

Timber Talkers, Toastmasters International Board Meeting  
December 16, 2010

In attendance: Tom, Marc, Eric, Rebecca, Stephen, Karen

Meeting started at 6:30 PM.

#### Officer's Reports

Marc – PR

The Mentor Program has more mentees than mentors but in general the program doesn't seem to be fully utilized. We have the website, manuals, blog and now Facebook for people to get answers. So far, about 10 people have been accessing the Facebook page a week; half of them were in the meeting that week. Suggestion was to put the link to the Facebook page in an email for people.

Eric – Membership

We currently have 32 members, 14 new members in the last six months. The big peak we had in membership has now slowed somewhat. Eric tells people who have gotten jobs in another area of town they can transfer the fees they paid to another club. We are tracking the number of members and guests at meetings. There were on average 13 members at the summer meetings, 16 at the fall meetings and 17 members at the last meeting.

Stephen – Education

The needs for new and older members are different. For example, we don't need instructional videos on how to speak for the newest members as they have different goals they are working on. Stephen has a spreadsheet for people achieving their CC's. There are 1-2 who are near completion now. It appears we will fall short of reaching goals for our Distinguished Presidents Award this year.

Rebecca - Sergeant at Arms

We need to be aware we are near seating capacity at our current attendance level of around 20 people. There will probably be more people joining in January. We can fit 24 people in chairs at the tables and another 6 or so in chairs around the back of the room.

## Karen – Treasurer

An email was sent earlier in the day that had info on the current balance in the account and the amounts that have been paid since Karen became Treasurer.

## Speech Videos - Rebecca

The speech videos that have been taped at recent meetings are not up on YouTube yet. Rebecca will convert to Flash files. The comment was made that perhaps more people would visit the Facebook page if there were videos there.

## Member List – Eric

We need to update membership list as people are falling off if they don't renew in the month before renewal deadline. People who have not been at a meeting for a while are in the process of being contacted by officers.

## 10 Minutes for New Members - -Tom

Tom stated that his experience with the after-meeting session is pretty valuable. Its like a surrogate mentor and meets basic needs. People on tight schedules are not able to fully utilize the opportunity, however. Suggestion to call it a Debriefing to encourage all to attend.

## One-Minute Toastmaster Speeches – Eric & Tom

Discussion of the benefits of having a separate role for one-minute speeches as a regular part of the meeting. The topics would pertain to some aspect of Toastmasters. We will launch the role in January with Eric doing the first speech. A sample list of topics will be made available for people.

## Facebook – Marc

Marc explained that Facebook is good for community building. Members who can't come to meetings can keep in touch and ask questions. Videos, photos can also be uploaded. Anyone asking questions can get answers quickly.

## Role Cards - Karen

Karen will work on getting the meeting roles summarized on note cards for new people who are unfamiliar with a role they may be performing at a meeting.

## Special Meetings – General Discussion

We will start planning dates for the International Speech and Evaluation Contests coming up in April. Tom will ask D7 for a calendar of speech contests. Having two separate meetings with at least a week or two between them in March was discussed. We will need Contest Chairpersons for each contest.

Officer's elections are tentatively scheduled for around May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Marc wants to do an Improv special meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for January.

Leissa will lead a Hot Seat meeting tentatively scheduled for April. This is where everyone gets a role assigned to them randomly including speeches.

## Barbara Kite – General Discussion

The cost of hosting a special workshop with Barbara Kite who is an executive trainer and speech coach was discussed. In general it was felt that it was too expensive and perhaps Barbara was not the right person at the right time. Logistics would also be difficult to manage. For example, how would we put out the word to other clubs or perhaps do it as a District-wide workshop? It was felt the money would be better spent sending someone to each District Conference. The idea was shelved for now.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 PM

Karen Landey  
Secretary/Treasurer