



**Minutes of the Toastmasters International Annual Business Meeting
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
August 26, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by International President Mike Storkey, DTM, at 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 26, 2017.

Chair Storkey announced the following appointments:

- Timers – Irene Schell, ATS, CL, Club 331 and Sonny Mantel, CC, Club 331
- Credentials Committee Chair – Past International President Jon Greiner, DTM
- Credentials Committee Vice Chairs – Past International Director Gina Cook, DTM and Past International Director Alan Shaner, DTM
- Supervising Director – International Director Magnus Jansson, DTM
- Parliamentarian – Patti Titus, DTM, Registered Parliamentarian

Credentials Committee Chair Greiner reported as follows: A total of 22,541 ballots were accredited, representing 11,180 of the 16,653 eligible clubs, with two votes each, and 181 of the 359 eligible delegates at large, each with one vote. The Chair declared a quorum to be present.

Parliamentarian Titus explained the procedural rules prescribed by the Board of Directors for the election of three officers for the 2017–2018 term and seven directors for the 2017–2019 term. Titus also provided directions for delegates on the casting of ballots.

Past International President, George Yen, DTM, Chair of the 2016–2017 International Leadership Committee, presented the Committee's report.

The following are the results of the officer and director elections:

Candidate	Office	Ballot 1
Lark Doley, DTM	International President-Elect (uncontested)	1
Deepak Menon, DTM	First Vice President (uncontested)	1
Karen Blake, DTM	Second Vice President	8,857
Richard Peck, DTM	Second Vice President	13,084
Mary Morrison, DTM	International Director Region 1 (uncontested)	1



Tracy Thomason, DTM	International Director Region 3	16,494
Linda Williams, DTM	International Director Region 3	5,461
Don Bittick, DTM	International Director Region 5 (uncontested)	1
Reginald Darnell Ford, DTM	International Director Region 7 (uncontested)	1
Neerja Purang, DTM	International Director Region 9	1,080
Jeff Sobel, DTM	International Director Region 9	5,128
Radhi Spear, DTM	International Director Region 9	16,000
Maria Victoria Ferrer, DTM	International Director Region 11	3,842
Morag Mathieson, DTM	International Director Region 11	18,285
Grace Shih, DTM	International Director Region 13	8,321
Derek Wong, DTM	International Director Region 13	13,697

For the two uncontested officer positions and three uncontested director positions, a secret ballot was dispensed without objection and a single ballot cast.

Chair Storkey announced that Doley, Menon and Peck had been elected International President-Elect, First Vice President and Second Vice President, respectively, for 2017–2018.

Chair Storkey referred to the letter to all club presidents notifying them of Proposals A through G: Amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International and Club Constitution for Clubs of Toastmasters International. Notice of the proposed amendments was properly mailed to the voting membership at least 60 days before this meeting, with the Board of Directors' recommendation that they be adopted. The proposed amendments include:

- Providing members the ability to individually pay their dues online (new or renewing). A club officer would subsequently need to verify the individual. If this is approved, a system will be developed. This would result in an improved user experience, more accurate member data and reduced credit card security risks. (Proposal A)
- Removing from the Bylaws and inserting into Policy the requirement for clubs to pay individual dues by April 1 and October 1 of each year, to enable the Board to evaluate and determine a member dues payment schedule that would be most beneficial to members, clubs and districts. (Proposal B)



- Modifying the International Leadership Committee's (ILC) date of service to begin in August instead of September. This creates an opportunity for the ILC Chair to conduct orientation and begin the committee's work during the International Convention. (Proposal C)
- Requiring that all international-level candidates (including floor candidates) be evaluated by the ILC to determine their potential and appropriateness for the role before they run for, or are elected to, the position. (Proposal D)
- Requiring international director candidates to complete their term as immediate past district director before standing for election. (Proposal E)
- Modifying election processes so that a candidate must receive 10 percent or more of the votes cast to move to any subsequent ballot at the Annual Business Meeting. The provision that the candidate who receives the fewest votes on any ballot is dropped from any subsequent ballot would remain in effect. (Proposal F)
- Clarifying that honorary membership is a club-level function that allows clubs to recognize individuals. These nonpaid memberships would not count for any type of recognition program or award, nor would honorary members be entitled to membership privileges. (Proposal G)

Chair Storkey called upon International President-Elect Balraj Arunasalam, DTM, to present and explain the rationale for the Board's recommendation for Proposal A. Arunasalam then moved for adoption of Proposal A, the Bylaw and Club Constitution amendments. Chair Storkey opened the floor for discussion on Proposal A: Dues Payments – Methods. There were speakers "for" the Proposal; there were also speakers "against" the Proposal.

