

MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT 69 COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE
IN TOWNSVILLE ON SATURDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2012
At the Townsville RSL Townsville

Opened 9:30am by Travis Coles (acting SAA) reading the Mission and presenting the District Governor with the Mace

Present:

District Executive members: DG, LGM, IPDG, PRO, District Secretary, District Treasurer
(non- voting members: Parliamentarian, acting SAA)

Division Governors: C, E, M, N

Area Governors: 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 24, 25, 28, 32, 34

Clubs:

ACS Brisbane (1)	Buderim Mountain (2)	Bunya Club (2)
Burdekin(2)	Calen Canefields (2)	Carina (2)
Chermside Comm. (2)	Chinchilla (2)	City Midday (2)
Compass (1)	Cooroy (2)	Daisy Hill (2)
Eyeopener (1)	Healthy Chatterers (2)	Helensvale Daybreak (2)
Hervey Bay (2)	Inverell (2)	Jacaranda 2000 (2)
Kickstart Cairns (2)	Leaders by Design (2)	Marlin Coast (2)
Nerang (2)	Northern Nomads (1)	Southbank (2)
Summerland (2)	Tamborine Mountain (2)	Top Table (2)
Townsville (2)	T'ville City Council (2)	T'ville University (1)
Tropic City (2)	TT (1)	USC Speakers (1)
Weblec (2)	Westgate (2)	Whitsunday (2)
Young Achievers@QUT (1)		

District Governor Charlie Starrett opened the District 69 Council meeting and called on District Secretary Ingrid Duane to read the Notice of the Meeting and called for one Minute silence to honour members who passed away since the last Council Meeting in May 2012 and to include members of the family of Toastmaster members.

(Richard Harvey, Brian O'Neill's mother, Pushpa Vida's partner and John Kay's mother)

The District Governor acknowledged the presence of the Region 12 International Director Mike Helms DTM and welcomed him to the meeting.

The following Past District Governors were acknowledged and welcomed these to the meeting: IPDG John Kay DTM, Bruce George DTM, Past International Director Clare Murphy DTM, PDG Sandra Simpson DTM, Bob Simpson DTM, Lesley Storkey DTM, Mike Storkey DTM past International Director and Charlie Harrison DTM.

Members at the top table were introduced to the meeting:

LGET Carolyn Phillips has been granted extended leave of absence until January 31st 2013 at the earliest. The DG will appoint an officer in an acting capacity to cover during Carolyn's absence. LGM Ian Pinker, PRO David Burston, District Secretary Ingrid Duane, District Treasurer John Sells, District Parliamentarian Graham Miller, acting District SAA Travis Coles, Derek Miller has stepped down from the District SAA position.

The DG welcomed all members present with a special mention and acknowledgement to First Timers. He asked them to stand and thanked all for the warm welcome extended to the First Timers.

Quorum:

District Parliamentarian Graham Miller explained establishment of a Quorum. District 69 with 190 Clubs requires 1/3 of Club Presidents and VPE's requiring 127 voting delegates. Present at this meeting are 65 club delegates, 22 District Executive (voting delegates not counted in the quorum).

A Quorum could not be established for this meeting.

To ratify the decisions of this meeting will need to be conducted by E-mail with a majority of all clubs in District 69.

Voting procedure was explained to the meeting by the District Governor.

Apologies:

David Bowden PDG Roma & District Toastmasters club; Julia Hassall Western Division Governor; Christine Lennon Southern Division Governor; Paul Balin A 23 Governor; Desley Buchan A31 Governor; Bronwyn McPherson A35 Governor; Dee Douglas A37 Governor; Judy Draper (Serendipity) Muriel Smith (Glasshouse Country) Margaret Brennan (Adventurers); Marjory Hansen (Speak Easy); Kate Ayres (SpeakEasy); Andrew Cole (Boyd Park); Marilyn Davies (Downunder) Marina Bruno (ACS Brisbane)

Moved Brian O'Neill (Calen) "that the Apologies be accepted", seconded Fran Kay C Div. Governor. The Motion was Carried

Minutes of last District Council Meeting:

Minutes of the previous District Council Meeting from May 5th & 6th 2012 were tabled and presented in the Meeting booklet.

