when they aren't hosting those events. We want to see people grow and be great leaders and communicators. We want to encourage people to address large numbers of people. We want to understand how the club officers across all clubs would like to become better leaders and help them with that journey.

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### ***Division B: Paul Kistler, DTM***

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I have been a toastmaster for 15 years. I am currently a member of three clubs, I am also a coach for Heritage Valley. All my clubs have all achieved distinguished or higher this year. I just



completed the requirements for distinguished toastmaster, DTM! The paperwork hasn't cleared yet... I am past Area B3 Director and past co-chair for the 2019 District 33 Conference in Oxnard, CA. I work for the US Navy in Port Hueneme. I have been there for 38 years now. Currently I enrolled in pathways and have completed two level 1s and one level 2. My main focus is to serve as the Division B Director. I would like to work on those things that will help the Division achieve President's Distinguish. Recognizing that the virtual meetings are making it tough to retain and recruit new members, I hope to work on ways to make virtual meetings more exciting and enjoyable so as remote meetings and more screen sharing as I see more and more clubs are starting to do. I relinquish the remainder of my time.

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***Division C: Tan Pham, IP3***

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Good morning Fellow Toastmasters, my name is Tan Pham and I am excited to be the 2020-2021 Division C Director. As of 27 June 2020, 12 out of 27 Division C clubs have achieved Distinguished or higher status. For leadership, all 5 Area Directors are assigned and present at today's District Officer Training. I've been a Toastmaster for 4.5 years, recently served as the Area B1 Director and Club President of Fair Winds Toastmasters (Area B3) and currently serving as Sgt at Arms for Leaders Pro Toastmasters (Area C4). I will be bringing energy and a fresh perspective and outlook to Division C. Division C's goal is to achieve President's Distinguished status. My vision is to grow new skills in our Toastmasters by growing in Pathways, embracing online meetings, and mentoring our youth.

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***Division D: Chris DeCollibus, DTM***

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Hello and welcome, thank you everyone for stepping up. What an exciting time to be living. I am a Toastmaster because I want to become an international Speaker and I am on my way to doing that. What is your why? Why are you a Toastmaster. It is important that you know what your why is. Communication is surely a huge key in every aspect of our lives. I'm sure you would agree. Our whys are different from one another. We are here for growth and tapping our potential, to reach the highest level we can possibly reach. Ask, "why are you here" as we meet new people. We need to ask, what your why is? Why are you here? Embrace all of the things that Toastmasters has to offer. It is a remarkable program. I want to embrace this new year, as your Division E Director and I am going to do everything I can to help you help your clubs grow. We need to be a club and a Division that welcomes and helps new members grow. That is why the why is so important. Help new members and each new member will get the most out of the pathways. I am here for you, I am in your corner and I am going to help you this year.

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***Division E: Elizabeth Gould Morse, ACB, CL***

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Hi Toastmasters friends and family! I'm in Santa Barbara, California, and a member of Woodland and Goleta Valley Toastmasters. Division E has 3 areas and 15 clubs in the greater Santa Barbara area, which runs from Carpinteria through Goleta. Each area has 5 clubs.

To give you an overview of District 33, 37% of clubs are Distinguished or better to date. In Area E, we currently have 8 distinguished clubs. That's 57% distinguished or better to date.

In general the clubs are doing well, but we have one club, CJ Affiliate, that is endangered in the pandemic. This is because the corporate office is no longer paying for their employees' Toastmasters dues. We are working with the president of the club, who is in the process of moving to San Francisco. It's an entirely virtual club, so we are hopeful that his strong connection to Toastmasters will help bring his fellow members around.

All of our club visits were completed in May.

We have 2 Area Directors lined up, Anna Romero from Woodland and Grace Hartell from Presentation Pros. We are still working on finding the third.

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***Division F: Chris Hempleman, DTM***

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We are going to be, we are a great District. Division F clubs range from Grover, which is the Yosemite area, all the way down to the Merced area. One area is already distinguished. Other areas are on the way to becoming distinguished. There are 4 Areas in Division F. Our goals this year are to help our members. Keep our attention focused on our members and to listen, carefully listen to what their needs are; leadership wise and communication. Helping them through pathways. We are passionate about having our club presidents working with our area directors and myself helping our members through pathways. Asking are members would you like to help us with this project or division contest or a TLI. We have the resources and have the tools to help you. A big takeaway from this past year we had three clubs go down and we had four people that got those clubs and helped them get reinstated and restarted even rechartered. The biggest take away... we will never give up. One of the clubs that when down, F2 is now distinguished! Listen to our members!

