

UUA Board of Trustees
February 26, 2015

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

February 26, 2015

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association was held electronically on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 8:00 PM EDT.

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Andy Burnette, Donna Harrison, Jim Key, Peter Morales, Lew Phinney, Susan Ritchie, Christina Rivera, Michael Sallwasser, Julian Sharp, James Snell, Sarah Stewart, and Susan Weaver.

MEMBERS

ABSENT: Larry Ladd, Rob Eller-Isaacs

ALSO

PRESENT: Limpert, Janapol, and observers.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Jim Key at 8:00 PM EST.

Jim Key informed the board on Thursday night that one of the four candidates for the UUA board, Rev. Maria-Christina Vlassidis Burgoa, has withdrawn her name from consideration. She has determined that other commitments would make it impossible for her to serve.

The board will wait until after GA before appointing a replacement. That person will serve until GA 2016 when an election will be held.

Susan Ritchie moved (no second needed), on behalf of the Presidential Search Committee, a motion regarding Campaign Finances and Limitations with the following rationale:

Rationale: These changes follow the recommendations of the Presidential Search Committee for establishing campaign finance limits for Presidential elections. These limitations make the election financially accessible to persons with different personal, economic, social, and political resources, while still asking the candidate to demonstrate fund raising capacity. Other changes eliminate one unnecessary sentence and expand the categories of reportable donations.

Official motion:

Rule G-9.13.8 Campaign Finances Disclosures and Limitations.

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Candidates for UUA President are limited to spending no more than \$100,000 on their campaign for election. No single donor, including the candidate themselves and any organization or group, may contribute more than \$5,000 in total, to a presidential campaign. In-kind donations of greater than \$500 equivalent cash value are reportable, but do not count against these totals.

All candidates for at-large elective positions shall keep detailed and accurate records of:

- a. their campaign expenses (stated in United States dollars) by categories of travel, postage, telephone, printing and other such categories as seem appropriate;
- b. the number of contributors to their campaigns, including the number of contributors in each of the following categories:
 1. under \$50.00,
 2. \$50.00 to ~~\$100.00~~ \$250.00,
 3. ~~\$101.00~~ \$251.00 to ~~\$250~~ \$1000.00,
 4. ~~\$251.00~~ \$500.00, and
 4. Over ~~\$500.00~~ \$1000.00, and
 5. In-kind donations with an equivalent cash value of \$500 or more.

~~e. the number of contributions and the total amount of contributions received from each group or organization supporting the campaign.~~

No candidate for any elective position shall solicit or knowingly accept any contribution that is given through a tax-exempt entity with the purpose of conferring tax-exempt status to the contribution to which it would not otherwise be entitled. Such exempt entities include but are not limited to member congregations, associate member organizations and independent UUA affiliates.

The names of contributors shall be disclosed. Each such report shall identify by name any member congregation, associate member organization or independent affiliate of the Association and any other tax exempt organization (including specifically, but without limitation to, any minister's discretionary fund or similar account) that has made any contribution to the campaign and shall state the amount of each such contribution. Such reports shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association. A preliminary report shall be due at the close of the first day of the regular General Assembly at which the election occurs. A final report shall be due 60 days thereafter. The Secretary shall upon written request from a member of a member congregation furnish such information from these reports as requested. These reports shall be made available for inspection by any member of a member congregation at the principal offices of the Association and shall be brought by the Secretary to the next General Assembly and made available for inspection there by any delegate.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Donna Harrison moved on behalf of the Governance Working Group (therefore requiring no second) that the proposed bylaws amendments to accommodate various regional and district governance structures be placed on the Tentative Agenda for GA2015 with the understanding that minor technical corrections may be made prior to publishing the final agenda and that the Table of Contents to the Bylaws will also be amended to be in alignment with these amendments.

Insertions are in red
Deletions are ~~red-strikethrough~~

UUA BYLAWS

64 ARTICLE III Membership

85 Section 3.4. Church of the Larger Fellowship.

86 The Church of the Larger Fellowship, Unitarian Universalist, shall 87 be a member congregation which is not considered to be located in 88 any particular district or region.

172 ARTICLE IV General Assembly

183 Section 4.4. Special General Assembly.

184 A special General Assembly may be called by the Board of Trustees at any time, and shall be called upon petition of not less

185

186 than fifty certified member congregations by action of the governing
187 boards or their congregations. No more than twenty of the fifty
188 congregations may be from the same district or region.