Amendment to the Minutes: to replace the name Lesley Buchan with Desley Buchan

Moved Ingrid Duane District Secretary moved "that the Minutes as tabled and circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record"; seconded Alison Cleaver (Summerland) The Motion was Carried

Business arising from the Minutes:

Bruce George requested clarification if letters were sent to TI regarding Judges training being considered as an additional item towards a Leadership Award and the position of Webmaster being added as a club executive roles. The answer from the IPDG was to the negative.

Correspondence:

The Inward and Outward Correspondence was tabled and recorded on USB stick.

Moved by Ranjeet Cavanagh (Metropolitan Governor) "that the Inward Correspondence be received and the Outward Correspondence be endorsed", seconded by Marilyn Freeman (Bunya Club). The Motion was carried.

Business arising from Correspondence:

The District Governor made the announcement regarding Policy 1.7 to thank the District Parliamentarian Graham Miller for his professionalism examining the Policies of TI as they relate to our District and bringing the perceived deficiencies to his attention. It is important

as District Governor to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Protocol of this Organisation.

Recognising most of his role is dealing with people and helping them to achieve their goals. Reminding delegates being aware of recent discussions regarding Policy 1.7 in relation to conduct of Area and Division Council Meetings and Proxies.

The District Parliamentarian has pointed out that this Policy has been in existence for many years related to Proxies at Area and Division and the structure of Division Council and said that Policies exist for a reason. We need to remember the importance and consideration of the written word and the benefit to the member. Having given the matter serious consideration and consultation with many experienced members throughout the District a decision was made to rescind the direction of the District Executive meeting on September 16th 2012 concerning no Proxies at Area Council Meetings. In the belief it would be advantageous to explore other possible options before taking any further actions by therefore placing a moratorium on any changes on how we conduct any Area and Division Council Meetings for a period of 1 year or the Semi Annual Council Meeting of 2013. To allow these issues to be heard and canvassed with World Headquarters and if necessary to be referred to the Toastmasters International Board of Directors to have any Policy amended. The issue can then be further examined by SAC in 2013.

Therefore the following advice was given by the District Governor:

1. That with respect to Division Councils where relevant to a Division the practice of allowing Club Presidents and VPE's to remain on Division Councils continue.
2. That with respect to Division Council Proxies the practice of allowing Proxies at Division Council Meetings continue.
3. With respect to Area Councils the practice of allowing Proxies at Area Council Meetings continue.

However we must also recognise Policy and explore options in relation to it to ensure we operate in a proper and ethical manner.

Motion

Moved Fran Kay (C Division Governor) "that the District 69 Council requests Past International Director Clare Murphy to develop on their behalf and submit to World Headquarters and where necessary to Toastmasters International Board of Directors submissions and proposals in relation to changes in Policy 1.7 and turning the structure of Division Council use of Proxies at all Area and Division Council Meetings".

Seconded by Graham Miller (Parliamentarian)

(Lesley Storkey PDG (Whitsunday Club) on behalf of all present commended the District Governor for his Leadership for the last few weeks and decisions of this matter with a sincere thanks and rousing applause.)

The Motion was Carried unanimously.

Reports of the District Executive and Division Governors were published on the D69 website and the Conference booklet.