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***Division G: Greg Mauro, ACS, ALB***

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Division G currently has 2 Presidents distinguished clubs in Area G1. TLC Toastmasters and Oakhurst Toastmasters. Oakhurst was only restarted a couple years ago, and in 2 years has now become President's Distinguished. They have really kicked it up. In Area G4 we have Hanford Toastmasters which has reached Select Distinguish. We have 5 clubs in Division G that have met all the requirements except membership. They are going down to the wire trying to get those



plus five members for a twenty member charter strength. I have all four of my Area Directors here today. It has been my pleasure to have worked with all of them. And I am looking forward to really kicking it up a notch in Division G. We have a very agricultural background. There are also a lot of educators. I really want to tap into the power that Toastmasters can be for educators. It has really supercharged my career, and I would love that to be the case for other Toastmasters.

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***District Public Relations Manager: Eric Browning, DL4***

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Good Morning, I have been a member of toastmasters for 3 years. My home club is Caneo Valley Toastmasters which, I am happy to say, turns 57 years old on Monday. I am also a member of Leaders Pro and I am the VPE for each of those but, my main role and why I am here today is as Public Relations Manager. I am just beginning to assemble our PR team and currently enjoying the excellent support of the past PR Manager. PR is a critical part of achieving the mission of toastmasters as well as of course, the District. Some priorities for the coming year include an overhaul of the District web site, regular videos highlighting member successes, and a streamline and well understood approach for publicising Toastmasters in social media and supporting all the people in the district that work on PR from the top to the bottom.

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***Club Growth Director: Deborah Allmon, DTM***

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Honored on many different fronts and co-chaired a conference I am currently Division Director and A5 president I am a achiever goal oriented numbers person but the bottom line is the members

- OAs of 4/23/2020 data from the Dashboard, of the 106 clubs with 12 or fewer members, 56 clubs have fewer than 8 members and are not considered “active” clubs. Of these 56 clubs, 15 clubs have zero members that have renewed.
- Outreach to clubs, particularly those with fewer than 8 members, has/is being done to work with club officers to identify and provide needed support and assistance. There continues to be increases in number of active clubs and increases in membership renewals. For example, on 4/10/2020, there were 81 active clubs and 4,133 membership payments. On 4/23/2020, there are 98 active and 4,346 membership payments.
- With the support and assistance of Division and Area Directors, all clubs are being encouraged to move to online meetings. In the past month more and more clubs are conducting meetings via zoom.
- Training
  - The CGD and PQD have scheduled Member Support Office Hours that were being held more frequently to support members and clubs to online meetings. In early April a session on how-tos and tips on having Zoom club meetings was attended by over 60 participants. The next session is on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm and will be a continuation on conducting Zoom club meetings. This is in addition to the District 33 training webinars scheduled by the PQD.



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***Program Quality Director: Clarisse Kresser, DTM***

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In her service as District 33's Program Quality Director for 2020-21, Clarisse Kresser's vision is for all District 33 members to achieve their communication and leadership skills while enjoying their Toastmasters experience.

Clarisse has been a Toastmaster for over 5 ½ years. When she first joined Toastmasters, her main goal was to improve her communication skills. She joined at a time in her life where she was experiencing a "winter" season where there were major changes in her life that she was experiencing. It caused her to lose perspective. There was great uncertainty and her self-confidence was very low. But she persisted to work on the goal that she started. With each club meeting she attended, she quickly learned that the Toastmasters' experiences are so much more than improving "her" communication skills. As she improved in her communication skills, the more she discovered new opportunities and interests. The support she received from her fellow club members was key for her to build back her self-confidence. Toastmasters had "transformed" her and continues to.

Clarisse's reason (or "why") for being in Toastmasters and pursuing leadership opportunities available at the district level is to help others learn and grown in their skills and help them discover and achieve their personal goals and dreams. She experienced the "transformation" Toastmasters did for her, and she wants to have others experience that as well.

In her role as Program Quality Director in 2020-21, Clarisse will focus on further strengthening the Toastmasters Program ---- Pathways and the club experience --- to all members in District 33. In the PQD presentation during the District Officer training later in the day, she will share more details on the plan.

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***Past District Director: Flora Turner, DTM***

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I am so happy to see you all here. As you take on your new positions. I have removed my hat and pass it on to Mr Skoda.

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***District Director: Joseph Skoda, DTM***

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As of July 1, 2020, I as the District Director, will be responsible for directly administering and overseeing the District's day-to-day operations, finances, and human resources. I have appointed a Team to help me.



