

Report of District President's Association Observer at UUA Board of Trustees Meeting
Kathy Burek, President, District President's Association
November 29, 2012

The UUA Board of Trustees met by telephone and webinar on November 29, 2012. Handouts and Agenda may be found at <http://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/board/packets/index.shtml>.

Audit Report: The Audit Committee reported that the auditors have given the UUA a very positive evaluation. The Board voted to accept the Audit Committee's report, and thanked them for their work.

Drafting of "Lower Level" Ends: Various subgroups working on fleshing out the potential revisions to the UUA Ends reported on their progress. More work will be done on this project at the Board's January meeting, including plans for gathering input from member congregations.

Partner Church Council: The Partner Church Council requested permission to participate in the UUA's retirement plan. Permission was granted.

Covenanting at GA: Members of the UUA Board are working with the GA Planning Committee to coordinate the Opening Ceremony, worship services, workshops, and plenary sessions so that the theme of covenant is reinforced throughout GA.

Youth/Young Adult Participation: The UUA Board continued the discussion on meeting the responsive and business resolutions from previous GA's relating to inclusion of youth and young adults in the life of the Association. It was noted that the dissolution of YRUU is still being felt; young adults who did not have an experience similar to YRUU have voiced less of a sense of connection to the UUA. Board members noted that accountability for including youth and young adults at all levels in the association is needed: the UUA and district Boards, staff and member congregations. As the work on the revisions to Ends goes forward, work groups were asked to ensure that the wording of lower level Ends is responsive to the previous business and responsive resolutions on this topic.

5th Principle Task Force Report Follow-up: Discussion on following up on the 5th Principle Task Force report noted that there are two different aspects to the report: governance and gathering. These are different purposes, with different strategies needed to achieve them. Various stakeholder groups, including the Young Adult Network, the District Presidents' Association, DRUUMM, and key members of the administration will be invited to participate in the Board's deliberations on this topic. Meetings with impacted stakeholders will take place in the preceding weeks.

Monitoring: The Board reviewed monitoring reports and recommendations from the Governance Work Group. The Board asked for further information on the operational definitions and processes for policies relating to awarding grants from the UU Funding Program and for the 1% standard as no-material for budget deviations. Audio problems made it difficult to track much of the discussion.

Observations: The Board continues to be hampered by audio and internet connection problems when it conducts business electronically. Advance materials relating to monitoring Ends is not always available on the web site, making it difficult for a non-board member to follow some of the discussion on monitoring reports. The meeting was well-conducted, brisk, and participants had clearly prepared in advance.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Burek, President
District Presidents' Association
DPA Observer