There were no alterations to Reports

Reports

Motion "that the Reports be received individually" from:

District Governor Charlie Starrett

Lieutenant Governor Education and Training (Charlie Starrett)

Lieutenant Governor Marketing Ian Pinker

Public Relations Officer David Burston

TLI Chairman Alison Cleaver

Central Division Governor Fran Kay

Eastern Division Governor Shane Cooper

Metropolitan Division Governor Ranjeet Cavanagh

Northern Division Governor Nicky Jurd

Southern Division Governor (Charlie Starrett)

Western Division Governor (Graham Miller Compass Club)

Collective Motion "that the Reports from the Senior Executive and Division Governor Reports be adopted" by Mike Storkey (Past Int. Director Whitsunday Club), seconded by John Kay IPDG. The Motion was Carried

Treasurer's Report

John Sells (District Treasurer) advised that the District Treasurer' Report has been presented to each table and reflects information as of the 30th October 2012.

A full copy of the District Budget has been presented to each Division Governor.

A Report from the District Auditor is in the possession of the District Treasurer reflecting figures of the Audit Report of the District Travel account as of 30/6/2012 and copies are available.

The Treasurer apologised to Clubs about issues of processing of Travel Fund contribution due to change of components changing in charges. Computerisation in a meaningful way proved real challenges and caused some confusion due to glitches and being sorted out from this time on after prioritising other Treasurer responsibilities.

Replies to numerous requests have been a real challenge and is being taken care of in the near future.

Moved John Sells "that the Treasurer's Report be adopted", seconded Pat Pitt (Weblec Club). The Motion was carried.

District Budget

John Sells presented the District Budget 2012-2013 for approval reporting it having been a real challenge confirming details and correct information.

No confirmation of acceptance from World Headquarters has been received at this stage.

Questions regarding the Budget 2012-2013:

Bruce George PDG stated that not having had the opportunity of studying the Report he will be voting against the Budget with regret.

Moved John Sells "that the District 69 Budget for 2012-2013 be adopted", seconded by Shane Cooper (E Division Governor)

The Motion was Carried

Report of District 70 Reformation Committee members

The Report of the District 70 Committee on the proposed Reformation of District 70 was presented by Lesley Storkey PDG and Bruce George PDG, members of the Committee.

An explanation was given that no Motions will be required on the day, welcoming questions and comments, this being an opportunity to report on the developments.

Report included detailed information regarding the reasons and choices of more effective management of Districts and Leadership Opportunities and how reformation has been effective in other Districts/Regions. It is for the needs of the members and helping viable Districts without causing burdens.

- Two proposals are being considered.
- Option one is a proposal to form two Districts – 167 Clubs in southern NSW, + 134 Clubs in northern NSW (including 14 Clubs from D69)
- Option two is a proposal to form 3 Districts – 131 Clubs in the Hawkesbury area, + 2 Districts of less than 100 clubs each
- Vote by District Council in May 2013, then to Board of Directors in August 2013

Extensive discussion was held and questions answered as appropriate and available.

Now starting discussions with clubs until April and welcoming Questions and comments which will result in detailed Report resulting in a vote in May and go to the board at the World Headquarters prior to Convention in 2013 in Cincinnati.

Question by Graham Miller: 14 clubs in question. Why not 18 to include all clubs in NSW in Western Division and Southern Division.

A: Some NSW clubs may want to stay in Queensland.

Question on strategies by Alison Cleaver What strategies are being considered welcoming early clarification.

Area & Division Governors were informed at September Executive meeting for familiarisation and now discussion on the subject.

Remembering the feelings of the Members will always be considered in coming strategies. Encouragement to communicate with the clubs was suggested.

Metro Division Governor would like to see a document to present to members.

D70 Council Meeting was presented with a report last weekend. Reaction was: listening, questions and similar procedure as this meeting. Division Governor Spiegelhauer recognised from D 70

Next 4.5 months extensive discussions will take place

Due to the growth of District 69 discussions will be inevitable in the future anyway.

The District Governor gave thanks to the two representatives Lesley and Bruce.

Motions on Notice

Motions on Notice were circulated to all Clubs and the District 69 Website prior to the Meeting and presented:

1. Amend District 69 Administrative Procedures on the Strategic Planning Committee

Preamble to Motion 1

The current District 69 Strategic Procedures 4.1 to 4.5 do not reflect what is currently being done to prepare the new Strategic Plan 2012-2017. Hence we should update these Procedures.

