
MINUTES OF TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF URANTIA BROTHERHOOD

July 2 - 3, 1988

The Triennial Meeting of the General Council of URANTIA Brotherhood was opened with an informal remembrance ceremony.

The President called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M. The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

Thomas S. Allen, Robert Bruyn, Avinoam Dogim, Stephen Dreier, David N. Elders, Lucile Faw, Anthony R. Finstad, Scott M. Forsythe, Douglas Fraser, Polly Friedman, Nancy Grimsley, John W. Hales, John D. Hay, Bill Hazen, Janice C. Heinberg, F. Gard Jameson, James G. Johnston, Thomas A. Kendall, Lynne B. Kulieke, Marilynn J. Kulieke, Eileen Laurence, Peter Laurence, Ronald Steve Law, L. Daniel Massey, Harry McMullan III, James McNelly, Michael A. Painter, W. David Robertson, Philip Rolnick, Mo Siegel, Paul Snider, Brent St. Denis, Melissa Wells.

John L. Lange and Larry Mullins were absent.

The President asked that the minutes show appreciation to the Councilors whose terms of office were over. He asked Marian Rowley to read the list of Councilors, giving the length of their service on the Council. They are as follows:

Marjorie Reed 2 years
Gene Joyce 9 years
Gloriann Harris 6 years
Helena Sprague 9 years
Charles Burton 9 years
Lewis Clark 18 years
Duane Faw 9 years
William M. Hales 33 years
James Jarnagin 9 years
Marian T. Rowley 33 years

The President read a letter to the Council from retiring Councilor William Hales, urging that an enthusiastic, thoughtful Council and a conservative but responsive Foundation work together to carry

forward the work of the Kingdom.

The agenda for the meeting was presented with one amendment. No 14A should be included - Report on Councilor Terms by Michael Painter's Ad Hoc Committee. A motion was passed that the agenda be accepted as amended.

The minutes of the annual meeting of the Council on August 7-8, 1987, were read by the Secretary, Marian Rowley. It was noted that a proxy for Nancy Grimsley should be included with those of Gene Joyce and Marian Rowley. It was also noted that on Page 6 while mention was made of some unfavorable comments on the President's report, there were also some favorable comments on the report.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

The Secretary then read the minutes of the special meeting of the council on January 30-31, 1988. The comment was made that the discussion of the constitutional amendment covering the removal of councilors had not been fully covered in the minutes. Although the Foundation attorneys' points of view had been expressed, there was no mention of Duane Faw's rebuttal of their points and therefore the minutes did not express what actually took place. The question and answer period had not been included. The consensus was that the minutes be rejected and rewritten. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that this portion of the minutes be rewritten and read at the next meeting of the General council. The vote was 31 for, with 3 abstentions.

The President welcomed the new councilors to the meeting as follows:

Robert Bruyn, James G. Johnston, Avinoam Dogim, John L. Lange, Anthony R. Finstad, Eileen Laurence, Janice Clark Heinberg, Brent St. Denis, F. Gard Jameson, Melissa Wells.

The Secretary read the census report for membership in the Brotherhood as of December 31, 1987, as follows:

First URANTIA Society 86
First URANTIA Society of Los Angeles 95
URANTIA Society of Glenview 23
First URANTIA Society of Oklahoma 168
Orvonton URANTIA Society of Chicago 46
Ft. Wayne URANTIA Society 32
Evergreen URANTIA Society of Washington 16
First URANTIA Society of Houston 31
First URANTIA Society of Western Springs 12
San Francisco Bay Area URANTIA Society 40
URANTIA Society of Central Connecticut 52
URANTIA Society of Dallas 56

Rocky Mountain URANTIA Society of Denver 62
URANTIA Society of San Fernando Valley 21
Northern Light URANTIA Society of Alaska 43

Total Society Members 783

Members-at-Large 247

Total Brotherhood Members 1,030

Mr. Elders opened the meeting for the election of the officers, committee chairs, and committee members. He appointed Michael Painter and Scott Forsythe as tellers and explained that the ballots would be counted on the electronic vote counting machine.

He distributed a sheet showing the slate of the nominees presented by the Executive Committee with the consequential recommendations. A motion was made that the slate be accepted, but since some persons were named for more than one office, it was agreed that if the person did not receive the nomination for the first spot, he would accept the second office. With this amendment, the motion was seconded and carried.

It was agreed that nominees would leave the room during discussion on their nominations for various offices, and return for the voting by ballot.

