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## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

June 28-29, 1986

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The annual meeting of the General Council of URANTIA Brotherhood was held at 9:00 A.M., June 28, 1986, at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois.

The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

Charles R. Burton, Lewis A. Clark, Stephen Dreier, David N. Elders, Duane L. Faw, William M. Hales, James P. Jarnagin, Gene Joyce, Harry McMullan III, Marian T. Rowley, Helena Sprague, Berkeley Elliott, Scott M. Forsythe, Nancy Grimsley, John W. Hales, Gloriann Harris, John D. Hay, Thomas A. Kendall, Peter Laurence, Ronald Steve Law, James McNelly, Frank Sgaraglino, Paul Snider, Thomas S. Allen, John Andrews, Douglas Fraser, Polly Friedman, Bill Hazen, Lynne B. Kulieke, Marilyn J. Kulieke, Daniel Massey, Larry Mullins, Michael A. Painter, Philip Rolnick.

Mo Siegel was absent. It was noted that the Secretary held a proxy for him made out to John Hay.

The meeting was called to order by the President, David Elders, and was opened with a short reading from The URANTIA Book.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously by a voice vote to accept the agenda as prepared by the officers and approved by the Executive Committee.

Since the minutes of the last meeting on June 29-30, 1985, had been distributed previously, the full reading was waived with the Secretary reading only the figures on the voting for committee people. The minutes were approved as read.

It was agreed that the minutes of this meeting should be distributed before the next meeting with the exception of the voting procedure, as was done with last year's minutes.

The Secretary read the census figures of membership as of December 31, 1985, as follows:

First URANTIA Society 92

First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles 94

URANTIA Society of Glenview 26  
First URANTIA Society of Oklahoma 159  
Orvonton URANTIA Society of Chicago 41  
Fort Wayne URANTIA Society 28  
First URANTIA Society of Wenatchee 16  
First URANTIA Society of Houston 36  
First URANTIA Society of Western Springs 12  
San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society 30  
URANTIA Society of Central Connecticut 52  
URANTIA Society of Dallas 52  
Rocky Mountain URANTIA Society of Denver 73  
URANTIA Society of San Fernando Valley 21  
Northern Light URANTIA Society of Alaska 43

Society Members 775

Members-at-Large 219

Total Members 994

The Chairman asked for nominations for one General Councilor to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation by Martin Myers. The term to be filled is 2 years. The following persons were nominated:

Deborah Foster, Marjorie Reed, Nancy Johnson, Neil Francey, Marvin Gawryn, Dorothy Elder, Donald Guimond, Avinoam Dogim

Since it was unlikely that any one person would receive a majority on the first vote, a motion was made, seconded, and carried by a vote of 24 to drop the four names receiving the lowest votes after the first ballot.

Nominations were closed and supporting speeches were made. The Chairman appointed Jim Jarnagin as head teller with Bill Hazen as second teller. The tellers collected the ballots and reported as follows:

Votes cast 35

Marjorie Reed 16  
Deborah Foster 8  
Nancy Johnson 5  
Marvin Gawryn 3  
Neil Francey 2  
Dorothy Elder 0  
Avinoam Dogim 0

Donald Guimond 0

The names of Francey, Elder, Dogim, and Guimond were dropped and a second vote was taken. The tellers reported the following:

Votes cast 35

Marjorie Reed 21

Deborah Foster 8

Nancy Johnson 5

Marvin Gawryn 1

The Chairman declared Marjorie Reed elected for a term of 2 years. She was notified immediately and joined the meeting a few minutes later

A motion was made, seconded, and carried by a vote of 33 for, 2 opposed, to vote the entire slate presented by the Executive Committee. The tellers passed out the ballots and the nominations were read by John Hales, Secretary of the Executive Committee. The Chairman asked for nominations from the floor, which were made as follows:

Judicial Committee 3 yr. term Robert Bruyn

Fraternal Relations Committee 6 yr. term Jeffrey Wattles

It was agreed that the one-year term for Fraternal Relations would not be voted upon until the entire slate had been voted.

Domestic Extension Committee 6 yr. term Vincent Myers

Special Projects Committee 6 yr. term Donald Guimond

Since Don Guimond was nominated for two positions, it was agreed that if he should win both, he should make the choice and the other nominee would auto-matically be elected to the other position.