281 Section 4.11. Tentative Agenda for Regular General 282 Assemblies.

283 The Board of Trustees shall prepare a Tentative Agenda for each
284 regular General Assembly which shall include:

285 (a) reports and other matters required by these Bylaws to be
286 submitted to the General Assembly;

287 (b) proposed amendments to these Bylaws which are submitted
288 as prescribed in Article XV, Section 15.2;

289 (c) items referred by the preceding General Assembly;

290 (d) Business Resolutions and proposed amendments to Bylaws

291 291 and Rules submitted by the Commission on Appraisal;

292 (e) all proposed amendments to Rules and all Business
293 Resolutions as defined in Rule G-4.18.2, submitted by:

294 (1) the Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee;

295 (2) not less than fifteen certified member congregations by

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296 action of their governing boards or their congregations;

297 or
298 (3) a petition by not less than 250 members of certified
299 member congregations with no more than 10 members
300 of any one member congregation counted as part of the
301 250;

302 (f) ~~proposed amendments to Rules and Business Resolutions~~

303 ~~submitted by a district by official action at a duly called~~

304 ~~meeting at which a quorum is present but not in excess of~~

305 ~~three Business Resolutions per district; intentionally left blank~~ and

306 (g) Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues submitted by

307 the Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section

308 4.12(a).

309 Resolutions submitted under (d), (e)(2), and (e)(3) ~~and (f)~~ must be

310 received by the Board of Trustees by ~~February~~ November 1 whenever the

311 regular General Assembly opens in June. If the General Assembly

312 opens in a month other than June, the Business Resolutions

313 submitted under (d), (e)(2), and (e)(3) ~~and (f)~~ must be received no later

314 than 110 days before the date set for the opening of that General Assembly.

315 The UUA Statements of Conscience process deadlines

316 are established by Sections 4.12(a) and (c) and by the Board of

317 Trustees pursuant to Section 4.13 whenever one or more regular

318 General Assembly is scheduled to begin in a month other than

319 June. The Board of Trustees shall include on the Tentative Agenda

320 all items so submitted. It may submit alternative versions of

321 Business Resolutions in addition to the original ones submitted if in

322 its judgment such alternatives clarify the resolutions and may make

323 such changes in the Business Resolutions as are necessary to

324 324 make each conform to a standard format. It may also submit one or

325 more alternative versions for the purpose of combining two or more

326 Business Resolutions. Adoption of Business Resolutions by a

327 General Assembly shall be by two-thirds vote. The Tentative

328 Agenda shall be mailed to each member congregation, associate

329 member organization and trustee by March 1 if the General

330 Assembly opens in June; otherwise, not less than 90 days before

331 the opening of the General Assembly.

332 *Section 4.12. UUA Statements of Conscience.

333 The purpose of the Congregational Study/Action Process is to provide

334 the member congregations of the Association with an opportunity to

335 mobilize energy, ideas, and resources around a common issue. The

336 end result will be a deeper understanding of our religious position on

337 the issue, a clear statement of Association policy as expressed in a

338 Statement of Conscience, and a greater capacity for the

339 congregations to take effective action. The process for adoption of

340 UUA Statements of Conscience shall be as follows:

341 (a) First Cycle Year

342 (1) Each member congregation, ~~district~~, and sponsored

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343 organization (as designated by the Board of Trustees),
344 may submit to the Commission on Social Witness by
345 October 1 in the year preceding a General Assembly one
346 proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue, such
347 proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue to be
348 approved at a duly called meeting of its members or its
349 governing board at which a quorum is present. This
350 commences the process of a four year UUA Statement of
351 351 Conscience cycle (“the Cycle”). A Cycle year ends at the
352 352 close of General Assembly.
353 (2) The Commission on Social Witness shall by November 1
354 of that year submit to the Board of Trustees for inclusion
355 on the Tentative Agenda of the regular General Assembly
356 not more than ten proposed Congregational Study/Action
357 Issues, each of which shall be based in whole or in part
358 on the issues submitted to it as described in the previous
359 subsection. The Commission on Social Witness shall
360 verify with the proposing congregation, ~~district~~, or
361 sponsored organization that the proposed Study/Action
362 Issue reflects the intent of the proposer prior to being included in the poll ballot.

363 The ten proposed
364 Congregational Study/Action Issues shall be included for
365 approval by the congregations on the Congregational Poll
366 ballot, such ballot to be available and congregations
367 notified of its availability by November 15 of the same
368 year. Congregational Poll ballots concerning the proposed
369 Congregational Study/Action Issue shall be due by
370 February 1 of the following year (the first Cycle year).

371 (3) For the proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue to be
372 placed on the Final Agenda of the General Assembly
373 twenty-five percent (25%) of all certified congregations
374 must participate in the ballot vote concerning the
375 proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues.

