

Minutes of the ZOOM Conference Board Meeting—Dec. 13, 2017
Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

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2 Present: Nancee Campbell, Judy Gibson (Judy G), Marni Harmony, Ginger Luke, Diane Miller, Art
3 Severance, Joel Weaver, Judy Welles (Judy W)
4 Absent: Cathie Severance
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6 *Note: Board decisions are in bold type. Action items in red italic.*

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8 CENTERING: Ginger Luke shared the 5 minute story of her call to ministry in religious education and
9 service to UURMaPA . **Board members are leading the centering as described in alphabetical**
10 **order by first name. *Joel Weaver will lead centering for the January meeting.***
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13 **MEETING MINUTES**

14 **The November minutes and reports were approved.** They have been sent to the webmaster
15 for posting on UURMaPA's website under GOVERNANCE.
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18 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

19 Joel reported that our account balance the end of November is over \$94,000. Around \$4000
20 was donated in response to the fundraising letter, and another \$2400 in member contributions was
21 recently received. We now have received more contributions than budgeted for the year. The report
22 shows a deficit of almost \$14,000 only because the Retirement Planning Grant received last year was
23 expended this year.

24 Following last month's meeting, Joel had sent Board members (11/18/17 email) a rework of the
25 proposed 2018 preliminary budget (including a balance sheet and preliminary budget, plus conference
26 details and on-site Board meeting details, 9 pages total). Since most members did not have the
27 revision with them for review, *Judy W recommended that Joel re-send the revision of the 2018 budget*
28 *information, and we will vote online.* (Note: The four spreadsheet documents were re-sent to all on
29 December 13, after this meeting.)
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32 **NAVIAS BEQUEST – plans to implement**

33 Judy W and Ginger sent everyone background information before the meeting about the \$11,000
34 bequest given to UURMaPA from Gene Navias' family for "the furtherance of Unitarian Universalism"
35 and "education." This information included a January 2017 report to the Board from a Task Force
36 (including Ginger) with two recommendations, and a preliminary plan for implementation from the
37 Board. Ideas discussed included: perhaps a new plan could allow for financing educational
38 programming rather than grants; possible use of funds to support the publication of stories from our
39 2019 LGBTQI project. However, since five current members were not part of the Board for earlier
40 deliberations and there is no urgency for implementation, the **Board agreed to move discussion of**
41 **plans for the Navias bequest to the agenda for our in-person meeting in Tampa.**
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44 **ATTLEBORO PROGRAM PRESENTER – approval to invite**

45 On behalf of Carol Taylor, Fall Conference Planner, Ginger Luke asked that the Board approve
46 her inviting William H. Thomas MD as possible keynote presenter for Fall 2018. Thomas is author of
47 the book "What Are Old People for: How Elders Will Save the World." **By consensus, Board**
48 **members approved having Carol invite Dr. Thomas and, if he is available, ascertain what**
49 **honorarium he would need to receive.** (Note: The Board has added the following to the Conference
50 Planning Guidelines, found under ACTIVITIES on the website. This information may be helpful to
51 share with Carol Taylor:
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54 *HONORARIUMS AND FEES* Keynote conference presenters should be offered an honorarium
55 or fee. Outside experts may rely on fees for income. In some cases, as with a member of
56 UURMaPA, the fee may be refused (though often a gift card has then been given). A
57 reasonable guideline to keep in mind would be \$250-\$1500, which could be covered by
58 registration fees. There is the option of the Board subsidizing a larger amount in special cases.
59 The following wording was suggested by the Board for discussing honoraria with potential
60 presenters: "We are prepared to offer an honorarium, and pay your expenses as needed. How
61 much would be your fee for what we are asking you to do in this conference?"
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64 **OTHER CONFERENCE UPDATES**

65 **Winter 2018 – Tampa: Franciscan Center, Jan. 29-31, 2018 (Board meeting Jan 27-29)**