At 10:30 there was a 15-minute break, following which supporting speeches were made for the nominees and the vote was cast. The tellers collected the ballots and reported as follows:

Votes cast - 36 Judicial Committee 6 years Ellen Montgomery 33 Abstentions 3 3 years David Owen 20 Robert Bruyn 15 Abstention 1 Charter Committee 6 years Tom Choquette 31 Mary Daly 5 Fraternal Relations Committee 6 years Richard Bain 15 Jeff Wattles 13 Gary Dangerfield 8 Domestic Extension Committee 6 years Michael Challis 18 Cecilia Forrester 10 Vincent Myers 8 International Fellowship Committee 6 years Neil Francey 34 Carol Kostic 2 Education Committee 6 years Ralph Zehr 36 Finance Committee 6 years Nancy Johnson 23 Larry Mullins 13 Finance Committee 6 years Marta Elders 34 Donald Guimond 2 Special Projects Committee 6 years Daniel Love Glazer 30 Donald Guimond 5

## Abstention 1

The Chairman announced that those who had received a majority in each case were elected.

The meeting recessed at 12:15 for lunch and returned at 1:15.

A second ballot was taken as a run-off for the Fraternal Relations and Domestic Extension Committees. The tellers reported as follows:

Votes cast 36 Fraternal Relations 6 years Richard Bain 21 Jeffrey Wattles 15 Domestic Extension 6 years Michael Challis 27 Cecilia Forrester 9 The Chairman declared Richard Bain and Michael Challis elected.

Nominations were opened for the 1-year term on Fraternal Relations and the following people were named: Gary Dangerfield, Jeffrey Wattles, and Scott Forsythe. The vote was cast and the tellers reported as follows:

Fraternal Relations Votes cast 36 1 year Scott Forsythe 15 Jeffrey Wattles 13 Gary Dangerfield 7  
Abstention 1

Since there was no majority, another vote was taken and the tellers reported as follows:

Votes cast 35 1 year Scott Forsythe 21 Jeffrey Wattles 13 Abstention 1

The Chairman declared Scott Forsythe elected to the one-year term.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to recess the meeting for informal discussion.

There was discussion on the annual reports of officers, field representatives, and departmental chairmen.

The question of size of societies was brought up. Mr. Dreier said the very low membership of some societies was being considered by the Charter Committee. Lynne Kulieke reported that the Education Committee plans to prepare a letter to new readers on study group material, for headquarters to send out.

The Chairman said that there is enough question about possible ways of approaching the change of name and function of several committees to warrant our tabling the proposed amendment until the next General Council meeting.

Regarding the library gift book placement project, the Chairman reviewed the situation. The Foundation has already given us 1200 free English books and 200 French books. Perhaps we should go back with a request for 1000 to carry us up to next March, which will be the 9th printing of the book. Perhaps we

should develop a perpetual gift book program. We could either ask for donations or allocate money out of capital funds. Mr. Elders will write the Foundation asking for 1000 more free books to last us until March 1987 and will indicate that the Brotherhood is working on a project of establishing an ongoing gift book program. This will involve discussing with the Foundation the possibility of buying an extra quantity of books at direct production cost pricing directly from the ninth printing, such as 5000, the funds for which would be allocated from capital. It was the sense of the Council that this should be done and the Executive Committee will work out the plan on how it should be accomplished.

Reports were made on the TDA resolutions which were referred to us in 1985.