376 (4) The proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue shall be
377 ranked in the order of the votes received in the
378 Congregational Poll. The Study/Action Issues receiving
379 the most votes (not to exceed five in number) shall be
380 submitted to the General Assembly as follows:

381 (i) Each of the Proposed Congregational Study/Action
382 Issues shall be presented to the General Assembly by
383 a delegate, and one such proposed Congregational
384 Study/Action Issue shall be referred for study by virtue
385 of having received the highest number of votes
386 among all proposed Congregational Study/Action
387 votes cast by the General Assembly; provided,
388 however, that if no proposed Congregational
389 Study/Action Issue receives a majority of the votes
390 cast, then a second vote shall be taken between the
391 two issues receiving the highest number of votes cast

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392 in the initial election.

393 (1) After one Congregational Study/Action Issue has
394 been referred for study in accordance with (1), above,
395 the UUA staff shall conduct a workshop to discuss
396 processes for study and action on the selected issue.
397 By November 1 following the General Assembly, the
398 UUA staff shall have developed a resource guide
399 pertaining to the Congregational Study/Action Issue
400 selected by the General Assembly. The resource
401 guide shall be made available and congregations
402 notified of its availability.

403 (5) If a UUA Statement of Conscience has been adopted in
404 the previous year, the regular meeting of the General
405 Assembly shall also conduct workshops on the
406 implementation of such UUA Statement of Conscience.

407 (6) If no proposed Congregation Study/Action Issues are on
408 the Final Agenda in the first Cycle year, or if no
409 Congregational Study/Action Issue is referred for study by
410 the General Assembly, then following the regular meeting
411 of the General Assembly, the Cycle shall begin again as
412 set forth in this subsection.

413 (b) Second Cycle Year

414 (1) Member congregations ~~and the districts~~ shall submit by
415 not later than March 1 of the second Cycle year
416 comments regarding the Congregational Study/Action
417 Issue and the related resource guide to the Commission
418 on Social Witness.

419 (2) During the meeting of the General Assembly in the
420 second Cycle year the Commission on Social Witness
421 shall conduct workshops on the Congregational
422 Study/Action Issue.

423 (c) Third Cycle Year

424 (1) Member congregations ~~and the districts~~ shall submit by
425 not later than March 1 of the third Cycle year comments
426 regarding the Congregational Study/Action Issue and the
427 related resource guide to the Commission on Social
428 Witness.

429 (2) During the General Assembly in the third Cycle year, the
430 Commission on Social Witness shall conduct workshops
431 on the Congregational Study/Action Issue. Following the
432 General Assembly, the Commission on Social Witness
433 shall then compose a draft UUA Statement of
434 Conscience.

435 (3) The draft UUA Statement of Conscience, a draft
436 Statement of Conscience congregational comment form,
437 and a ballot to place the draft UUA Statement of
438 Conscience on the Final Agenda shall be included in the
439 Congregational Poll, to be made available and
440 congregations notified of its availability by November 15,

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441 following the General Assembly. Notice of the availability
442 of these items shall be given to the congregations.

443 Congregational Poll ballots and the congregational
443 comment forms concerning the draft UUA Statement of
444 Conscience shall be due by February 1 of the following
445 year (the fourth Cycle year).

446 (4) The Commission on Social Witness shall then prepare a
447

448 revised draft of the UUA Statement of Conscience taking
449 into consideration comments received by the member
450 congregations ~~and districts~~ and place this revised draft of
451 the UUA Statement of Conscience on the Final Agenda.

452 (5) For a draft UUA Statement of Conscience to be placed on
453 the Final Agenda of the General Assembly, twenty-five
454 percent (25%) of all certified congregations must
455 participate in the ballot vote concerning such draft UUA
456 Statement of Conscience.

457 (d) Fourth Cycle Year

458 (1) If the draft UUA Statement of Conscience is placed on the
459 Final Agenda for the next regular meeting of the General
460 Assembly, then the next General Assembly must debate
461 and vote on the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience.

462 Adoption of the UUA Statement of Conscience shall
463 require a two-thirds vote.

464 (2) If (i) the proposed UUA Statement of Conscience is not
465 placed on the Final Agenda for the next regular meeting of
466 the General Assembly; or (ii) the General Assembly
467 chooses, by a two-thirds vote, to refer the proposed UUA
468 Statement of Conscience to the Commission on Social
469 Witness for one additional year of study/action, then the
470 Commission of Social Witness shall continue the study
471 and revision of the proposed UUA Statement of

472 Conscience for one more year. The revised UUA
472 Statement of Conscience may be placed on the Final
473 Agenda for the next regular meeting of the General
474 Assembly pursuant to Subsections (c)(3), (c)(4) and (c)(5)
475 above. If by the regular meeting of the General Assembly
476 following the additional year the Commission on Social
477 Witness has been unable to find support to generate an
479 acceptable UUA Statement of Conscience, the

480 Congregational Study/Action Issue may be placed on the
481 Final Agenda with a proposal to drop such Congregational
482 Study/Action Issue.

