

Notes for October GAPC Zoom Meeting

Convener: Ila

Process Observer: Jenn

Opening: Chelsea

Check-In - a check in with introductions and to welcome our new member Zeb.

Present: Debra Gray Boyd, Rev. Patrice Curtis, Tuli Patel, Emily Jaworski, Chelsea Surfus, Jan Sneegas, Jolanda Walter, Ila Klion, Zeb Green, Stephanie Samson, Rev. Jenn Gracen, Rev. Tania Marquez, Cecelia Hayes, Rev. Marta Valentin

Items to be Covered

Report from Board Meeting regarding General Conference: [Debra](#)

- Debra sent out a report from the board via email. Please review that.
- Jan reported that we are far behind in relationship to the grid and worship because of the general conference idea.
 - Carey laid out some ideas they saw for general assembly. They talked about forming a steering team that would be an ongoing version of the folks represented on grid.
 - They are talking about doing theme blocks where people would start out in the general session space and would hear a lecture and then would break out into groups talking about the mission and vision of the association.
 - Jan is hoping for a hybrid so that there will be some things that folks recognize even as we do this new formation.
 - Carey asked "who decides" the bylaws say it is the planning committee.
 - Carey is going to try to touch base with Elandria, Barb, Denise and the Commission on Institutional change.
 - If you see something that doesn't feel like it meets those obligations you need to speak up.
 - There may not be a PDG. Carey is talking about submitting program facilitations and theme ideas rather than program proposals
 - Jan's office is on hold.
 - Concern about how WAT will be able to rehearse.
 - They are planning the opening to be a combined planning group with Patrice, Carey, Susan, Emily and maybe one other person. The same group may do the closing and the awards ceremony.
 - Jan's office is concerned about deadlines. They need some things to happen in order to get the program printed and room assignments made.
 - Jan's office is going to Spokane in December. Hopefully we will know what we are going by that time.

- Concern/Question expressed about how different groups are going to plan since they plan around the grid.
- How does the timing of them not having a grid impact things. Is that going to be communicated?
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- Everyone needs to let their liaison groups know the grid is going to be late.
- Question/Concern - How are these services - opening, closing and awards going to be funded? Emily and Patrice are concerned about an expectation that smaller worship services will be less expensive.

Moderator Election: [Debra](#)

- Jan - Barb and Elandria are currently appointed and elected. The board is discouraging people from running by petition for the moderator position. They would need to apply for Feb 1st. They want some time to rethink what the position looks like. (i.e. should it be a paid position)

BLUU Participation in General Assembly 2019: [Cecelia](#)

- Cecelia sent out a note about BLUU's participation in GA this year indicating BLUU will not be at GA. Debra has heard something slightly different.
- Debra's understanding is that BLUU will be at GA but not doing counter programming. This comes from Elandria.
 - There are a couple of different pieces going on here.
- Jolanda - BLUU is all black UUs it isn't the same as other kinds of structures. It makes more sense to me to say that the organizing collective will not be at GA. Black UUs will still be participating in GA.
- Cecelia has sought further clarity but wasn't able to circle back ahead of this conversation.
 - Jolanda - my understanding of BLUU is a little different than a membership based organization.
- Emily points out that the note went out to all of BLUU's followers
- Patrice understood it to mean the same thing. That BLUU wasn't intending to come.

Update from Stephanie on Local Area Task Force: [Stephanie](#)

- The committee is 95% in place.
- People in Spokane are anxious and curious to find out about the difference between a Conference and an Assembly.
- Her folks were concerned the teens are not coming in April.
- Jan - the teens are coming! We will follow up on this.

- Something new in Spokane - we now have scooters and bikes on the sidewalks. You can get around town. Bring a helmet. They are going to suspend the program for the winter.

Request on Facebook for Cannabis Tent: [Debra](#)

- Request on facebook for cannabis tents outside of the convention center.
- We have had a clear policy on alcohol for a long time. Debra suggests that we have the same policy regarding drugs.
- It is not legal to smoke cannabis in any venue except in your own home.

General Assembly Site for GA 2022: [Jan](#)

- Portland, Salt Lake City - we were in Portland in 2007, 2015 and would go back in 2022 potentially. We were last in Salt Lake in 2009.
- Salt Lake is making good proposals the concerns have always been there is no energy around Salt Lake, there are not any congregations to draw from.
- If we aren't going to consider Salt Lake we shouldn't waste their time and money or our time and our money.
- Suggestions?
- There are issues with being out West based on cost and different union issues.
- The three cities are Portland, Milwaukie and Pittsburg - if we go to all 3 we will get 63,000\$ because they have a deal between the their of them - a 3 city consortium.
- The South is under consideration for 2024

Debra proposes we definitely go look at Portland and then make a decision about Salt Lake after 11a seconds - passes.

Update on GACS Director Position: [Jan](#)

- The job description is done and will be posted in November. My role will not be anything other than to answer any questions.

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Process Observation?

Closing: Cecelia

Other Notes: Tania Marquez is the incoming chair of WAT. Tania lives in San Diego. Tania is a parish minister in our San Diego church.

Other Notes: Marta - a rumor was starting to circulate at DRUUMM that GA was going to be by invitation only. Marta was able to help people to understand this was not true. BLUU tried hard to be clear and still there is a lack of clarity. We need to be careful going forward with what we say and are saying to each other.

Tim Brennen is retiring.