

## **Zoom Meeting of The Urantia Book Fellowship**

Meeting of the General Council

Saturday, July 18 – Sunday, July 19 2020

A meeting of the General Council of the Urantia Book Fellowship took place on Zoom Saturday, July 18 – Sunday, July 19, 2020.

### **The recorded version is available at**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NWHzA5Bmbb46PTYeGmeJi8cfwb98uW6r?usp=sharing> (Hold control button and left click to open the link)

**Saturday, July 18, 2020:** President Geoff Theiss called the meeting to order at 8:05 PST

### **1. Opening prayer by Karen Larsen**

### **2. Roll call:**

The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

Tom Allen	Jack Holloway	Brent St. Denis
Dan Amyx	David Kulieke	Derek Samaras
Lara Amyx	Cecelia Lampley	Steve Sawyer
Katharina Becker	John Lange	David Schlundt
Ted Blaney	Karen Larsen	Cristina Seaborn
Larry Bowman	Albert Lassiter	Sue Snider Seccombe
Dana Bredemeyer	Jena Lassiter	Pablo Segovia
Michael Challis	Barbara Newsom	Jill Strunk
Bobbie Dreier	Mike Painter	Geoff Taylor
Cabot Eudaly	Sean Privitera	Geoff Theiss
John Hales	Andre Radatus	Paula Thompson

Absent: Diane Labrecque and Pamela Chaddock (resigned)

Diane joined the meeting for the afternoon, which brought the participant total to 36, a full house!!

Talon Bengochea, Douglas Burns, Michael Perrie and Mary Sander were observers at the beginning of the meeting, all of whom were candidates for the election of new Councilors. Candidates Daniel Santos and William “Sunny” Schneider were unable to attend. Douglas Burns & Michael Perrie joined as official Councilors upon their election.

### **3. Approval of Agenda:**

The agenda was approved, as amended, by more than a 2/3 majority.

### **4. Approve Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of the GC meeting Feb. 28 – March 1, 2020 in Austin, TX were approved unanimously. These minutes were compiled by Bobbie Drier and Brent St. Denis from notes taken by Steve

Drier at the meeting. From your @urantiabook.org e-mail, you can access them on G Suite at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Brm8g8vHEFACrS2pmRruij3LOqTqtIZ2/view?usp=sharing>

## **5. Elections:**

### **A. General Council (2)**

Two new members of the General Council were chosen to fill the vacancies left by Steve Drier's graduation and Pamela Chaddock's resignation.

Candidates present spoke briefly and responded to questions, followed by discussion and voting by the Council.

**Douglas Burns and Michael Perrie were elected by a majority vote to be members of the GC and joined the meeting upon election.**

### **B. GC Secretary**

Jill Strunk, who has been serving as a temporary appointee of the EC, was elected for one year to fill the Secretary vacancy.

### **C. Fellowship Service Team Chair**

Lara Amyx was elected as Fellowship Service Team Chair for three years, the position in which she has served for the past two years.

### **D. Interfaith Committee chair**

Geoff Taylor was elected as Interfaith Committee Chair for six years, a position in which he has currently been serving.

### **E. Finance Committee Chair**

Douglas Burns was elected as Finance Committee Chair for a six year term

## **6. Organizational Guidance Committee Report, Part 1: Leadership Interviews.**

From your @urantiabook.org g-mail, you can access copies of the full presentation in G Suite at: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/0ACFg8P8mJs6Uk9PVA>

You can also listen to the recorded presentation at the link at the beginning of these minutes.

Committee members: Sue Snider Seccombe, chair; David Schlundt; Albert Einstein Lassiter; Jena Lassiter; and Dan Amyx. The group has devoted hundreds of hours to this project to date. Sue Snider Seccombe presented a slide show of the purpose, process, and results of qualitative research related to the Fellowship organization. About 50 interviews, approximately one hour each, were conducted with 28 GC members, 14 Societies, and 7 other leaders in the Urantia community.

The topics, broadly stated, included: strengths, weaknesses, and suggestions for change. Some subtopics included: how the Fellowship is unique among UB organizations; the future of membership, Societies and Study Groups; and the importance of involving more young people. Much of the presentation was representative quotations and themes that emerged.