483 (3) Following the regular meeting of the General Assembly in
484 the fourth Cycle year, the Cycle shall begin again as set
485 forth in Section 4.12(a) above.

486 (e) The Cycle may begin again, as set forth in Section 4.12(a), only
487 after the General Assembly in the second Cycle year of a

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488 Congregational Study/Action Issue, and as provided in

489 Sections 4.12(a)(6) and 4.12(d)(3).

Section 4.13. Revision of 490 UUA Statements of

491 Conscience Process Schedule.

492 If the Board of Trustees votes to schedule one or more regular
493 General Assemblies to begin in a month other than June, the Board

494 of Trustees shall forthwith revise the UUA Statements of

495 Conscience process schedule set forth in Section 4.12 accordingly

496 and shall immediately notify the member congregations, ~~the districts~~

497 and the Commission on Social Witness of the revised schedule in

498 writing.

499 Section 4.14. Final Agenda for Regular General

500 Assemblies.

501 The Board of Trustees shall prepare a Final Agenda for each

502 General Assembly which shall include:

503 (a) all reports and other matters required by these Bylaws to be

504 submitted to the General Assembly and all proposed

505 amendments to Bylaws and Rules appearing on the Tentative

506 Agenda that meet the requirements of Rule G-4.18.3;

507 (b) those Business Resolutions, including alternative versions, on

508 the Tentative Agenda which meet the requirements of Rule G-

509 4.18.3;

510 (c) Business Resolutions, amendments to Rules or Bylaws or

511 other items submitted by the Board of Trustees or the

512 Executive Committee, which did not originally appear on the

513 Tentative Agenda; provided, however, that any such items

514 appear on the Final Agenda accompanied by an explanation

515 for the delayed submission;

516 (d) additional proposed amendments to Bylaws submitted by the

517 Commission on Appraisal;

518 (e) those proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues on the

519 Tentative Agenda which meet the requirements of Rule G-

520 4.18.3, and if applicable pursuant to Section 4.12(a); and

521 (f) the UUA Statement of Conscience submitted by the

522 Commission on Social Witness pursuant to Section 4.12(c)

523 and (d), if applicable.

524 The Board of Trustees shall mail the Final Agenda to each member

525 congregation, associate member organization and trustee not less

526 than 30 days before the General Assembly.

527 Section 4.15. Agenda for Special General

Assemblies.

528 The Board of Trustees shall prepare the agenda for each special

529 General Assembly which shall include resolutions and proposed

530 amendments to Rules submitted by:

531 (a) the Board of Trustees;

532 (b) the petition, if any, which calls the special General Assembly;

533 OR

534 (c) not less than 50 certified member congregations by action of

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535 their governing boards or their congregations, with no more
536 than 20 of the 50 congregations from the same district or region.
537 The agenda shall be mailed to each member congregation,
538 associate member organization and trustee not less than 30 days
539 before the General Assembly.

540 ***Section 4.16. Additions to the Agenda of Regular**
541 **General Assemblies.**

542 (a) Non-substantive items related to greetings and similar matters
543 may be admitted to the agenda by a regular General
544 Assembly.

545 (b) Prior to 2013, there will be no General Assembly Actions of
546 Immediate Witness on the agenda.

547 (c) (1) A General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness is
548 one concerned with a significant action, event or
549 development, the timing or specificity of which makes it
550 inappropriate to be addressed by a UUA Statement of
551 Conscience pursuant to the Study/Action process.

552 (2) Beginning with General Assembly 2013, no more than
553 three General Assembly Actions of Immediate Witness
554 may be admitted to the agenda of a regular General
555 Assembly.

556 (3) A petition to admit an Action of Immediate Witness to
557 the agenda must be submitted by a delegate and
558 signed by 150 delegates from at least 25 congregations
559 in at least five districts or regions. If six petitions or fewer are
560 received, all petitions received that have the requisite
561 level of delegate and congregation support are eligible
562 to be considered for possible admission to the agenda.
563 In the event more than six petitions are submitted that
564 satisfy the sponsorship requirement, the Commission
565 on Social Witness shall select six from among those
566 which meet the criteria for a General Assembly Action
567 of Immediate Witness, and shall submit those six
568 actions to the agenda of the General Assembly for
569 possible admission. The Commission on Social Witness
570 shall prepare summaries of no more than six petitions
571 and present those summaries to the General Assembly
572 for a vote to rank the petitions in order of delegate
573 support. The three petitions receiving the most votes
574 are eligible for admission to the agenda. If there are
575 submitted three or fewer petitions meeting the criteria
576 for a General Assembly Action of Immediate Witness,
577 each of the petitions is eligible for admission to the
578 agenda.