After an opportunity for discussion, a vote was taken. The results were: 19,093 "for" and 2,743 "against". Chair Storkey announced that the Bylaw amendments had been adopted by more than the required two-thirds vote of the votes cast in person or by proxy. Club Constitution amendments had also been adopted by more than the required majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy.

Chair Storkey then called upon First Vice President Lark Doley, DTM, to present and explain the rationale for the Board's recommendation for Proposal B. Doley then moved for adoption of Proposal B, the Bylaw amendments. Chair Storkey opened the floor for discussion on Proposal B: Dues Payment – Timing. There were speakers "for" the Proposal; there were also speakers "against" the Proposal.

After an opportunity for discussion, a vote was taken. The results were: 18,767 "for" and 3,052 "against". Chair Storkey announced that the Bylaw amendments had been adopted by more than the required two-thirds vote of the votes cast in person or by proxy.

Chair Storkey then called upon Second Vice President Deepak Menon, DTM, to present and explain the rationale for the Board's recommendation for Proposal C. Menon then moved for adoption of Proposal C, the Bylaw amendments. Chair Storkey opened the floor for discussion on Proposal C: International Leadership Committee Service Timeline. There were speakers "for" the Proposal; there were also speakers "against" the Proposal.



After an opportunity for discussion, a vote was taken. The results were: 21,643 “for” and 475 “against”. Chair Storkey announced that the Bylaw amendments had been adopted by more than the required two-thirds vote of the votes cast in person or by proxy.

Chair Storkey then called upon International President-Elect Arunasalam, DTM, to present and explain the rationale for the Board’s recommendation for Proposal D. Arunasalam then moved for adoption of Proposal D, the Bylaw amendments. Chair Storkey opened the floor for discussion on Proposal D: Floor Candidacy Prerequisites. There were no speakers “for” the Proposal; there were no speakers “against” the Proposal.

After an opportunity for discussion, a vote was taken. The results were: 19,147 “for” and 2,811 “against”. Chair Storkey announced that the Bylaw amendments had been adopted by more than the required two-thirds vote of the votes cast in person or by proxy.

Chair Storkey then called upon First Vice President Doley, DTM, to present and explain the rationale for the Board’s recommendation for Proposal E. Doley then moved for adoption of Proposal E, the Bylaw amendments. Chair Storkey opened the floor for discussion on Proposal E: International Director Qualifications. There were speakers “for” the Proposal; there were also speakers “against” the Proposal.

After an opportunity for discussion, a vote was taken. The results were: 21,389 “for” and 697 “against”. Chair Storkey announced that the Bylaw amendments had been adopted by more than the required two-thirds vote of the votes cast in person or by proxy.

Chair Storkey then called upon Second Vice President Menon, DTM, to present and explain the rationale for the Board’s recommendation for Proposal F. Menon then moved for adoption of Proposal F, the Bylaw amendments. Chair Storkey opened the floor for discussion on Proposal F: Minimum Vote Percentage. There were no speakers “for” the Proposal; there were also no speakers “against” the Proposal.

After an opportunity for discussion, a vote was taken. The results were: 20,989 “for” and 1,005 “against”. Chair Storkey announced that the Bylaw amendments had been adopted by more than the required two-thirds vote of the votes cast in person or by proxy.

Chair Storkey then called upon International President-Elect Arunasalam, DTM, to present and explain the rationale for the Board’s recommendation for Proposal G. Arunasalam then moved for adoption of Proposal G, the Club Constitution amendments. Chair Storkey opened the floor for discussion on Proposal G: Honorary Club Membership. There were speakers “for” the Proposal; there were no speakers “against” the Proposal.

After an opportunity for discussion, a vote was taken. The results were: 21,392 “for” and 540 “against”. Chair Storkey announced that the Club Constitution amendments had been adopted by more than the required majority vote of the votes cast in person or by proxy.

The Bylaws of Toastmasters International authorizes the submission of proposed Bylaws amendments by “at least one percent (1%) of all the votes held by the voting membership”



(Article XIV, Section 1(b)(2)). Based on the total number of clubs eligible to vote at the 2017 Annual Business Meeting (33,306 votes), the 1% minimum requirement for any such proposal to be submitted for consideration at the 2018 Annual Business Meeting is 333.06, representing 166.53 clubs or 333.06 delegates at large, or any combination of those two voting memberships.

Chair Storkey also announced the following candidates elected as international director for the term of 2017–2019: Morrison, Thomason, Bittick, Ford, Spear, Mathieson and Wong.

There being no further business to come before the 86th Annual Business Meeting, it was adjourned at approximately 4 p.m.

Pursuant to Policy 11.3: Board of Directors Confidentiality, items contained in the minutes of this meeting were classified as “unrestricted” upon distribution of the minutes by World Headquarters, not to include any matters marked “restricted”.

Jennifer Quinn
Secretary/Treasurer

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