The Chairman then asked for nominations from the floor for President. Peter Laurence was nominated. Nominations were closed. The meeting was turned over to Vice President Bill Hazen. It was agreed that any comments made about any of the nominees would be kept confidential. There was a long discussion on whether spouses should leave the room while their mates were being discussed for office. A motion was made and seconded, that spouses should not be present at this session of the Council. The vote was 10 yes, 14 no, and 7 abstentions. The motion was defeated. Eileen Laurence nevertheless, left the room.

The question was called and the vote on the candidates was taken. The tellers reported that 34 votes were cast - Elders 26 and Laurence 7, with 1 abstention. David N. Elders was elected President, and he resumed the Chair.

The nominees for Vice-President were Bill Hazen and Marilyn Kulieke. Stephen Dreier was nominated from the floor. Nominations were closed. The vote was taken and the tellers reported 34 votes cast as follows: Hazen 5, Kulieke 26, Dreier 2 and 1 abstention. Marilyn Kulieke was declared elected as Vice President.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 11:50 A.M. and reconvened at 1:00 P.M.

The nominees for Secretary were Janice C. Heinberg and Lucile Faw. There were no nominations from

the floor and the nominations were closed. The votes were cast and the tellers reported 34 voted as follows: Heinberg 25, Faw 9. Janice Heinberg was declared elected as Secretary and she immediately took the position as Secretary with a standing ovation given Marian Rowley for her past service. The Chairman asked that Marian stay on to the end of the meeting as an observer.

The nominee for Treasurer was John Hay and there were no nominations from the floor. The nominations were closed. Votes were cast and the tellers reported 34 votes cast as follows: Hay 34 votes.

The nominee for Secretary-General was Lynne B. Kulieke. Lucile Faw was nominated from the floor, but declined to run. The nominations were closed. The votes were cast and there were 34 votes for Lynne Kulieke who was declared elected as Secretary-General.

It was agreed to elect committee chairpersons first before committee members and also to elect the chairs for 6-year terms.

Nominees for Chairman of the Judicial Committee were Stephen Dreier and Phil Rolnick. Rolnick declined in favor of Dreier. The vote was cast and Dreier received 32 votes with 2 abstentions. Stephen Dreier was declared elected.

Verbal resignations from Marilyn Kulieke, Lynne Kulieke and Stephen Dreier from their previous positions were accepted. John Hay's term as Chairman of the Finance Committee was up so no resignation was required from him.

The Chairman called for nominations for Chairman of the Charter Committee for a 6-year term to replace Stephen Dreier.

At 1:45 P.M. the meeting recessed for informal discussion. Gloriann Harris gave a short talk on restructuring of the office operations. There were questions and discussion.

The meeting again went into formal session to carry on the elections.

The nominees for Chairman of the Charter Committee for a 6-year term were Dr. John Lange, and Avinoam Dogim. Lucile Faw was nominated, but withdrew. Nominations were closed and there was discussion, but no vote was taken at this time. The nominee for Chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee was Peter Laurence. Nominations were closed and no vote was taken at this time. The nominee for Chairman of the International Fellowship Chair was Berkeley Elliott. Nominations were closed and no vote was taken at this time. The nominee for Chairman of the Education Committee was Dan Massey. Nominations were closed and no vote was taken at this time.

There was a motion to re-open discussion on the Education Chair as Mo Siegel wished to speak, but the motion was ruled out of order.

Votes were then taken on the above four committee chairmen as follows:

Charter Committee - 6-year term - Dogim - 22; Lange - 11; Abstention - 1. Dogim was elected Chair.

Fraternal Relations - 6-year term - Laurence - 33; Abstention - 1. Laurence was elected Chair.

International Fellowship - 6-year term - Elliott - 33; Abstention - 1. Elliott was elected Chair.

Education Committee - 6-year term - Massey - 33; Abstention - 1. Massey was elected Chair.

The nominees for Publications Chair were James McNelly and James Johnston. There were no nominations from the floor. After discussion the vote was taken: McNelly - 14, Johnston - 19, and 1 Abstention. James Johnston was declared elected for a 6-year term.

The nominee for the Finance Chair was F. Gard Jameson. There were no nominations from the floor. The vote was not taken at this time. The nominees for the Special Projects Chair were Bill Hazen, Robert Bruyn, and Jim McNelly. Nominations were closed and the vote was not taken. Votes were then cast for the Finance Chair and Special Projects Chair as follows:

Finance Chair - 6-year term: Jameson - 31, Abstention - 3. Jameson was declared elected.