579 (4) The motion to admit each General Assembly Action of
580 Immediate Witness ruled eligible is not debatable, but
581 an opportunity for a two-minute statement of advocacy
582 to the General Assembly for each eligible action by one
583 of its sponsors prior to any such motion shall be
584 provided. Admission of a General Assembly Action of

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585 Immediate Witness shall be by a two-thirds vote.
586 (5) During the General Assembly, a mini-assembly shall be
587 held during which each admitted action shall be
588 discussed and amendments shall be accepted in
589 writing. All such amendments shall be made available
590 in writing to the General Assembly. The Commission on
591 Social Witness shall finalize each General Assembly
592 Action of Immediate Witness, and the chairperson of
593 the Commission on Social Witness, in consultation with
594 the moderator of the General Assembly, the
595 parliamentarian, and legal counsel, shall prioritize
596 unincorporated amendments for consideration by the
597 General Assembly.

598 (6) Adoption of a General Assembly Action of Immediate
599 Witness shall be by a two-thirds vote.

600 (7) Actions submitted pursuant to this Section 4.16(c) must
601 be in writing and filed with the Chair of the Commission
602 on Social Witness or the Commission's designee by the
603 deadline established by the Commission and
604 announced at the opening session of the General
605 Assembly.

606 (d) Responsive Resolutions may be admitted to the agenda of a
607 regular General Assembly and acted upon.

608 (1) A Responsive Resolution is a resolution made in
609 response to a substantive portion of a report by an
610 officer or committee reporting to a regular General
611 Assembly.

612 (2) Adoption of a Responsive Resolution shall be by two
613 thirds vote.

Section 9.6. Nomination by Petition.

1214 (a) For Moderator and President. A nomination for the office of
1215 Moderator or President, for a regular or special election, may
1216 be by petition signed by no fewer than twenty-five certified
1217 member congregations, including no fewer than five certified
1218 member congregations located in each of no fewer than five
1219 different districts or regions. A certified member congregation may
1220 authorize the signing of a petition only by vote of its governing
1221 board or by vote at a duly called meeting of its members.
1222 Such a petition shall be filed with the Secretary of the
1223 Association, only in such form as the Secretary may
1224 prescribe, not later than February 1 of the year of the election
1225 and not earlier than the preceding March 1.

1226 (b) For other Elective Positions. A nomination for any elective
1227 position, for a regular or special election, may be by petition

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1228 signed by not less than fifty members of certified member
1229 congregations, with no more than ten signatures of members
1230 of any one congregation counted toward the required fifty. A
1231 separate petition, in form prescribed by the Secretary, shall
1232 be filed for each nomination not later than February 1 of the
1233 year of the election and not earlier than the preceding
1234 October 1. A petition for nomination to the Board of Trustees
1235 must designate the position number for which the person is
1236 being nominated.

1691 **ARTICLE XIII Regional Organizations**

1692 **Section C-13.1. Districts and Regions.**

1693 The Association shall support areas of regional responsibility known
1694 as districts or regions.

1695 ***Section C-13.2. Establishment.**

1696 The establishment of districts or regions and the manner of
1697 determining which congregations are included in each district or
1698 region shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the General
1699 Assembly.

1700 **Section 13.3. Members.**

1701 All member congregations of the Association located within the
1702 district **or region** shall be entitled to be member congregations of that district **or region**.

1703 **Section C-13.4. Autonomy.**

1704 **Each district or region shall be autonomous and shall be controlled**

1705 by its own member congregations to the extent consistent with the
1706 promotion of the welfare and interests of the Association as a whole
1707 and of its member congregations.

1708 **Section 13.5. District or Region Bylaws or Policies.**

1709 Each district or region shall adopt bylaws **or policies** which are not in conflict with these
1710 Bylaws.

1735 **ARTICLE XV Amendment**

1736 **Section C-15.1. Amendment of Bylaws.**

1737 (a) Amendments to Bylaws. These Bylaws may be amended by
1738 a two-thirds vote at a regular General Assembly if a proposed
1739 amendment has been placed on the agenda; provided,
1740 however, that proposals to amend, repeal, or add a new
1741 section of these Bylaws whose section number is preceded
1742 by a "C" (hereinafter a "C Bylaw") shall be governed by
1743 subsections (b) or (c) hereof.

1744 (b) Amendments to C Bylaws Other Than in Article II. A
1745 proposal to amend, repeal or add a new C Bylaw, other than

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1746 those C Bylaws in Article II of these Bylaws, shall be subject
1747 to a two-step approval process.

1748 (1) Such proposals must be placed on the agenda of a
1749 regular General Assembly and approved preliminarily by
1750 a majority vote at such regular General Assembly.