While too early for recommendations, Dan Amyx added a segment called “Food for Thought,” focused on four ideas for change: simplify and focus the mission, shift from organization-focused model to consumer-focused model, create a new and more nimble constitution, and begin an annual report and business plan.

The presentation was followed by Council discussion about the presentation and next steps. The committee will continue to meet and make further proposals to the GC.

## **7. Review Organizational Changes (open topic):**

As recommended at the February GC meeting, this is an opportunity for anyone to express a concern that an organizational change from the past needs review. David Kulieke suggested that a framework for this topic will be addressed when the resolution about a sunseting process is discussed in new business tomorrow.

Two members suggested keeping an eye on the functionality of instituting Service Teams. Another member suggested that this topic merits a specific agenda slot for further discussion in the future. The comment was made that topic of revisiting the structure of Service Teams was addressed at length at the last GC meeting.

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## **8. Sunset Unity Visibility Ad Hoc:**

The GC voted unanimously to sunset the Unity Visibility Ad Hoc Committee.

The GC charted a Unity Visibility Ad Hoc Committee approximately three years ago and, following his final report, the chair recommended that the committee be sunsetted as of this GC meeting. The motion was made and seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

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## **9. Constitutional Amendment:**

Tom Allen moved and Bobbie Drier seconded the following Constitutional Amendment.

Change Article III, Section 6.3 (d) from “(d) Reports of outgoing officers and chairs of Departmental Committees.” To “Reports of outgoing officers, Service Team Chairs, and chairs of Departmental Committees.”

**The motion was approved by unanimous consent. The Constitution is amended.**

## **10. Approve Committee Appointments:**

Appointments and changes to committee membership were unanimously approved, as follows:

# The Urantia Book Fellowship

July 21, 2020

## GENERAL COUNCIL

Terms Expiring 2021	Terms Expiring 2024	Terms Expiring 2027
Larry Bowman	Dan Amyx	Tom Allen
Dana Bredemeyer	Lara Amyx	Douglas Burns (i)
Michael Challis	Katharina Becker	John Lange
John Hales	Ted Blaney	Albert Einstein Lassiter (g)
Jack Holloway	Bobbie Dreier	Barbara Newsom
David Kulieke	Cabot Eudaley	Derek Samaras
Diane Labrecque	Cecelia Lampley	Stephen Sawyer
Karen Larsen (g)	Michael (Mike) Painter	David Schlundt
Jena Lassiter (a)	Michael Perrie (i)	Sue Snider Seccombe (g)
Brent St. Denis (a)	Sean Privitera	Jill Strunk
Pablo Segovia (a)	André Radatus	Cristina Seaborn
Paula Thompson	Geoff Theiss	Geoff Taylor

**FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS:** President: Geoffrey Theiss (b); Vice President: David Schlundt (h); Secretary: Jill Strunk (j); Treasurer: Brent St. Denis (h); Secretary General: Larry Bowman (Terms expire 2021)

**SERVICE TEAM CHAIRS:** Stephen Sawyer (h)—Worldwide A(1 yr term); Lara Amyx (j)—Fellowship B(3 yr term); Jena Lassiter (h)—Media & Communications C(2 yr term)