- a. Dan Massey reported on the citation standards. There was discussion on how to put this before the public and try to get them to use it. There will be an article in the Bulletin. Perhaps there should be a pamphlet. The Chairman read Martin Myers' letter to Dan Massey commending him for a good job
- b. Marilyn Kulieke reported that the designation of study aids was too narrow and the project had been renamed "Resources Guide to Supplementary Material." Her committee is working on it.
- c. It was agreed that the book pricing resolution should be left until the last.
- d. Harry McMullan suggested that the bookstore distribution discussion be left until next year in view of various changes which are in progress. e. David Elders discussed the improved communications situation. There was much discussion on whether societies would inform their members on what was being sent out. It was decided that mailings from headquarters must go to all members directly - about 1000.
- f. Marilyn Kulieke said the study of the history resolution had been given to Jim McNelly and asked him to report. He presented his own ideas on what should be done, but Mr. Hazen said that it was also the opinion of the committee. There was a great deal of discussion on what the history of the Brotherhood should contain. It was suggested that a professional archivist might be hired. Although some of the Councilors felt the matter should be dropped, it seemed to be the consensus that work should continue to be done. g. David Elders reported that he had found the preparation of biographies very difficult. He recommended that the biographical form prepared by Meredith Sprunger some years ago should be sent to all candidates and the returns should be used as they were sent in. The Council agreed.
- h. Frank Sgaraglino presented his letter of April 11, 1986, on book pricing. There was a great deal of discussion pro and con on this subject. John Hay was against doing anything before we had a marketing test. If we lower the price, stores might stop carrying the book because they would make so little profit. It was pointed out if the price is lowered to \$20.00 we would be losing money on every book and the more we sold, the more we would lose. At the rate of inflation the price of \$34.00 is normal. It was reported that a sales program test in Anchorage with a \$14 rebate was not a success.

It was suggested that the pricing and other things like dust jackets be submitted to one of the DesignTeams to come up with a plan for implementation no later than January 1987.

An informal vote was taken that we agree we should develop a test marketing program for presentation in January with implementation shortly thereafter. Agreed 26, no 8, abstentions 2.

Douglas Fraser talked on the pricing situation, expressing the view that due to exchange rates and average income level in other countries, we need to consider differential pricing outside the United States.

The meeting recessed at 5:15 P.M. for dinner. Bill Hales left and did not return for the evening session or the Sunday session.

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 P.M.

Marilynn Kulieke reported on the 1987 General Conference at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME. The theme of the conference will be "Our Relationship with God: Personal Transformation and Its Power to Transform the World."

The Chairman discussed the DesignTeam program. Any corrections in the DesignShop book should be mailed to him for corrected sheets to be made.

Larry Mullins returned to the discussion of the book pricing matter. He wanted a straight commitment to reducing the price. He was ruled out of order and not permitted to read a resolution he had prepared.

Helena Sprague moved to table the items brought up by Mr. Mullins and permit this issue to be re-opened later. There was a straw vote - yes 16, no 12.

The meeting returned to the discussion of the DesignTeams. Since there was some resistance to implementing the DesignTeam programs as presented, Bill Hazen requested a straw vote proposing that the plan be implemented. Straw vote - yes 27, no 7. The Chairman asked for volunteers for the six DesignTeams. They are as follows:

1. Study Group Development Program

Harry McMullan Michael Painter Polly Friedman Lewis Clark Stephen Dreier

2. Programs, Services, and Resources Development

Tom Allen Lynne Kulieke Marilynn Kulieke Nancy Grimsley Gloriann Harris John Hay

### 3. Book Sales, Marketing, Distribution

Charles Burton John Hales Larry Mullins Bill Hazen Douglas Fraser Mo Siegel

### 4. The Personal and Spiritual Component in our Work

Steve Law Helena Sprague Jim McNelly John Andrews Marjorie Reed Virginia Kuenster

### 5. Communications Design Project

Jim Jarnagin Dan Masse Duane Faw Paul Snider Marian Rowley

### 6. Internationalization of our Organization

Frank Sgaraglino Tom Kendall Gene Joyce Philip Rolnick Peter Laurence Scott Forsythe Berkeley Elliott

The teams were asked to organize immediately and report to an informal meeting of the General Council in January, the date for which would be set at the September meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Chairman suggested that a citation for long, dedicated service to the Brotherhood be given to Helen Carlson. It was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman reported that he had contacted the Foundation about our handling the Concordex and indicated that we would be responsive to the Foundation's position. We are now referring people to the publishers. There were various comments, namely, that it was a good aid, that we should carry it as a service, that it was interpretative. The sense of the meeting was that the reader should be able to obtain this secondary work, since it is so closely concerned with the book, although we should stand apart from interpretative works. The Foundation seems to be moving in the direction of decentralization.

