

1 Minutes of Zoom Board Meeting –February 17,2021
2 Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association

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4 Board Members Present: Diane Miller, Susan Rak, Richard Speck, Gloria Perez,
5 Marni Harmony, Jaco ten Hove, and Cathie Severance,

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7 **Note: Board decisions are in bold type. Action items are in red italic type.**

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9 Opening Reading-Gloria Perez an excerpt from “The Hill We Climb”, the Inaugural
10 Poem by Amanda Gorman

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12 Learning Community:

13 Discussion of chapters 13-15 of How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi, led by
14 Richard Speck

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16 Agenda Items

17 Standing Reports:

18 Secretary-Gloria Perez

19 The revised Board minutes of January 25, 2021 meeting were approved. The
20 approved minutes of the December 16,2020 were sent to Duane Fickeisen for
21 posting on the website under Governance on February 1, 2021. A list of the past
22 opening readings was sent out to the board as requested on January 27, 2021.

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24 Treasurer-Richard Speck

25 January income was almost \$3,000, a lot of which came through PayPal.

26 Checks totaling \$750 were sent in memory of deceased colleagues.

27 The Endowment has grown, and the money market fund is slowly
28 growing. The checking account is doing well. Registrations for the Spring
29 Conference are beginning to come in. Expenses for the upcoming
30 conference are, also, beginning to come in. Richard will be approaching the
31 church member he would like to ask to do the outside audit of our
32 finances.

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36 Barbara Child’s Handbook

37 Diane would like us all to do a close read of the Handbook for our March meeting
38 and discuss any concerns which may come up for us. After the discussion, we can
39 vote on approval of the Handbook.

40 Discussion followed about concerns regarding spouses in the UUMA’s new
41 guidelines; can we be of help to spouses when their partner is having difficulties; the
42 use of “Partners” language in the document; should we alert Unitarian Universalists
43 Partners and Spouses (UUMPS) group before we put it out. We should prepare a
44 statement about the Handbook to be included in the Spring issue of Elderberries.

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Elderberries

Jaco looking for material for the Spring issue, maybe a first-hand experience from those who have recovered from Covid. *Susan is willing to write a reflection about her experience.* Can we find other UURMAPANs who can offer some reflections as well? *Jaco will check with Richard Nugent to find out if he knows of anyone. If it feels appropriate in the Care Givers Group, Diane will bring up the topic to see if there might be general thoughts about any caring for COVID experiences*

Unsung UURMaPans

The Board offers nominations. *Diane will send the Board a list of past award receivers.* One can be nominated for behind the scenes work, or for taking on an extra project.

Susan Rak the before GA June gathering:

The date will be June 17,2021at 1:00 pm ET, keeping away from Ministry Days events and the Service of the Living Tradition. Outline includes a speaker from the UUA to give greetings; welcome to all; Richard Nugent to give information for the newly retired; community building; Creative Sageing Awards; a celebratory atmosphere. Diane to give a profile of what UURMaPa does and present the value of belonging to UURMaPa. Testimonies by some who have experienced something personal from UURMaPa. There will be an invitation to participants to send in pictures of themselves with a short caption to be used as a slide show prior to the beginning of the session. The Board discussed the choice of a T-shirt, or some item with our logo, which we could wear or have with us in the meeting. *Susan will check with Jeanette Lallier from the UUA for information about how they did T-shirts for one of their virtual meetings.* The board would like to have something to offer to incoming retirees. Susan already put something in the announce list about the Creative Sageing Awards. Phyliss Hubbell is willing to work on the event in a limited way. The team to choose the awards is consists of Gordon Gibson and Rev Dr Nana` Kratochvil.

April Conference

It is confirmed that Lyn Stangland Cameron and Dennis Hamilton will do the closing worship tying all the elements of the conference together.

Good Offices

Marni has been in conversation with Melissa Carvill Ziemer, UUMA Director of Ministries for Collegial Care, regarding the position of Good Offices. The UUMA is making revisions to the program to make the categories of: Chaplain, Mediator, Right Relations and Technical Issues. Marni asks how we fit in the model of teams of a partner, a retired minister and a serving minister as a Right Relations team which would be trained to serve when situations arise. Training and possible monthly meetings to look at case studies in order to develop skills to use when a situation arises. The team could collaborate with UUMA team to work on it. Marni has talked with Wayne Aronson, who

90 will assume the Board's Good Offices position at the end of Marni's term, and he is very
91 interested. We would like to schedule a longer time with Melissa to talk about this
92 thought.

93 Diane suggests a stand alone retreat time to meet with UUMA. *Diane will create a*
94 *Doodle to arrange date and time with us to offer to the Executive Team of the UUMA.*

95

96 Regarding Art Severance's report

97 Art is wordsmithing a sentence to be added to our Board Covenant. The Board is
98 looking at where it needs to be applied, under operating procedures? The issue is
99 tabled for now.

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101 Jaco brings up the issue of Institutional Memory.

102 In July of 2021, the terms of four board members will end, carrying the Institutional
103 memory of UURMaPa with them. He asks that others pass along some of this memory
104 to the new people coming on to the board.

105 Minutes respectfully submitted by Gloria Perez, Secretary

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107 President Report-Diane Miller

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109 Report to the UURMaPA Board from

110 Diane Miller, President

111 for Feb 17, 2021 1--3 PM Eastern time

112 ZOOM Meeting ID: 407 443 3604

113

114 Our Covenant

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116 We will likely miss Art and Cathie at this meeting, given the Texas Freeze and power outage.