Motion

1. That Procedures 4.1 to 4.5 in the District 69 Administrative Procedures and Practices be replaced by the following Procedures:

4.1 That a District 69 Strategic Planning Committee be formed consisting of the Senior District Officers – District Governor, Lt Governor Education and Training, Lt Governor Marketing, District Public Relations Officer, District Secretary, District Treasurer, District Parliamentarian, District Sergeant at Arms ;

4.2 and that the Chairman be the District Governor

4.3 and that the terms of reference for this committee include the preparation and annual review of an ongoing five year Strategic Plan for District 69 which deals with Growth and Retention, Education and Training, District Wide Impact, and Finance, as well as any other related matters referred to it by the District Governor;

4.4 and that the Strategic Planning Committee provide a report (including any recommendations) for consideration at annual District Council Meetings.

Moved Graham Miller (Compass Club) , seconded Shane Cooper (E Division Governor)

Graham spoke to the Motion explaining the need for this Plan and put in to place long term planning for the future.

Question by Leonard Scuderi (Young Achievers @QUT) as to which Council Meeting was clarified as the Annual Council Meeting.

Bruce George Inverell Club moved an amendment “to remove the words Senior District Executive” from 4.1 - Seconder Leonard Scuderi.

The Amendment was Carried

Amendment Moved Bruce George PDG (Inverell Club) Seconded: Bob Simpson PDG (Leaders by Design Toastmasters) to include the IPDG in the Executive list in 4.1

Amendment Carried

The amended motion reads: That a District 69 Strategic Planning Committee be formed consisting of the District Governor, IPDG, Lt Governor Education and Training, Lt Governor Marketing, District Public Relations Officer, District Secretary, District Treasurer, District Parliamentarian, District Sergeant at Arms.

Amended motion carried.

2. District 69 Strategic Plan – Adoption and Implementation

Preamble to Motion 2

We need to consider and then adopt the District Strategic Plan 2012-2017 and also empower the District 69 Senior Executive to implement the goals.

Motion

That the District 69 Strategic Plan 2012-2017 be adopted and that the District 69 Senior Executive officers be empowered to implement the action statements

Moved: Graham Miller (Compass Club) Seconded Brian O'Neill (Calen Canefields)
Graham spoke to the Motion explaining reasons why we need to empower people to implement the goals.

Mark Hunter requested recording one of the actions of Finance Committee in referring to the establishment of friends of District 69 which entails the Lyoness Organisation. Concerns in how it links to TM in general even though has sanction of TI. Should Area Governors be attached in distribution of Card and potentially reaping benefits? Need it registered that: We as an Organisation of D69 make sure that all T's are crossed and I's are dotted with regard to any involvement of that Organisation to distance anyone from personal gain and questions is it wise to use this type of sponsorship. The request from Mark Hunter to have this concern recorded was noted.

The District Governor gave detailed comments and explanation on how the proceedings of this way of raising money were derived, the origin and implementation.

Sandra Simpson PDG, member of Tamborine Mountain voiced strong concerns and suggested there being other Sponsorships available and is not in favour of the type of fund raising.

The District Governor assured that all offers of Sponsorship for TM Conferences will be closely looked at and monitored.

Bruce suggests not to rush this. Friends of D 69 is associated with Lyoness Organisation by the fact that the Lyoness report card is offered, 2nd an email to Friends of D 69 revealed that friends of District 69 responded not being associated with D 69 Toastmasters International

The District Governor explained that Friends of D69 has nothing to do with District 69. They are at arm's length from our District.

Bruce George replied that the report indicates being associated with D69 and should be removed from this section of this Report.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am

The Council Meeting resumed at 1:25pm

The District Governor requested Bruce George to move an amendment to the previous Motion.