66 Marni asked that each Board member do the following:

- 67 • *Reserve a room for two nights, Jan 27 and 28, with the Econo Lodge Airport at RJ Stadium.*
- 68 • *Select a dinner for Jan. 27 carry-out from the menu at the Cheesecake Factory and let*
69 *Marni know your choice by Thursday, Jan. 25 at the latest.*
- 70 • *Tell Marni if you will have a car in Tampa – for carpooling.*

71 Also, *each of us should go ahead and register for the Tampa Conference - see the form included in*
72 *the Fall Elderberries, or print it off from the website.* (No registration fee for Board members should be
73 sent with form, though non-Board companions pay the fee. For full info, see Operating Procedures,
74 lines 181-188 under MEETINGS.)
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76 **Winter 2019 – Santa Barbara – La Casa de Maria, dates TBA**

77 This will be the first of our LGBTQI-focused conferences. Last month, the Board confirmed our
78 decision that this conference will be 3 nights, 4 days. Judy G noted that the 2016 Conference
79 Planning Team for Santa Barbara agreed to work together again for 2019. *Judy G will send the*
80 *names and information from the Planning Team records to Ginger so she can be in contact and*
81 *confirm the conference and prior Board meeting days needed.* Dates need to be reserved.

82 Judy W commented that La Casa is currently directly threatened by the wildfires in California.
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85 **CONFERENCE ATTENDEES – possible policy**

86 Judy W suggested a possible policy that defines who beyond UURMaPA members may attend
87 our conferences. Following brief discussion and some wording suggestions, the *Board asked Judy G*
88 *to work with Diane and Marni to craft a possible conference attendee statement for Operating*
89 *Procedures, which can be considered at our January 10 meeting.*

90 *Note: the following new statement draft was reviewed and approved by all three Board members*
91 *following the meeting:*

92 **Registration of Non-members** - Our conferences are designed to serve the interests and needs
93 of UURMaPA members. Registration is always open to clergy who have filed "Intent to Retire"
94 documents and/or those clergy partners, who are automatically included in our membership.
95 However, any religious professional of retirement age is welcome to inquire about available
96 registration for a given conference. Contact the Board member in charge of conferences at
97 conferences@uurmapa.org, or the President at president@uurmapa.org.
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100 **CONNECTIONS NETWORK -Board support**

101 Art confirmed that there are a number of Area Connector vacancies (currently 10 - 12), and Judy
102 W expressed concern that these remain unfilled and wondered if Board members could help. (*Note:*
103 *UURMaPA created 36 Areas to divide up our membership for Connections contacts, and a full,*

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updated list of members in each area is available on the website under PUBLICATIONS/Directories, scroll down to Area Connection Directory – password WISDOM. Area Connectors are listed in bold under each area, hopefully up-to-date.)

Former Connections Chair Liz McMaster had sent Art a listing of Areas with vacancies (10) and included one or more suggestions for possible Connectors for six of the Areas. *(Note: Art sent all Board members a copy of this listing on Dec. 13, following this meeting.)*

Board members agreed to help by reviewing Liz's list and the Area Connections Directory for names they know and/or are willing to contact to ask if they might serve as an Area Connector. If the person is open to considering the appointment, pass the name to Art. If you choose to work on an Area, it might be a good idea to let the rest of the Board know so there won't be duplication! *(Note: there is a simple job description for Area Connectors in the Operating Procedures online.)*

2018 BOARD MEETING DATES

Zoom Board meetings through June 2018 will be second Wednesday of each month, beginning 10:00 am Pacific, 11:00 am Mountain, 12:00 noon Central or 1:00 pm Eastern time.

- Next meeting: **Wednesday, January 10, 2018**
- NO MEETING in February – due to in-person meeting Jan. 27-29
- Other meetings: March 14, April 11, May 9 and June 13

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Gibson, Secretary

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REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR DECEMBER 13, 2017 - UURMaPA BOARD MEETING

President: Judy Welles

No report submitted this month.