My Vision and Focus for 2020 – 2021 is:

***District 33 Develops Leaders One at a Time!***

In addition to the Elected Officers who complete the Trio (Clarisse Kresser – Program Quality Director and Debbie Allmon – Club Growth Director) as well as myself, I have also appointed the following individuals:

Eric Browning - Public Relations Manager  
Patrick Chandler - Finance Manager  
Vanneca Phelps - Administration Manager

Other Leadership Positions (Elected/Appointed) are as follows:

Division A Director	-	Greg Crawley	(Appointed)
Division B Director	-	Paul Kistler	(Elected)
Division C Director	-	Tan Pham	(Elected)
Division D Director	-	Chris DeCollibus	(Elected)
Division E Director	-	Elizabeth Gould Morse	(Elected)
Division F Director	-	Chris Hempleman	(Elected)
Division G Director	-	Greg Mauro	(Elected)

Parliamentarian	-	Katy Porter	(Appointed)
Dist Leadership Committee Chair	-	Flora Turner	(Appointed)
Operations Chair	-	Jamuna Ramnath	(Appointed)
Dennis Ham	-	Logistics Manager	(Appointed)

PID, PRA, DTM Dietmar Wagenknecht will be performing the Installation Ceremony to include available incoming Area Directors.

After installation, I will call for an adoption of the Agenda, approval of past minutes and finance report.

Our Team has a plan in place to grow membership as well as ensure our clubs stay healthy. We will focus more on individual members and helping them achieve their own personal goals.

Eric Browning will assume the duties of website manager also where he will update and make more user friendly for the rest of us in the district. He also will start a “Focus” Corner on Facebook as well as anywhere else appropriate for us to spotlight clubs hitting important milestones as well as members reaching new accomplishments.

Our Trio will meet with our Division Directors monthly and as necessary to ensure success in their divisions. Area/Division Directors are encouraged to bring up any issues early affecting members or clubs in their area of responsibility.



Division / Area Directors are encouraged to hold their own Council meetings.

We have submitted a proposed calendar for the year and will vote on its approval at our September District Executive Committee (DEC) meeting.

*The District Executive Committee includes the District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, Public Relations Manager, District Administration Manager, District Finance Manager, Division Directors, Area Directors and Immediate Past District Director.*

**Important Dates to note:**

July 10 - Begin Super TLI w/Keynote Speaker (Friday Night) - Virtual

July 11 - Super TLI continues for all club officers (Virtual)

August 24 – 29 Toastmasters International Convention (Virtual)

Sep 12 - DEC and 2<sup>nd</sup> District Officer Training (Virtual)

Sep 26 - District Council Meeting (Virtual)

Oct 10 - Hall of Fame / Awards Ceremony (TBD)

April 30, 2021 Proposed District 33 Conference (TBD)

**XII. Good of the Order**

District Director Joseph Skoda called for any business for the good of the order. None was offered. The next District 33 Executive Committee Session will be on September 12, 2020.

**XIII. Additional Comments**

The District Council Meeting will meet at 10:00 - 12:00 on 26 September

**XIV. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the District Director adjourned the meeting 1:30

Attendees

1. Corey Cofield



2. Dennis Ham - Logistics Manager
3. Greg Mauro - Division G
4. Kevin Lopes -G4
5. Elizabeth Morse
6. Vanneca Phelps - Administration Manager
7. Lisa Marrone - Area D
8. Dietmar Wagenknect
9. Jose Ledezma
10. Anthony Olivo -G1
11. Clarisse Kresser
12. Greg Crawley - Division A
13. Patrick Chandler - Finance Manager
14. Donna Chandler - Area Director D
15. Tan Phan - Division Director C
16. SarahTolmach - G3
17. Katy Porter
18. Julia Bach
19. Ann Hill
20. Flora Turner - District Leadership Committee Chair
21. Deborah Allmon -Club Growth Director
22. Mark Frankcom
23. Chip Stark
24. James Riske
25. Nico Martin
26. Anna Sehati
27. Steve Menke
28. James Minyard
29. Gary Miller
30. Paul Kistler - Division B
31. Chris Hempleman -
32. Kevin Lopez- G4
33. Jamuna Ramnath - Operations Chair
34. Eric Browning - Public Relations Manager,/Webmaster
35. Shell Shealey- A5
36. Joseph Skoda - District Director
37. Phyllis Tribby
38. Robert Croeni - G2
39. Ladi Asgill - F3
40. James Riske -C3

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vanneca Phelps, DTM  
District 33 Administration Manager, 2020-2021