

**Board and Board Member Code of Conduct, item 13**

"Individual Board Members will not engage in fundraising or public support of any candidate for national UUA office except within twelve months of the date of the election."

*At our meeting last June I suggested that we should not engage in fundraising or public support for candidates for President or Moderator at any time. The reason I made that recommendation is that, as members of the Board, we will have to work closely with whoever is elected. If during the campaign, we have taken a strong stand supporting the person who wasn't elected, we run the risk of limiting our effectiveness in that our relationship with the new President or Moderator could be seriously strained.*

*However, I fully understand the reasons that we should endorse a candidate. We are the folks most likely to know the demands of the job, the capabilities and experience of the candidates and, therefore, know which candidate is most likely to do a good job.*

*So, Lew's recommendation: Stay above the fray; don't endorse or fundraise for a candidate for either President or Moderator. Change the item to read, " Individual Board Members will not engage in fundraising or public support of any candidate for national UUA office."*

**External Relations, item 3.**

"At events with organizations external to the UUA, Board members may represent the Board or the Association at meetings and events where such representation is deemed desirable and where the CGO has agreed to the representation. Board members should represent the Board and the Association at district, region, cluster, congregational or similar events whenever appropriate. Board members are entitled to represent themselves as UUA Trustees at ceremonial events where the Board member deems such representation desirable. Board members must avoid any ambiguity about their representative role or authorization to speak for the Board of Trustees or the UUA."

*Most of you know that I have had problems with this item for some time. I think / hope that the changes proposed here fulfill the original intent of the item and resolve my concerns. Lew's recommendation, make the changes noted above.*

**Board Elected Roles & Positions, item 7C.**

The Committee on Committees brings forward nominees for the Secretary and Assistant Secretary positions. A vote shall then be conducted to approve the recommendations.

*This item is clearly obsolete. Recommend we delete it and, at a future meeting, consider future needs for such a process.*

Lew 9/26/2014 5:26 PM

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Lew 9/26/2014 5:26 PM

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**Board / General Assembly Relations, item 3E.**

"Costs of attending District / Region Assemblies and similar gatherings."

*This isn't a change to an existing item in this policy, but my recommendation that we add it. This is an added item to the list that begins, "Costs will be prudently incurred ..." It's important that, now following reorganization of the board without district board member elections, we preserve our contact, our linkage with districts and congregations. Without it we run the risk of becoming isolated from our constituents. Wherever possible we should have a board member at each district / region annual meeting / assembly. Lew's recommendation: Add this item. Can we afford this added cost? Can we afford to not do this? Is this really an added cost when you consider that when we were elected by districts, we attended district assemblies and the cost was borne by the district? As we move toward a common "Ask" these costs become part of the total cost of operating the association, just out of a different part of the budget.*

**Linkage, item 3.2b**

"No task shall have a higher priority."

*Linkage is extremely important; it's vital to the health of our association, but according to Massachusetts law, our most important priority must be our fiscal responsibility. Recommend we delete this item.*

**Assistant Secretary, item Board Elected Roles and Positions**

*Do we need an Assistant Secretary? The during-a-meeting work has changed. An assistant is probably not needed. However, during GA elections, a backup for the secretary is probably a good idea. Lew's recommendation: Fill the position.*

**The Committee on Committees, item Assistant Secretary and Board Committee Structure**

*Do we need a new procedures? Or, with a smaller board, can we handle these appointments informally? So, we should either delete the paragraph or devise a new procedures. Lew's recommendation: ambivalence.*

**Item, Board Committees.**

"Each Board-appointed committee, including Working Groups, is charged with developing standards and processes for embodying the commitment to antiracism, anti-oppression and multi-culturalism in its work, and to develop a plan for the ongoing training and education of its members."

*Great idea. Is it really needed?? Is it reasonably enforceable?? Has any board or board-appointed committee done this?? Lew's recommendation: Delete the item.*

**Transparency, Governing Style**

*Recommend adding an item to the list of kinds of business for which we would convene / transition to executive session.*

"discussion of internal board relationships."

*For practical purposes, this is what we do when we do our check-in prior to asking visitors to join us. This kind of session can become extremely important when new members join the board. How will we function as a board? Lew's recommendation: add this item.*

### **3.7 Board Committee Principles, item 7.**

"All members of Board-appointed committees are expected to have reasonable competence in the area of racism and oppression. Members of the AntiRacism/AntiOppression Assessment and Monitoring Team (AR/AO/AMT) and chairs of the Appoints Committee and Finance Committees must additionally have an understanding of change theories and demonstrated commitment to anti-racism and anti-oppression."

*Delete the second sentence, "Members of the AntiRacism/AntiOppression Assessment and Monitoring Team (AR/AO/AMT) and chairs of the Appoints Committee and Finance Committees must additionally have an understanding of change theories and demonstrated commitment to anti-racism and anti-oppression.". The committee title is at least six years out of date. While we expect board members and key committee members to have completed some minimal training in AR and AO, levels of commitment to it are extremely difficult to measure. Even more difficult to measure in "understanding of change theories." Lew's recommendation: delete the second sentence.*