In reply Bruce stated that he intends to move an amendment to the Strategic Plan.

Amendment: Amendment to Page 25 in the Strategic Plan Report

“Remove Action from Objective 4 Finance on the Strategic Plan (Establish friends of D69 an Organisation to contribute funds towards District Conferences) and replace with the words “to explore opportunities for Sponsorship for District Conferences”

Clarification of content was given to Carol Pemberton Area 13 Governor

Mark Hunter suggests using the word “funding” to include all sorts of funding rather than just sponsorship. Sponsorship being a limiting word.

Bruce George looking for clarification on “what would be the policy of Toastmasters International in regard to Sponsorship versus Funding.

The District Governor explained the difference between what Sponsorship can do for Conferences funding being a nebulous area.

Seconded: Shane Cooper E Division Governor.

The Amendment was Carried

The amended first Action Statement for Objective 4 now reads:

“To explore opportunities for Sponsorship for District Conferences”

Bruce George still needing clarification on a couple of other points of the Strategic Plan on page 6 Membership Growth/Membership payments.

The District Governor replied that membership payments reflect the membership growth is measured. Bruce suggested using membership payments in heading of that Section.

Concerns on the wording on page 17: In 2016-17 we will have 75% of the 4 key leadership roles per club being trained twice per year by TLI.

This concentrates on the 4 top officers of the club when all 7 officers are important and we should aim to have all 7 trained.

Marilyn Freeman (Bunya Club) commented agreement with Bruce, but that it is vital that the top 4 executive members are trained and far greater benefit to the club if top 4 attend.

Bruce still insisting that all 7 officers to be encouraged being trained.

The District Governor explained that the Strategic Plan is not set in stone and still needs fine tuning and open to review.

After lengthy and detailed discussion and clarification the amended motion was put.

Motion 2:

"That the D69 Strategic Plan 2012-2017 as amended be adopted and that the District Senior executive officers be empowered to implement the action statements".

The amended motion was Carried.

General Business:

- Host and Venue for the 2013 Semi Annual Meeting:

The 2013 Semi Annual Conference Meeting will be hosted by Metropolitan Division as per D69 Procedures and Practices provisions.

The Metropolitan Division Governor Ranjeet Cavanagh addressed the Council Meeting.

Metro Division is delighted to host the Semi Annual Conference, the date being 9th November 2013

A paper and break down on the Budget which was distributed earlier in the day.

Motion

Moved by Ranjeet Cavanagh (Metropolitan Division Governor, "that the Budget for the 2013 Semi Annual Conference be adopted"

Seconded: Chris Parminter (Narangba Valley)

The Motion was Carried

- **Ratification of decisions by District Executive meetings on 1 July and 16 September 2012**

Motion

Moved by Bob Simpson PDG "that the decisions by District 69 Executive meetings on 1 July and 16 September 2012 be ratified, except for the item on Area Council Meetings – No Proxies.

Seconded by John Kay IPDG

The Motion was Carried.

- **Labour Day change in Queensland**

Bruce George PDG congratulated Queensland on coming in line with NSW public holidays.

Moving the Labour Day holiday to October, District 69 now needs to consider timing and format of Annual District Convention in May.

- **Promotional Trip to PNG**

Shane Cooper Eastern Division Governor reported on his and Graham Miller's recent promotional trip to PNG with detailed anecdotes of serious and humorous events..

The audience was treated to a well earned light hearted session, yet being most informative.

A mysterious gift of "Coffee" was presented to the District Governor, explained with much humour and Innuendos by Shane and closely checked after Shane Cooper reported the possibility of "doubtful content

Being an employee of the Queensland Police Service, Shane could not take responsibility taking this through Customs, just in case."

Graham Miller gave a detailed and moving report on conditions and needs in PNG.

Targets were Chamber of Commerce and Schools and presenting workshops at 3 existing clubs and interest was shown to form new corporate clubs for Post PNG and SP Brewery during some of the discussions.