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEES

JUDICIAL (B)	Term	MEMBERSHIP (B)	Term	INTERFAITH (A)	Term
Tom Allen*	2	Dan Amyx*	3	Geoff Taylor* (j)	6
Beth Wenger	1	Cabot Eudaley	1	Pamela Chaddock	1
Geri Johnson	3	Kip Kaveny	2	Steve Rohrbach (k)	2
David G. Schlundt**	4	Cecelia Lampley	4	Paul M. Anderson	3
Merritt Horn	5	Barbara Newsom (i)	5	Stevie Shaefer	4
Elisabeth Callahan (k)	6	Ted Blaney (k)	6	Susan Meyers	5
OUTREACH (A)		INTERNATIONAL (A)		EDUCATION (B)	
Paula Thompson*	2	André Radatus* (c)	5	David Kulieke*	5
Thomas Orjala	1	Barbara Maier** (e)	1	Mahtab Tehrani	1
Sue Haskell	3	Dolores Nice (k)	2	Daniel Glazer	2
Gary Tonge	4	Jack Holloway (f)	3	Paul D. Anderson	3
Lynn Goodwin	5	Joy Brandt (e)	4	Katie Roche (d)	4
Derek Samaras (k)	6	Flor Robles (k)	6	Jackie Koury** (k)	6
PUBLICATIONS (C)		FINANCE (B)		YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT (A)	
Cristina Seaborn*	5	Douglas Burns* (j)	6	Sean Privitera*	3
Eric Rice	1	Karen Allen	1	(vacant)	1
Stephen Sawyer (f)	2	Lila Dogim	2	(vacant)	2
Jill Strunk	3	John Lange	3	Mike MacIsaac (f)	4
Cece Forrester (k)	4	Richard Daunt	4	Aprilhelen Johnson	5
Andrea Barnes (k)	6	Barry Clark	5	(vacant)	6

\*Committee Chair, \*\*Committee Secretary. (a) appointed by Council 2/9/19 until next meeting of Triennial Delegate Assembly, (b) elected by Council 2/9/19, (c) elected by Council 6/30/19, (d) confirmed by Council 7/1/19 (e) confirmed by EC 8/15/19, (f) confirmed by Council 2/28/2020, (g) appointed by Council 2/29/2020 until next meeting of TDA, (h) elected by Council 2/29/2020, (i) appointed by Council 7/18/2020 until next meeting of TDA, (j) elected by Council 7/18/2020, (k) confirmed by Council 7/19/2020

## **1. Officer Reports:**

### **A. President's Report**

President Geoff Theiss expressed his appreciation and praise for all of the hard work and sacrifices of the GC members. He also offered a memorial moment for the loss of the incomparable Steve Drier. He reported on activities of the Fellowship since the February, 2020 meeting. You can access copies of EC minutes on the [urantiabook.org](http://urantiabook.org) website (accessible when you log in with your password). These minutes formed the basis of his report. Following his report, he responded to a number of questions.

The report and Q & A are also accessible by listening to the recording of this GC meeting, available at the link published at the beginning of these minutes.

Geoff also recommended that Counselors reread his printed report from the February, 2020 GC meeting, as the points he made therein are still very relevant to the ongoing focus of organizational transformation.

It is available at <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1q3SF953f07saEOQwrjdj3f54XXJDVX0mH>

### **B. Treasurer's Report**

Brent St. Denis presented the Treasurer's report. From your @urantiabook.org e-mail, you can access them on G Suite at

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZkJG1qvtRDe0vpKay9F14XCWhaxEOxDB/view?usp=sharing>

In summary, he concluded that the Fellowship is doing well, considering the loss of expected income from the Vancouver Conference originally scheduled for August, 2020 and the recent volatility of investment markets due to the Pandemic. With the recent addition of \$1 million from a life insurance payout and a Remainder Trust bequest of almost \$90,000, he expects the Fellowship to have about \$2 million of current assets by the end of the year.

### **C. Census Report**

Jill Strunk presented the census report, which was supplied by Larry Bowman. Larry has been doing follow-up to update the report presented by Steve Drier at the February GC meeting. He will complete his updates by August 20, 2020.

Totals are below. From your @urantiabook.org g-mail, you can access copies of the full report in G Suite at

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kn8OrPQ7JEh-rpu4BeXXzf5Ud8tiwYef/edit>

### **Society Census Report as of July, 2020:**

<b><u>Society</u></b>	<b><u>Database</u></b>	<b><u>Report by Society</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>891</b>
<b>Members At Large</b>	<b>591</b>	
<b>Grant Total</b>	<b>1, 239</b>	<b>1,482</b>

## **12. Committee Reports:**

From your @urantiabook.org g-mail, you can access copies of the full reports in G Suite at:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1gFeDMXcJJaIZOMGfNrsu5QvZKbhksWm->

The following reports were discussed and that discussion is accessible by listening to the recording of this GC meeting, available at

- |  |                 |                  |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| A. Judicial                                  | B. Education    | C. Membership    |
| D. Finance                                   | E. Interfaith   | F. International |
| G. Outreach                                  | H. Publications |                  |
| I. Youth and Young Adults (presented Sunday) |                 |                  |

## **Day 2: Sunday, July 19, 2020**

By 10 PST 34 members were participating, with Diane Labrecque and Katarina Becker absent..

