



CHENNAI SPEAKERS FORUM

Area: A3

Division: A

District: 120

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting No.: 404 Date: 23rd August, 2020 Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Online Zoom Meeting

Website: www.chennaispeakersforum.com

Word of the day: Zealous

Theme of the day: Summit is within reach



10:01am: SAA called for meeting

SAA Toastmaster **Mukund** explained the mission of Toastmasters and stated the code of conduct for the meeting.



10:03am: Presiding Officer's Address

Toastmaster **Farhan**, the Presiding Officer, opened the 404th meeting by wishing the audience a very Happy Ganesh Chaturthi. He reminded the audience that Saturday was "Madras Day" which was Madras' 381st birthday. He went on to say that "Madras" is not merely a name, but an emotion. He explained that he was proud of the city for its various achievements and of his connection with the city.



10:15am: TMOD introduction

TMOD Toastmaster **Selvan** addressed the audience by saying that, of all the books in the world, a passport has the best pages. He said that since he had never gone out of country, he was hoping to travel abroad to attend the Toastmasters International Convention. He said that considering the circumstances, the TI meeting is now coming to all our drawing rooms. He conveyed a wonderful message that whenever we think something is out of reach, we need to tell ourselves that it is within reach. Thereafter, he explained the various segments of a toastmaster meeting.



10:20am: General Evaluator intro

General Evaluator Toastmaster **Athilaesh** explained the importance of evaluation and introduced the TAG team.

TIMER
AH COUNTER
GRAMMARIAN

Toastmaster Vignesh
Toastmaster Sivasanker
Toastmaster Monisha



10:26am: Prepared Speeches

Prepared Speech	Speaker	Path and Project	Speech title	Evaluator
1	Toastmaster Vivekanandan	Path: Dynamic Leadership (Level - 1) Project#3: Researching and Presenting	Glass	Toastmaster Rashmi

Toastmaster Vivekanandan started his speech with a question to the audience as to what came to their mind when they heard the topic “Glass”. He explained how he was euphoric when he was advised to wear glasses and went on to explain how his specs broke during the full lockdown with no means to repair/replace the same which made him research on glasses and its effect on eyes. He said that there is no permanent solution offered to eye problems due to commercial reasons and the real reason being doctors refusing to acknowledge the real problem. He explained how India is a lucrative market for glasses with figures and that doctors treat the eyes only eternally. He explained that the health of eyes is connected to the liver. He further explained the Bates method and the harmful effects of wearing glasses continuously. He concluded the speech by requesting the audience to question themselves if they require glasses and to check internally, if they would like to get rid of eye glasses over a period of time.

Prepared Speech	Speaker	Path and Project	Speech title	Evaluator
2	Toastmaster Wilson	Path: Dynamic Leadership (Level - 2) Project #1: Understanding your leadership style	Complicated	Toastmaster Prashanth

Toastmaster Wilson started his speech by stating his personal opinion that leadership cannot be restricted to a single style. He said that there are various characteristics in particular which makes a person a leader. Through pictures of Professor Satish Dhawan, Liverpool Manager, Jugren Klop and cricketer Muraleedharan and interesting events in their respective lives, he said that the important characteristics of a good leader are to take responsibility in case of a failure, enthusiasm and passion to help their team realize their full potential and courage to believe that their actions are right.

Prepared Speech	Speaker	Path and Project	Speech title	Evaluator
3	Toastmaster Aangeeras	Path: Strategic Relationships (Level - 2) Project #2: Cross cultural understandings		Toastmaster Vandana Raj

Toastmaster Aangeeras started his speech by defining culture as a shared pattern of our behavior, of our understandings and learnings that we learn through socialization. He said he didn't appreciate the definition and said culture is the food we eat, what we wear, the music we listen to etc. and what we believe is right or wrong. With examples of food, fashion, education and movies which type cast

communities and their identities, he explained the various stereotypes that he had come across in his life. He explained how stereotypes are usually associated with a negative attitude when there are positive and negative stereotypes. He explained how stereotypes are an attempt by us to fit people whom we don't know much about, into mentally prepared molds to understand them better. He paraphrased a letter issued by a toy production company, Lego in 1974, along with toys addressing gender stereotypes in an attempt to break the same. He concluded his speech by saying that although it is difficult to dismantle all the metal molds that we have created, we need to listen when somebody tells a different story.



11:03am: Table topics Session

Table Topics Master **Toastmaster Preethi** called members and guests for impromptu speaking.

Sr no.	Name	Topic
1.	Toastmaster Roshini	Which part of Madras you wish didn't change?
2.	Toastmaster Srikar	The summit is what drives us, but the climb itself is what matters.
3.	Toastmaster Farhan	Enga ooru Chennai, Adhukku innoru peru irukku.... "MADRAS"
4.	Toastmaster Shakthi	Coovum river (Picture)



11:20am: Educational session - "Humor, where are you?"

DTM Jayan Narayanan started his session by saying that for a humorous speech we should always think of what we can do differently to connect with the audience. He said that self - confidence is very essential for this since "doing things differently" can be a dangerous zone. He gave various tips such as connecting our different ideas to the person/meeting and making it interesting, creative thinking etc. He suggested self-deprecating humor and that humor comes from pain. He said that we need to change the way we look at things to be funny. He suggested tweaking simple lines by re-visiting the respective incident again. He suggesting preparing a zero draft by including everything we have in mind and focusing on a story/key word to build on. He said that in order to be humorous, we definitely need to be "decently shameless" and make attempts to be funny. He concluded his speech by saying that humor is all around us and that the choice is ours.



11:51am: Evaluation Session

Speaker	Path and Project	Evaluator
Toastmaster Vivekanandan	Path: Dynamic Leadership (Level - 1) Project#3: Researching and Presenting	Toastmaster Rashmi

Appreciation from Evaluator: Conveyed a beautiful and thoughtful message, well-researched speech, explained medical terminologies before using them in the speech

Feedback from Evaluator: Could have avoided displaying too much data in the slides, could have switched between topics faster

Speaker	Path and Project	Evaluator
Toastmaster Wilson	Path: Dynamic Leadership (Level - 2) Project #1: Understanding your leadership style	Toastmaster Prashanth

Appreciation from Evaluator: Chosen leadership characteristics were fantastic, incidents used for reference were serious

Feedback from Evaluator: Could have chosen personalities relevant to the audience, should work on the speed of his speech when doing a dialogue exchange.

Speaker	Path and Project	Evaluator
Toastmaster Toastmaster Aangeeras	Path: Strategic Relationships (Level - 2) Project #2: Cross cultural understandings	Toastmaster Vandana Raj

Appreciation from Evaluator: Very though provoking speech and researched oriented by quoting a lot of studies.

Feedback from Evaluator: Could have given his personal experience, conclusion was lacking a bit.



12:03p.m - Call for voter

Members and guests were asked to vote for Best Speaker, Best TT Speaker, Best Evaluator and Best Role Player.



12:06p.m - Best Performers

Presiding Officer announces best performers of the meeting:

Best Role Player	Toastmaster Selvan
Best Evaluator	Toastmaster Rashmi
Best Table Topics Speaker	Toastmaster Roshini
Best Speaker	Toastmaster Aangeeras

The Presiding Officer received feedback from guests. He introduced the registration chair for upcoming humor contest and announced the upcoming mock evaluation contest to be held on 29th August, 2020 and concluded the meeting.



For any suggestions/feedback, please contact:

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Secretary

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