117 Wishing them well in recovering from this massive storm. Anne Spatola is home after her major
118 surgery, and we wish her well through this month of recovery.

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120 Board's Award – It is the Board's responsibility to nominate and award the Unsung UURMaPAN,
121 given at either conference. Sometimes it is known to the recipient in advance. Sometimes it is a
122 surprise. Usually in person, occasionally in absentia. I will entertain suggestions at our meeting.

123

124 Barbara Child's Handbook project –

125 I have thanked Barbara for her Handbook and have forwarded it to you. I think it would be good
126 to have all of us be familiar with it. Most likely the liaison portfolio holder would want to be
127 knowledgeable about "Partners" language in the various documents.

128

129 UUMA Bless and Release of 25/50 service at Ministry Days.

130 I wrote to the UUMA Exec Team as we decided last meeting. A copy was sent to the

131 Board. We consulted calendars in hopes of having them join our meeting, but ultimately, I

132 decided against doing that now. #1 they heard our wish that we'd be consulted, having a stake

133 in these actions, #2 Art was not going to be present, #3 They had a lot of feedback from the

134 conversations, #4 We didn't have a plan of our own to suggest, and #5 We are all free as
135 individuals to give them feedback or creative ideas.

136

137 UUMA future conversations.

138 Last year we met with the UUMA Exec Team and the UUMA Board in Scottsdale. It was
139 good to be introduced together, and our meeting was largely about ethics and the partner
140 proposal Barbara Child made to the UUMA meeting. We also had a number of informal
141 conversations over meals and on the pathways since we serendipitously were both meeting at
142 the Franciscan Center in Scottsdale. Ah, in person meetings! It is easy to be nostalgic about
143 face-to-face conversations.

144 I would like to plan a special "retreat" meeting with the UUMA Exec Team. In addition to
145 anything we might decide to do about the elders and our milestones, there are two more loose
146 ends to discuss. Minor one – the concern of the UUMPS group about the Barbara Child
147 language added by vote at the 2020 UUMA virtual meeting. Significant one – the long-discussed
148 idea of UURMaPA having a Good Offices program that would interlace our shared yet distinct
149 concerns. More on this as Marni has some preliminary conversations, including looping in
150 Wayne Arnason, who will be assuming the liaison portfolio on our Board. There are no doubt
151 other subjects to discuss with them as well. When? I'll ask you to have your calendars at hand
152 during our meeting, in hopes of finding a time or two that will work for us.

153

154 Vice-President Report-Susan Rak

155 **UURMaPA Vice-President Report**

156 February 2021

157

158 • participated in last month's UURMaPA Board meeting and Retreat

159

160 • continuing to follow and participate in conversations between UURMaPA and UUMA
161 regarding changes in ministerial recognition ("25/50 Celebration")

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163 • doing a little background planning for our June gathering to welcome new retired UU
164 ministers, etc.

165 for your consideration:

166 UUMA Ministry Days June 21st - 23rd.

167 "Celebration of Ministry" June 22nd, 3 PM [eastern time]; Berry Street June 23rd
168 1 PM

169 (annual meeting June 1st & 3rd)

170 UUA GA Service of the Living Tradition Thursday June 24th, 7 PM [eastern]

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172 • possible UURMaPA date: sometime in the week of June 14th - 18th, midday or early
 173 afternoon [as we did last year, making it separate and spaced out from other UUMA-
 174 UUA events; our regular UURMaPA meeting is scheduled for the 16th]

175 I expect we will follow a program outline similar to last years, with welcome of
 176 newly retired, reports/words or greetings from UUA and UUMA offices/staff,
 177 reports/words from UURMaPA and the Creative Sageing Award
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179 • Regarding the above, am assembling the team to make the selection and sent out an
 180 email "Announce" requesting input/nominations from UURMaPAns. I expect the
 181 UURMaPA Board will want to make this selection in April
 182

183 • continuing to read Kendi's "How to Be an Antiracist"; purchased a copy of "My
 184 Grandmother's Hands" by Resmaa Menakem, but haven't started it yet...

185
 186 respectfully submitted,

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 188 Susan Veronica Rak
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190 Secretary Report-Gloria Perez
 191 My report for this month:

192 I sent the approved minutes of the December 16, 2020 minutes to Duane Fickeisen on
 193 Feb 1, 2021, for posting on our website under Governance. I emailed a list of the Board
 194 meeting opening readings to the board as requested. I am reviewing the chapters of the
 195 Kendi book and I am finding it difficult to keep the topics fresh in my mind due to the
 196 happenings going on in the country's political scene. I attended the first session of the
 197 Board's retreat and took notes. I recorded the themes of the discussions and the
 198 decisions made.

199 Respectfully submitted, Gloria Perez, Secretary
 200

201 Treasurer Report-Richard Speck

202 Dear Fellow Board Members,

203 Here is the monthly report. We are doing very well because the cash flow is
 204 positive. There was little activity in January. I transferred accumulated funds from PayPal from
 205 last minute donations at the end of the year. The endowment has grown a little and we have a
 206 good cushion going into the year. I'll explain any questions when we meet.

207 Richard
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