**Michael Challis lead us in a beautiful guided meditation inviting us to meet and commune with our Thought Adjusters.**

## **13. David Schlundt: Religion, Spirituality and Values in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: MTurk Survey**

David Schlundt presented a preliminary report from the Organizational Guidance Committee on the MTurk Survey, which was a follow-up to the member survey that David presented at the February, 2020 GC meeting. The report on interviews that Sue presented yesterday addressed the “devoted and engaged ‘doers’” at the tip of the pyramid from David’s February report. The MTurk survey was gathering information more for the bottom layers of that pyramid.

Amazon MTurk is an online tool to connect businesses and researchers to “workers.” The OGC survey was labeled as a Human Interaction Task and had 233 items with emphasis on core values and religious and/or spiritual influences and beliefs. It was answered by over 3,000 people, from several countries, with over 2/3 from the US. The sample of responses was weighted toward people who are younger, well educated, middle class, urban and suburban dwellers, more male than female, and representative of LGBTQ populations. David will continue to analyze the plethora of raw data and report on conclusions and recommendations at the fall GC meeting.

The slide show with results on a wide variety of topics is available at  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o7gklKGFIYv0lfla-5hBLcVSkaY4HDUd/view?usp=sharing>  
and the audio presentation is included in the recording of the GC meeting at the beginning of these minutes.

## **14. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:**

Most of the following ad hoc committees also posted reports on G Suite, available (from your urantiabook.org e-mail) at

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1gFeDMXcJIaIZOMGfNrsu5QvZKbhksWm->

Discussion on these committees is available on the recording at the link published at the beginning of these minutes.

- A. Family Life: information about Family Life Committee information for the Urantia Global Experience is available at <https://urantiaglobalexperience.com/youth-and-family/>
- B. Urantia Book Study Group Directory:
- C. Uversa Press:
- D. Pipeline of Light:
- E. Location Investigation:
- F. Future of Finance:
- G. Gratitude Committee:
- H. Graduation Committee: link: <https://urantiabookorg/Graduation-Memorial>
- I. Mentoring:
- J. Area Coordinator/Field Worker (ACFW): A report is posted on G Suite, and a resolution was presented and voted on later in the meeting.
- K. Leadership Training:
- L. IT Committee: Jena explained some of the more advanced features now available on the website.
- M. Web Content Committee: Jena presented a discussion of the report which is posted in G Suite. It is encouraging that, with the new website, users are increasing and the length of time they spend on the site has also increased. The report is available on G Suite at <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1gFeDMXcJIaIZOMGfNrsu5QvZKbhksWm->

Saturday evening GC members also watched the video “Hope in the Storm,” which greets visitors on the urantiabook.org website. It is also used in an instream ad on YouTube, with an average 76% view rate in several countries, which is at least 61% higher than Google considers average. Approximately 65% watch the entire video. Over 200,000 viewers have been documented to date. A click-through at the end of the ad brings viewers to our website. Gary Tonge’s explanation of this data is available in the folder marked “IT Metrics

Google/YouTube” at  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/0ACFg8P8miJs6Uk9PVA>

The video is available at <https://urantiabook.org/hope-in-the-storm>. Enthusiasm generated by this exciting news prompted a motion to create a Social Media Ad Hoc, which was voted on later in the meeting.

### **15. Discussion—Area Coordinator/Field Worker Program—Ted Blaney:**

From your @urantiabook.org g-mail, you can access information on this resolution in G Suite at:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/19q6-HRRJ\\_vea1IUN9N2nWvHM1rfuuPMt/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19q6-HRRJ_vea1IUN9N2nWvHM1rfuuPMt/view?usp=sharing)

Ted shared that his discussion with 30 or more people interested in developing this program encouraged him that there is interest in the field. He held two Zoom meetings, followed by a small personal gathering to get to know each other.