1751 Following such preliminary approval, the proposal to
1752 amend, repeal or add a new C Bylaw shall be placed on
1753 the agenda of the next regular General Assembly for final
1754 adoption. Final adoption shall require a two-thirds vote.

1755 (2) The text of a proposed amendment which has been
1756 approved by one General Assembly, may be amended at
1757 any time prior to final adoption. If the Moderator rules that
1758 the amendment to the proposal is substantive, final
1759 adoption shall only be by a subsequent General
1760 Assembly except that any such proposal that has been
1761 under consideration for final approval at three successive
1762 regular General Assemblies shall not be subject to
1763 substantive amendment and shall be submitted to a vote
1764 for final approval at the third such regular General
1765 Assembly.

1766 (3) Such a proposal which, on any vote for final adoption,
1767 receives a majority but not a two-thirds vote, shall be
1768 placed on the agenda of the next regular General
1769 Assembly, at which it may be finally adopted if it receives
1770 the requisite approval. If the proposal is not passed by a
1771 two-thirds vote at the third regular General Assembly at
1772 which it is considered for final approval, neither the
1773 proposal nor another proposal that is substantively similar
1774 shall be placed on the agenda of the next regular General
1775 Assembly.

1776 (c) Amendments to C Bylaws in Article II. A proposal to amend,
1777 repeal or add a new C Bylaw in Article II of these Bylaws shall
1778 be subject to the following process

1779 (1) Such a proposal shall be admitted to the agenda of a
1780 regular General Assembly for the purpose of determining
1781 whether the proposal shall be referred to a commission
1782 appointed by the Board of Trustees for study. Such a
1783 study shall involve member congregations. A majority
1784 vote at a regular General Assembly shall be required to
1785 refer such a proposal to the study commission. Once the

1786 study of the proposal is complete, which shall be
1787 completed in no more than two years, the study
1788 commission shall submit to the Board of Trustees for
1789 inclusion on the agenda of the next regular General
1790 Assembly any amendments to Article II that the study
1791 commission recommends. The Board of Trustees shall
1792 also include on the agenda any amendments that it
1793 recommends to the study commission proposal.

1794 (2) A motion to dispense with the study process and give
1795 preliminary approval to a proposal to amend, repeal or
1796 add a new C Bylaw in Article II shall be in order during the
1797 General Assembly at which consideration of a motion to

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1798 refer the proposal to the study process is authorized. A
1799 motion to dispense with the study process shall require a
1800 four-fifths vote for passage. Such a proposal shall then
1801 be placed on the agenda of the next regular General
1802 Assembly for final adoption without amendment. Final
1803 adoption shall require a two-thirds vote.
1804 (3) At the first General Assembly following the completion of
1805 the study process, amendments to the Article II proposal
1806 may be considered only as follows:

(i) During the General Assembly there
1807 shall be a mini
1808 assembly held during which amendments to the
1809 Article II proposal recommended by the study
1810 commission shall be considered.
1811 (ii) A delegate may submit in writing at the mini
1812 assembly an amendment to an Article II proposal.
1813 All such amendments shall be made available in
1814 writing to the General Assembly. The Moderator, in
1815 consultation with the chair of the study commission,
1816 the parliamentarian and legal counsel shall
1817 prioritize proposed amendments for consideration
1818 by the General Assembly. A majority vote of the
1819 General Assembly is required for approval of any
1820 amendment proposed in the mini-assembly.
1821 (iii) Following the vote on any amendments proposed in
1822 the mini-assembly, the General Assembly shall
1823 vote on any amendments proposed by the Board of
1824 Trustees. A majority vote is required to adopt such
1825 amendments. Following the vote on all
1826 amendments, the General Assembly shall vote on
1827 preliminary approval of the Article II proposal. A
1828 majority vote is required for preliminary approval.
1829 (iv) If no amendments proposed in the mini-assembly
1830 are adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to
1831 subsection (c)(3)(ii) above, the Article II proposal
1832 shall be submitted for final approval to the next
1833 regular General Assembly. Final approval requires
1834 a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly. No
1835 amendments may be considered.
1836 (v) If one or more amendments proposed in the mini
1837 assembly are adopted by the General Assembly,
1838 the Article II proposal shall be referred to the study
1839 commission. Within six months after the close of
1840 the General Assembly, the study commission,
1841 taking into account the decisions of the General
1842 Assembly, shall prepare the proposal to amend