Vice-President: Diane Miller

No report submitted this month.

Secretary: Judy Gibson

1. **Minutes** – Minutes and reports for the November Board meeting were sent to all Board members on Dec. 11 – as reminders for action follow-up, and for review for revision/ approval.
2. **Announce postings – FYI** - There are two people who can post notices on our “Announce” bulletin board, which is administered by the UUA – the Secretary and the Membership Coordinator. In my absence, there was confusion about how to get an e-blast posted to promote the Tampa conference. Clearly, the conference planning task force and Richard Speck needed to know I was at sea and out of touch (isn’t hindsight wonderful?)
3. **Job Description for Secretary** – I am aware that one of my upcoming projects had better be updating and adding some fresh detail to my job description, since I am hitting my term limit, and the Secretary position is scheduled for election in 2018. Along with exciting new programs, we have evolved better ways of doing things since I first took office.
4. **Obituaries on Announce – timing question**– When the Fall Elderberries came out, I realized that there were four partner obits included that I had never seen – and so consequently, have never posted on Announce. Checking with Roger Rochester, he confirmed that the Elderberries deadline is a stimulus to research and complete obits for publication – and I know Jay Atkinson has followed a similar practice for ministerial obituaries. Roger sent copies of the missing obits for my files, but we are both pondering whether it makes sense to post complete obituaries on Announce after they have appeared in Elderberries. Any opinions?
5. **British Tour Report** – David Usher has not yet reported if the Discover Europe agency has received any registrations for the UURMaPA British Tour scheduled for May. I hope to have an update from him before our Wednesday Board meeting.

Treasurer: Joel Weaver

Spreadsheet Report on November finances could not be attached – format problems

Newsletter Editor: Nancee Campbell

I’ve spent most of the month recuperating from this major surgery, and am now in the difficult “recovery” stage where I’ll try to get used to my new body...

I’ve sent two Fall newsletters to the bereaved mentioned in the obituaries.

I’ve developed a system of organizing the files as they come in. This is the first time I’ve had down time to do this work, since I stopped working in September.

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At-Large Member: Conferences – Ginger Luke

1. Tampa Conference:
 - a. On December 1 Lois Wesener reported 22 people are registered with a few more we know will be registering. I notice the Severances haven't registered. Will they be able to join us? Also Wayne Arneson, who is presenting the odyssey has not registered. And Rebecca Parker's registration hadn't been received by Dec. 1.
 - b. Barbara Child has just had an eblast sent out reminding people of the December 15 deadline.
 - c. We will be addressing the worship leaders during our January zoom meeting.
 - d. Andy Backus is trying to set up a trip to the gulf.
2. Attleboro Fall 2018 Conference
 - a. Carol Taylor reports that her team is working well. They have been looking at the Warren Center and the Walker Center as potential sites, but probably LaSalette will be the choice for 2018. We have penciled-in reservations at LaSalette
 - b. for October 1-4, 2018. I expect we will have a contract in January 2018.
 - c. Carol Taylor would like the board to ok the program by William H. Thomas MD on "What Are Old People for: How Elders Will Save the World" for Fall 2018.
 - d. Barbro Hansson, a member of the Attleboro conference team, has asked for help from Mark Morrison Reed and others to develop questions for a survey addressing why we have so few Retire Ministers of Color attend UURMaPA conferences.
3. West Coast Winter 2019 and East Coast Fall 2019 Conferences
 - a. Phyllis Hubbell and her team have begun their research with their interviews.
 - b. Do we have a date for the West Coast Winter conference? Shouldn't that be made soon.

Connections Chair: Art Severance

No report submitted this month.

At-Large Member: Assistant Connections Chair - Cathie Severance

No report submitted this month.

At-Large Member: Good Offices - Marni Harmony

All Zoom meetings this month:

- One call with Tampa conference planning team
- One call with new planning team for GLBTQ conferences
- One call with the Life Cycle "Deepening" planning team