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### **AREA COORDINATOR/FIELD WORKER RESOLUTION**

Motion made by Ted Blaney and seconded by Brent St. Denis.

Whereas at the winter meeting held earlier this year in Austin, TX the General Council agreed to

- expand our current Finding & Gathering work by assembling and mandating an ad hoc committee to consider a Field Worker (aka Area Coordinator) program with Ted Blaney acting as Chair and
- further that this ad hoc committee make its first recommendations about an ACFW program at the summer meeting; Whereas the ad hoc committee chair has submitted a report;

### **Now Therefore Be It Resolved, With EC Oversight, That:**

- 1) The Fellowship establish, on a three-year pilot basis commencing immediately, an Area Coordinator/Field Worker (ACFW) program with Ted Blaney who, as founding Steward, will lead the project. It is envisioned a Steward would eventually be named for each large geographic region.
- 2) We start with a pilot project in the Ohio Valley region under Ted’s leadership
- 3) We use the Area Coordinator and Field Worker terminology interchangeably
- 4) An ACFW application form be developed and that all applications received by a Steward be forwarded to the EC for approval.
- 5) The Fellowship would provide an optional \$300 of petty cash per ACFW per year for incidental costs upon confidential request by any ACFW or Steward.
- 6) Petty Cash funding could initially come from the Second Miler Fund (TBD) but if this



ACFW program is deemed successful it is recommended that the ACFW be considered by the Fellowship as a stand-alone line item program.

7) We require minimal annual reporting by each ACFW (1/2 page) and that we will design a minimum structure and administration

8) ACFWs may maintain their own private UB reader lists but will help the Fellowship maintain its master list if reader permission is granted

9) We understand that the inspiration and experience of others will inform the unfolding of this program.

10) We agree the pilot could commence without all the operational details necessarily worked out in the belief that the enthusiasm of these days is more important than the exact mechanics. Early adopters will participate in the development of the essential details including any zip code implementation.

11) We agree the pilot could commence without all the operational details necessarily worked out in the belief that the enthusiasm of these days is more important than the exact mechanics. Early adopters will participate in the development of the essential details included any zip code implementation.

**Discussion:** Discussion followed.

Some points made included:

- The Area Coordinator Program during the era of The Urantia Brotherhood was very difficult to manage and was dropped because the area coordinators “were simply not doing their jobs.
- The split between the Foundation and Brotherhood was a major reason for the Area Coordinator Program failing in the 1990s.
- Accountability and Oversight issues were broached.
- The work done so far has generated “real hope” among members involved.
- This a way to fill a critical gap.
- This would give members-at-large, who are not part of a Society, a contact.
- There is risk of misuse if a list of local readers is given to an Area Coordinator/Field Worker.

Ted and Brent answered several of the concerns expressed. Brent mentioned that this version of the concept would involve minimal administration and reporting and be “more organic.” He said it can be flexible as to size of area and implementation. He said they would establish a network of Coordinators/Field Workers for mutual support and a conduit for information to the Fellowship. Meetings could be held on Zoom.

Brent suggested that the flavor is, “Go do your best with what you feel is work to be done with the people in your area.” He said, that the program is driven by motivation of

individuals and that people who don't make the annual report will simply drop off by their own choice. He responded to concerns about providing a list of readers, suggesting that, rather than giving out a list, an e-mail would be sent to people on the list encouraging them to reach out to the new Area Coordinator/Field Worker.

### **The motion passed by a majority.**

#### **16. Discussion of political affiliations—Steve Sawyer:**

Steve Sawyer presented an opinion that he would like the Fellowship to take a stand on whether people in leadership roles in the Fellowship should refrain from political statements on social media. It would be his preference that a policy be formulated to discourage GC members, who represent the Fellowship, from discussing their political affiliations in public forums because it might color how people see the Fellowship. He offered several quotations from the UB to support his position.

A discussion followed and, after the allotted 30 minutes, Geoff ended the discussion, with no resolution being made.

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#### **17. Motion submitted to the General Council July 19, 2020: Creation of a Social Media Committee as part of the Media and Communications Service Team**

Motion made by Dana Bredemeyer and Seconded by Cecelia Lampley.