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1843 Article II. The Board of Trustees shall put this
1844 proposal on the agenda of the next regular General
1845 Assembly.
1846 (4) At the next regular General Assembly following the
1847 process described in subsection (c)(3)(v), above, the
1848 Article II proposal is subject to amendment only by a
1849 three-fourths vote in favor of an amendment submitted to
1850 the General Assembly in writing by ~~the Board of Trustees,~~
1851 ~~a district, or~~ a minimum of fifteen (15) certified
1852 congregations, as described in Section 15.2 of these
1853 Bylaws. Final approval of the Article II proposal requires
1854 a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly.
1855 (5) If the Article II proposal does not receive the requisite
1856 approval at the General Assembly following the
1857 completion of the study process described in subsection
1858 (c)(3)(iv) or subsection (c)(4), above, neither the proposal
1859 nor another proposal that is substantively similar shall be
1860 placed on the agenda of the next regular General
1861 Assembly.
1862 (6) If no study process of Article II has occurred for a period
1863 of fifteen years, the Board of Trustees shall appoint a
1864 commission to study Article II for not more than two years
1865 and to recommend appropriate revisions, if any, thereto
1866 the Board of Trustees for inclusion on the agenda of the
1867 next regular General Assembly. The Board of Trustees
1868 shall also include on the agenda any amendments that it
1869 recommends to the study commission proposal.
1870 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained
1871 herein, proposals to amend Article II which are
1872 promulgated by a study commission in accordance with
1873 this paragraph shall be subject to a two-step approval
1874 process as described in subsections (c)(3) and (c)(4),
1875 above.

1876 *Section 15.2. Submission of Proposed Amendment.

1877 Proposed amendments to these Bylaws may be submitted only by:

1878 (a) the Board of Trustees;

1879 (b) the General Assembly Planning Committee;

1880 (c) the Commission on Appraisal; and

1881 (d) not less than fifteen certified member congregations by action

1882 of their governing boards or their congregations; such

1883 proposed amendments to Bylaws must be received by the

1884 Board of Trustees on February 1 whenever the regular

1885 General Assembly opens in June; otherwise, not less than

1886 110 days before the General Assembly; ~~or~~

1887 (e) ~~intentionally left blank a district by official action at a duly called district meeting at~~

1888 ~~which a quorum is present, such proposed amendment to be~~

1889 ~~received by the Board of Trustees on February 1 whenever~~

1890 ~~the regular General Assembly opens in June; otherwise, not~~

1891 ~~less than 110 days before the next General Assembly.~~

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**2402 Rule G-4.12.1. Report of Comments on UUA
2403 Statements of Conscience.**

2404 The Commission on Social Witness shall report to the General

2405 Assembly in summary fashion those comments on UUA Statements
2406 of Conscience submitted to it by member congregations ~~and~~
~~2407 districts.~~

**2408 Rule G-4.12.2. Study/Action Issues for Social
Justice.**

2409 The Commission on Social Witness shall prepare (and the Board of
2410 Trustees shall include with the Tentative Agenda) a report
2411 summarizing the numbers and topics of the proposed
2412 Congregational Study/Action Issues submitted by the certified
2413 member congregations ~~districts~~, and sponsored organizations as
2414 defined in Section 4.12(a)(1), and the criteria which it used in
2415 selecting proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues included in
2416 the Congregational Poll. Each proposed Congregational
2417 Study/Action Issue that appears on the Tentative Agenda shall be
2418 accompanied by previous General Resolutions, actions and
2419 statements on related issues, with dates (if applicable), and the
2420 names or number of congregations submitting issues included
2421 within such proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue.

**2422 Rule G-4.12.3 Report on Implementation of UUA
2423 Statements of Conscience.**

2424 The UUA Administration shall report at each regular General
2425 Assembly regarding implementation of UUA Statements of
2426 Conscience with particular reference to the most recently adopted
2427 Statement of Conscience. Such report shall summarize
2428 implementation by member congregations, ~~Districts~~, UUA staff and
2429 other Unitarian Universalist groups.

2454 Section 4.18. Agenda Rules.

**2455 Rule G-4.18.1. Notice to Member Congregations ~~and~~
2456 Districts.**

2457 By November 1 whenever in the fiscal year the General Assembly
2458 opens in June, otherwise not less than two hundred and ten days
2459 before each regular General Assembly, each certified member
2460 congregation ~~and district~~ shall be notified of the dates for submitting
2461 items for the Tentative and Final Agenda, the procedure to be
2462 followed, and the forms to be used.

**2901 RULE XIII Regional Organizations
2902 Section C-13.2. Establishment.**

2903 Rule G-13.2.1. Establishing Districts ~~or Regions.~~

2904 (a) ~~There shall be districts named Ballou Channing, Clara
2905 Barton, Florida, Joseph Priestley, Massachusetts Bay,
2906 Metropolitan New York, MidAmerica, Mountain Desert, Mid-
2907 South, Northern New England, Ohio Meadville, Pacific~~

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~~2908 Central, Pacific Northwest, Pacific Southwest, St. Lawrence,
2909 Southeast, and Southwestern. Intentionally left blank.~~

2910 (b) Each district or region shall be composed of the congregations

2911 assigned to that district or region by the Board of Trustees

2912 (c) The boundaries of each district or region encompass the areas served
2913 by its member congregations.