Special Projects Chair - 6-year term: McNelly - 11, Hazen - 1, Bruyn - 22. Bruyn was declared elected.

The Chairs for all nine committees having been elected, the meeting proceeded with election of committee members.

Nominees for Charter Committee member for a 2-year term were Francyl Gawryn, Sarah Nachtweh, and Robert Buselli. Nominees for Domestic Extension member for a 6-year term were Melissa Wells and David Robertson. Nominee for International Fellowship member for a 2-year term was John Hales. After discussion of the above nominees. votes were cast as follows:

Charter - 2-year term: Nachtweh - 20, Buselli 4, Gawryn 9. Nachtweh Was declared elected.

Domestic Extension - 6-year term: Wells - 4, Robertson - 28, Abstention - 1. Robertson was declared elected.

International Fellowship - 2-year term: John Hales - 32, Abstention - 1. Hales was declared elected.

Nominees for Education member for a 2-year term were Joycee Henrion and Eileen Laurence. Nominees for Charter for a 1-year term were Robert Buselli and Francyl Gawryn. Nominees for Finance Committee for a 3-year term were Chuck Burton, Melissa Wells, and Barton Ice. After discussion on the above nominees, the vote was cast as follows: Charter - 1-year term: Buselli - 14, Gawryn - 17, Abstention - 2.

Gawryn was declared elected. Finance - 3-year term: Burton - 11, Wells - 16, Ice - 6, Abstention - 1. There was no majority vote and a second vote was needed. Education - 2-year term: Henrion - 15, Laurence - 16, Abstention - 3. There Was no majority and a second vote was needed.

Nominees for a 3-year term for Finance were Chuck Burton and Melissa Wells. Nominees for a 2-year term for Education were Joycee Henrion and Eileen Laurence.

After discussion on the above nominees, the vote was as follows:

Finance - 3-year term: Burton - 11, Wells - 23. Wells was declared elected. Education - 2-year term: Henrion - 15, Laurence - 18, No vote - 1. Laurence was declared elected.

Nominees for a 2-year term for Finance were Chuck Burton and Barton Ice. Nominees for a 3-year term for Publications were Robert Buselli, George Sammis, and Vincent Myers. Nominees for a 3-year term for Special Projects were Jim McNelly and Michael Wood.

After discussion on the above nominees, the vote was cast as follows:

Finance - 2-year term: Burton - 15, Ice - 19. Ice was declared elected Publications - 3-year term: Buselli - 13, Myers - 16, Sammis - 6. There was no majority so another vote was needed. Special Projects - 3-year term: McNelly - 32, Wood - 2. McNelly was declared elected.

Nominees for a 3-year term for Publications were Robert Buselli and Vincent Myers. The name of George Sammis was dropped. Nominees for a 2-year term for Special Projects were Bill Hazen and Michael Wood.

At 5:45 P.M. the meeting recessed for dinner and reconvened at 7:00 P.M.

After discussion, votes were cast for the above as follows:

Publications - 3-year term: Buselli - 18, Myers - 16. Buselli was declared elected. Special Projects - 2-year term: Hazen - 28, Wood - 6. Hazen was declared elected.

Nominees for a 2-year term on Publications were Vincent Myers and George Sammis. After discussion, the vote was cast as follows: Publications - 2-year term: Myers - 20, Sammis - 14. Myers was declared elected.

This concluded the elections. All necessary resignations from previous positions held were received.

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

Discussion was opened on the annual reports of officers, committee chairmen, and field representatives. It was noted that Emmanuel Lou's report had not been received. The consensus of the group was that the President's report should be verbal with the written report being distributed after the verbal one.

Item #12 on the agenda was then discussed - namely, Marilyn Kulieke's report on the Resource Guide for Secondary Works. She distributed papers on this subject and there was much discussion.

The meeting recessed at 8:45 P.M. for a short break and reconvened at 9 P.M.

The next item of business was Marilyn Kulieke's report on the Record of Decisions Project which she turned over to Bob Bruyn. There was much discussion.

John Hay discussed the question of the decrease in contributions and the need for increased funds in view of our rising expenses. He distributed a letter which described a fund-raising drive to start in August and end October 10. There was a long discussion on how this and other projects should be handled.

The meeting was recessed at 10:30 P.M. to reconvene Sunday morning at 8:30.

The meeting reconvened Sunday, July 3, at 8:35 A.M. in informal session. There was a moment of silent prayer.

Michael Painter reported for the Ad Hoc Committee on Terms of Councilors. There was much discussion on how more people could participate, but no recommendation was made by the committee to change the terms or size of the General Council. John Hales recommended that we accept the report.