As a third world country with many financial and safety issues and problems for Community Clubs would arise in Port Moresby and hard to concentrate on them.

Students at High Schools in Port Moresby could be a potential and Toastmasters could make a change.

The Area 38 Governor Aro Kia, a National, helped to organise all this and a lady who made a difference in her own life, in her career, in Toastmasters and her Club.

She wants to empower women because there is a large degree of domestic violence there and is making a change in that Society.

An Area Conference (Area 38) is being held in Port Moresby on the 24th November and will need our support. Anyone able to go up and assist would be a great benefit. A thought to consider is if Clubs have some excess of funds and can make some of that available to them, considering that this is a third world country. If Clubs can spare some funds they would greatly benefit. 3 Corporate and 1 Community Clubs are in need of support and District Governor Charlie is negotiating with World Headquarters for assistance.

Graham expressed thanks and appreciation for having had the opportunity to represent District 69 and urged all to consider assistance to PNG in some form.

District Governor thanked Shane, Graham and David Burston who went up earlier and is confident that this area will succeed and made candidates for International Directors aware of the situation.

Contact from one of the International Directors has shown interest in costing at this stage and will communicate with others to raise awareness.

This could be treated in the light of extending opening in other global areas.

- **Display of Club Banners**

Bevin Irvine (Tropic City) asked for clarification on the lack of Banners being displayed and had been discouraged to do so. Reasons were given and accepted.

- **TM Clubs for IT Personnel**

Bevin being an executive member of the Australian Computer Society which recognises membership of Toastmasters as part of the Society's professional development programme recommended Toastmasters accreditation and suggested any member wanting to start a club with IT personnel seek assistance from that Organisation.

- **Host Divisions for Semi Annual Conferences** are: Metro 2013, Southern 2014 and Eastern 2015
- The District Governor drew attention to the **Mace** having been presented in commemoration of District Convention in 1991 in Townsville.
- Message from the **May 2013 Convention** Committee informs that they have kept with the long weekend format even though Queensland no longer has one because quote: We had already decided on the Programme based on feed-back on the shorter format. Twin Towns - Twin Tracks has a lot to offer to make it well worth while even if it means taking a day off work. The International Speech Contest is on the Saturday night with a more sophisticated Dinner Dance atmosphere and on the Sunday we have the

Humorous and more of a Party feel. The Toastmasters have Talent Idea which will be on the Sunday night.

District 70 Supplies will be there and offer a 10% discount for pre-ordered items as well as shopping on the spot.

Two educational Sessions by a Presenter from the US will be conducted by him Monday morning Master Class.

Another gentleman is coming for a Key Note having been invited by the District Governor after having had an enormous effect with his speech about events in Port Arthur.

Free undercover parking at the Resort is available as well as accommodation and the whole club being at our disposal. Bars. Coffee Shops and Cafes will be available for networking and meeting friends. Drinks at Club prices and staying at the Outrigger has the advantage of never having to leave the Building.

Prices for Early Bird Registrations and closing dates are on the Registration for our information and details published on the D69 website.”

- **Next D69 Council meeting**

No other items of General Business. The next District 69 Council Meeting will be held on the 4th & 5th of May 2013.

The District Governor thanked everyone for attending and participation in this meeting.

- The Parliamentarian reminded that the Decisions of the day will need ratification by Email due to lack of Quorum and are not binding as they are. Once the Minutes are ready to be sent to the clubs, there will be an extra request to vote and to ratify them. **One vote per Club requiring a majority of clubs to vote in favour of it.** We need 96 Clubs to ratify these decisions. The recommendation is to ratify all rather than individual items. This needs to be a priority project getting back to the Clubs and hopefully result in a response before Christmas.
- John Kay will be forming a D69 **nominating committee** following this meeting.

There being no further business the District Governor closed the Council Meeting at 2:04pm.