2914 (d) Upon application to the Board of Trustees and after notice

2915 and an opportunity to be heard is afforded the affected

2916 districts or regions, a congregation may change its district or regional membership

2917 with approval of the Board of Trustees.

2918 (e) The ~~District Map of Districts and Regions published on the UUA Website published in the Annual Directory~~ contains

2919 boundaries that are an approximation only of the boundary
2920 lines determined pursuant to subparagraph (c) above and are
2921 intended primarily as a guide for the newly admitted
2922 congregation in determining its membership.

2923 (f) Transition Provision. The amendments to Rule G-13.2.1

2924 deleting the Central Midwest, Heartland, and Prairie Star

2925 Districts shall not become effective until those Districts

2926 dissolve. This transition provision shall automatically be

2927 deleted from the bylaws following the first regular General

2928 Assembly occurring after all of those districts have dissolved.

2929

2947 **Section 15.2. Submission of Proposed Amendments.**

2948 **Rule G-15.2.1. Form of Submission.**

2949 A proposed amendment to the Bylaws submitted by certified
2950 member congregations or a district must include:

2951 (a) the Article and Section which it is proposed to amend or
2952 repeal;

2953 (b) a concise summary of the principal arguments on which the
2954 proponents rely; and

2955 (c) other Articles (or Sections) or "G" Rules affected by the

2956 proposed amendment and proposed text of any necessary

2957 conforming amendments and "G" Rules.

Sarah Stewart made a motion on behalf of the Finance Committee (therefore requiring no second) that was passed unanimously:

~~10.2 Duties of the Finance Committee~~ Election and Duties of the Financial Secretary

~~The Financial Secretary shall be elected from among the members of the Board of Trustees by its members. The Financial Secretary facilitates the Board's conversations in order to fulfill its financial responsibilities.~~

~~The Finance Committee shall submit proposed annual budgets for the Association to the Board of Trustees and make recommendations to the Board with respect to major financial policies of~~

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~~the Association other than those pertaining to investments. It shall review the use made of specific funds held by the Association and shall also recommend long-range financial plans.~~

Motion carried unanimously.

The topic of changes to the Commission on Appraisal was discussed and tabled until the March board meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn by Sarah Stewart at 8:48 PM EST and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Harlan Limpert
Clerk

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHEDULE

March 2015, Selma, AL

Thursday, March 6 and Saturday, March 8.

March Monthly Board Conference Call

March 26, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST

Call in information:

Toll Number: (201) 479-4595

Meeting Number: 26903850

April Monthly Board Conference Call

April 23, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST

Call in information:

Toll Number: (201) 479-4595

Meeting Number: 26903942

May Monthly Board Conference Call

May 28, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST

Call in information:

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Toll Number: (201) 479-4595
Meeting Number: 26903998

June 2015, Portland, OR

Tuesday, June 23 – Wednesday, June 24 – Board of Trustees meeting
Wednesday, June 24 – Sunday June 28– General Assembly
Monday, June 29 – Board of Trustees

July 2015 Monthly Conference Call

July 23, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST
Call in information:
Toll Number: (201) 479-4595
Meeting Number: 28356694

August 2015, Boston, MA – New Trustee Orientation

Monday, August 24, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST

September 2015 Monthly Conference Call

September 24, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST
Call in information:
Toll Number: (201) 479-4595
Meeting Number: 28356714

October 2015, Boston, MA

Thursday, October 15 –October retreat for all board members
Friday, October 16 to Sunday, Oct 18 – Board meeting in Boston

November 2015 Monthly Conference Call

November 19, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST
Call in information:
Toll Number: (201) 479-4595
Meeting Number: 28356738

December 2015 Monthly Conference Call

December 17, 2015 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST
Call in information:
Toll Number: (201) 479-4595
Meeting Number: 28356746

January 2016

Friday, January 22 to Sunday, January 24 – Location TBD

February 2016 Monthly Conference Call

February 25, 2016 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST
Call in information:

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Toll Number: (201) 479-4595

Meeting Number: 28356754

March 2016 Monthly Conference Call

March 24, 2016 8:00 to 9:30 PM EST

Call in information:

Toll Number: (201) 479-4595

Meeting Number: 28356770

April 2016, Boston, MA

Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17

(Note: This is changed from April 22 to 24 due to Passover)

June 2016, Columbus, OH

Tuesday, June 21 – Wednesday, June 22 – Board of Trustees meeting

Wednesday, June 22 – Sunday June 26– General Assembly

Monday, June 27 – Board of Trustees meeting