At 9:00 A.M. the meeting was reconvened in formal session and turned over to Harry McMullan for discussion and votes on the resolutions presented by the Triennial Delegate Assembly for action by the General Council. He presented his proposed plan of procedure. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept his plan. He had been the Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions for the Triennial Delegate Assembly.

Resolution #1 - Commendation to the General Council for its impressive efforts on With thanks the Council voted unanimously to accept the resolution.

Resolution #2 - Funding travel expenses for required meetings. There is a committee already studying this. A vote was taken in favor of accepting the resolution: Yes - 24, No - 9.

Resolution #3 - To broaden participation on the General Council (amended to include Brotherhood committees). The amendment to include committees was passed, 29-3-1. It was referred to the Executive Committee to be handled by Marilyn Kulieke, who was charged to propose a process whereby appropriate evaluation, development, and action be undertaken.

Resolution #4 - An improved application process is needed for new members of General Council. An amendment was passed to use the word "effective" instead of "systematic". The resolution as amended was passed by a vote of 33-0-0. It was assigned to the Executive Committee with David Elders as chair of a committee of all TDA Delegates and Alternates to develop an improved application process.

Resolution #5 - No candidate for the Council should serve as a Delegate or Alternate. After much discussion, vote was taken and defeated: 0-31-2.

Resolution #6 - Attendance requirements at Council meetings. After discussion it was agreed that there was ample provision in the constitution to enable removal action for non-participation if the Council desired to proceed. The vote on the resolution was 15-17-1, so it was defeated.

Resolution #7 - The Council should evaluate the legal feasibility of amending Article II of the Constitution and Paragraph 5 of the Standards of Admissions of URANTIA Societies regarding the laws of all countries. It was suggested that "mindful" should be used instead of "obedient and subservient". An amendment was discussed to include the members-at-large materials for this change. After much discussion the Council voted down the amendment and the resolution, 6-24-3 and it was defeated.

Resolution #8 - Request that the General Council research methods for facilitating communication between societies. An amendment to use the word "among" instead of "between" was passed. The vote on the amended resolution was passed, 31-0-2 and the Executive Committee was assigned to delegate Marilyn Kulieke to develop programs to help accomplish the purpose.

Resolution #9 - Suggested resolutions should be submitted to Delegates and Alternates at least 20 days before the TDA meeting. Anything after that date should be considered new business subject to being tabled without discussion. Copy of this resolution should be sent to Delegates and Alternates upon notice to the Brotherhood of their election. The vote was 27-4-2, with instructions to be executed as set forth for the next Triennial Delegate Assembly.

Resolution #10 - Foundation Trustees should be invited to attend Council meetings and participate. An amendment that the Executive Committee study the desirability of extending the invitation was passed, 19-14-0. The amended resolution was passed, 23-10-0. It should not be acted upon without further study. The Executive Committee will refer it to Marilyn Kulieke and Dan Massey to discuss with Trustees.

Resolution #11 - History of the Brotherhood, both written and oral. This is being worked on by the Publications Committee with regard to the slide-tape history and by the Special Projects Committee working on an index of Brotherhood events and decisions. The vote was taken and carried: Yes - 25, No - 8.

Resolution #12 - Farewell and thanks to Marian Rowley for her many years of faithful and exemplary work for the Brotherhood. There was a unanimous vote of approval and a standing ovation.

At 11:55 David Elders resumed the Chair. There was a brief discussion on Item #16 on the agenda regarding ethical standards. There was a full unanimity on the proposal that we adopt the standard of "Do unto others as you would have them do to you". The Chair suggested that we think about these ethical problems before the September retreat meeting.

Phil Rolnick said he felt we had a conflict with Jesusonian Foundation and wished to discuss it immediately, but it was felt that the time was too short so it was tabled.

Mo Siegel would like to re-establish the Van Award and give it to people in the field, other than General Councilors. However, he agreed to keep the discussion until the next meeting of the General Council.

Phil Rolnick again brought up the possible conflict with Jesusonian Foundation, but the Chair said the Executive Committee would consider including this issue on the agenda for the mid-year special meeting of the General Council.

John Hay asked to discuss the matter of filling vacancies on committees, apparently not agreeing with the constitutional method, but that also was tabled.

Mo Siegel asked that the Van Award be discussed at the January General Council special meeting.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting sine die at 12:25 P.M.

(Signed) Janice Clark Heinberg, Secretary

APPROVED: (Signed) David M. Elders, Chairman