A straw vote was taken that it is our intention to distribute the Concordex after the Foundation has reviewed it and has decided not to take any action. The majority was in favor. It was agreed that the Executive Committee would more completely review the Concordex now that printed copies were available.

Mike Painter spoke briefly on the progress of the Spanish translation. Euramerica has produced a tentative glossary and has translated the Foreword and the first ten papers. Douglas Fraser said the translation is very good, although the editing could be improved.

The meeting was recessed at 9:22 P.M. to reconvene at 9 A.M. Sunday.

The meeting reconvened at 9:05 A.M. Sunday. There were 34 present, Mo Siegel and Bill Hales were absent.

There was discussion on the standards and guidelines for speakers appearing before nonreader groups, radio interviews, etc. It was agreed to refer this to both the Fraternal Relations and Domestic Extension Committees who will report back to the next General Council meeting.

Larry Mullins suggested that the General Council ask the Executive Committee to consider inviting each country with URANTIA Book readers to send an individual to monitor the General Council meetings. It was agreed that this should be considered by the International DesignTeam.

Douglas Fraser left the meeting at 10 A.M.

Harry McMullan asked that the Executive Committee investigate a more efficient way of voting.

Lynne Kulieke noted the need for an improvement in the staff situation, a need for more efficient staff personnel, especially regarding conferences and workshops.

Jim McNelly suggested that the Brotherhood should acquire an 800 number which is now free, (800) 872-6842 (URANTIA). He gave cost figures. The 900 number was also discussed. It was agreed that it should be assigned to the Communications DesignTeam.

John Hay suggested that the Judicial Committee take a look at what is involved in increasing the General Council from 36 to 48.

Scott Forsythe suggested that the Domestic Extension Committee develop ways to better involve societies in organizational activities.

John Hay brought up the fiscal situation. We are behind our target of \$80,000.

The Executive Committee will undertake to sort out the balance between hard and soft fund-raising appeals and balance that against how much we feel it appropriate to spend.

Harry McMullan suggested that we consider changing the name of URANTIA Brotherhood. It was informally agreed that the Executive Committee would examine a possible name change for a word that recognizes evolutionary changes in gender identification.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting in formal session at 11:25 A.M.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to award a citation to Helen Carlson for her long, dedicated service to the Brotherhood.



A motion was made and seconded that the General Council reaffirm the Executive Committee's stance that it is desirous of handling the Concordex when the Foundation has determined that the book has successfully met the legal guidelines. Duane Faw moved to amend the motion by having it agreed to refer the matter back to the Executive Committee in view of the fact that we have additional information. There was a second and the vote was 33 to accept the amendment. A vote was then taken on the original motion with the amendment as follows: yes 24, no 7, abstentions 2.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that a test marketing program for testing a price reduction as well as other variables be worked out and presented to the Council for review at the January meeting. In favor 31, opposed 1, abstention 1.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Executive Committee look into and implement a more efficient procedure for General Council voting, without having to report back to this body. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Design Team on Communications evaluate the use of a WATS line to facilitate communication and report back to this body. In favor 30, opposed 2, abstention 1.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Fraternal Relations and Domestic Extension Committees continue the discussion and evolution of possible standards/guidelines for appearances before nonreader groups and organizations (e.g., radio interviews, religious institutions, other groups, etc.) and report back to the General Council at its next regular meeting with appropriate recommendations. In favor 31, opposed 1, abstention 1.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Domestic Extension Committee be assigned the task of looking into the appropriateness and ways in which societies can become more involved and active in organizational activities. In favor 32, opposed 1.

A motion was made, seconded, carried to refer to the Executive Committee for further study the matter of a name change for URANTIA Brotherhood.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the DesignTeam on Internationalization develop a program to better involve readers from other countries in organizational activities of URANTIA Brotherhood. In favor 31, opposed 1.

The Chairman read the names on the six DesignTeams. He will send out notices to all and would like to have reported back to him who the coordinators are, which he will then report back to everyone. He explained the role of the liaison members.

John Hales reported that Ingram Book Co. has a best seller list on religious books and The URANTIA Book is #16 in the top 20 theological titles.

Mr. Elders reminded us that it's the Father's revelation, not ours.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:45 A.M. sine die

(Signed) Marian T. Rowley, Secretary

APPROVED