#### **Whereas**

- 1) The social media space (Youtube, Facebook, Instagram ...) presents an enormous opportunity for us to reach people with our message, and
- 2) we have growing talent and interest within our community, and
- 3) various activities are moving forward independently,
- 4) we have not made a significant investment or driven our activities with a well-articulated plan or a dedicated team
- 5) we have considered many times and over many years the creation of a social media team, but haven't moved forward as yet,

#### **Be it resolved that the Fellowship**

- 1) Create a social media ad hoc committee within the Media and Communications Service Team to
- 2) organize the people, talent and content currently available
- 3) develop additional social media presence and content
- 4) coordinate with other Fellowship teams

all focused at producing the most effective use of the social media space for advancing the Fellowship's purposes.

**Discussion followed the motion and it passed by a majority vote.  
Sean Privitera was elected as chair of the committee.**

**18. Discussion – Second Miler Fund—Brent St. Denis:**

Brent pointed out that there has been a grant proposal in past and it is time to renew that concept. Using the proposed formula, the amount, if calculated today, would be at least \$60,000 per year.

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**SECOND MILER FUND RESOLUTION**

Motion made by Brent St.Denis and seconded by Mike Painter.

Whereas the Fellowship wishes to establish a fund to support the Urantia Book community with revelation development projects;

Whereas the Fellowship will accomplish this by using a sustainable portion of its capital assets;

Whereas the name Second Miler Fund underscores the extra effort some are prepared to make to see the Fifth Epochal revelation change lives everywhere;

**Now Therefore Be It resolved that:**

1) The General Council authorizes the Executive Committee to establish a three-year pilot project, called Second Miler Fund, along the lines of the draft prepared by the Treasurer including;

- Approving an annual program funding maximum to be calculated as 1/7 of liquid assets (cash + investments), exceeding \$1.5 million as of August 31<sup>st</sup> of the prior year,
- Establishing a grant application form with simple administration and reporting along the lines proposed,
- Allowing that applications can be submitted by any bona fide reader of the Urantia Book,
- Assuming responsibility for making the final decision on each recommended application until such time as the EC appoints another body to act in that role,

2) It is understood during the pilot phase that lessons learned will be applied to improving the program.

3) The EC will invite GC members to form a Vetting and Ranking Team with Lead which will receive applications conveyed to it by the Office. The Team will review applications then, when ready and timely, propose a list to the EC which ranks proposals in order of their viability and merit. Grant selection is a competitive process in terms of good, better and best.

4) While the grant limit will be on a case-by-case basis it is understood that grants up to \$1,000 per year would be the norm but that a greater sum can be approved when deemed appropriate. Multi-year funding for any project will be considered.

5) The program must operate within the annual allocation as calculated. There is no commitment to spend all the funds allocated in any given year but unused funds from one year may be carried forward for one year only.

6) To get started we establish the 2021 Second Miler budget after August 31<sup>st</sup> and launch the program this fall with a call for applications for the 2021 season.

A draft of the proposed Grant Application to the Fellowship's Second Miler Fund is available at: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZMv8aGXI\\_XhehXjxTNaJcuiynfM-jBhT/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZMv8aGXI_XhehXjxTNaJcuiynfM-jBhT/view?usp=sharing)

## **Discussion followed and the motion passed by a majority.**

### **19. Draft GC ClickUp Policy—Geoff Theiss and Albert Lassiter:**

#### **ClickUp Policy Recommendations For The GC**

Currently in the Fellowship there are the following issues of the GC that ClickUp should be able to help to alleviate:

- As EC members may change every three years, or more often (as we have seen three different Presidents within less than three years), “continuity” of activities can challenge the Fellowship’s effectiveness (including how to organize and track who is doing what and why).
- Variable and unclear commitment levels to reviewing proposals prior to GC meetings.
- Difficulty of engaging Society officers and other members in Fellowship activities.
- Difficulty of non-Councilor committee members and others of knowing what the GC is working on (and what other committees are working on).
- Difficulty of finding information previously discussed in “some email thread some place” where email thread Subject text might not even be related to what you are looking for.
- Inability of the GC as a body to determine which topics require full GC participation.
- Culture of non-responsiveness to GC discussion lists by members of the GC.
- Inability to self-identify which topics you are interested in hearing “all discussion material” (and inability to opt-out of discussions you are not so interested in).
- Difficulty of finding previously made GC decisions (like dates of upcoming ICs and regional gatherings).
- Difficulty of organizing and tracking GC level assignable tasks (like updating Councilor bios on the website).
- Difficulty of knowing what material to review prior to an upcoming GC meeting that will help make the GC meeting more efficient, and difficulty of actively participating in discussions about upcoming GC agenda topics prior to a GC meeting (so that such a meeting can be more efficient, with some thorough and robust pre-meeting discussions taking place ahead of time).

### **Motion made by Geoff Theiss and seconded by Albert Lassiter:**

## **Policy 1: GC Use of ClickUp**

**The GC shall use ClickUp** for full-GC-participation conversations of Active Discussions, as well as for documenting significant Decisions and tracking significant GC Tasks.

**The original document included four more motions to follow if this motion had passed: The full document is available at:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dh0TdyQpaPKU2tt6Sael1gi4lunARmHv2laABg1MdY/e/dit?usp=sharing>

**The motion was discussed and a motion was made to table it. The motion to table carried.**

**Geoff indicated an intention to put it on the agenda for the next GC meeting.**

## **20. Non-Binding Location Selection for Winter GC 2021:**

Tabled for fall meeting.

## **21. G-Suite Onboarding:**

Jena shared some instructions about how use G Suite. She will be offering a tutorial for people who want to learn more. Contact Jena to be invited.

## **22: Derek Samaras' UBN Presentation:**

Derek discussed his studio for making Urantia Book videos, as well as the development of his Urantia Book Network (UBN) and upcoming App. He has been working on this concept since 2016 and made a presentation about it at the Fellowship Triennial Conference in 2017.

The recording studio is sponsored by The Boulder School and a not-for-profit entity which never sells names of people who get involved. It is a studio where people can collaborate and produce videos and other productions to help publish the vision of UB proponents.

Chuck Thurston moved across the country to join Derek in his enterprises, and other highly qualified individuals are also involved.

The Urantia Book Network (UBN) site can be reached at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/URANTIABOOKNETWORK>. **You can also access the UBNetwork at [facebook.com/urantiabooknetwork/](https://facebook.com/urantiabooknetwork/)**

From the home page you can access the Spirit of Truth podcast interviews Derek has done with 24 UB readers (to date), study groups conducted on topics such as the vestigial traits from the UB and human heroes from the UB, and much, much more.

Derek is also working on an App which will be free both on Apple and Android phones. When you sign in you can: read and listen to the Urantia Book; create unlimited video study groups; upload, archive, and share study aids; create and schedule events; livestream videos; and sell and purchase items in the Marketplace. He expects the App to be ready within a couple of months.

**You can listen to the recording of Derek's presentation in Sunday's recording.**

If you want to support Derek in his efforts, you can reach his GoFundMe page at <https://gf.me/u/ydg23p>.

## **23: New Business:**

### **Significant Decision Review Policy Motion.**

Motion made by David Kulieke and Seconded by Brent St. Denis.

David mentioned that some motions are passed with the comment that, “If it doesn’t work, we can always revisit it.” However, David pointed out, it is not at all usual that motions actually get revisited. Brent explained that this motion would establish a norm that when a motion is passed, it would include a clause that, unless it is renewed, it would automatically sunset in three years.

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**Whereas** it appears the Fellowship’s governance model could be improved by instituting a sunset review procedure for decisions deemed significant;

**Whereas** significant decisions usually involve, but are not limited to, changes to the constitution, by-laws, and policies;

**Whereas** institutionalizing a sunset review regime should have the dual effects of providing a safeguard against change which might have a long-term negative impact and at the same time making the group feel more confident about trying new things;

Now therefore be it resolved that;

- 1) Each non-routine motion addressed by either the EC or GC be accompanied by the question “**Is this matter significant?**” The determination in each case shall be by a majority vote of the body considering the matter to be significant. The Chair shall ensure that this question is asked.
- 2) For any motion (or part thereof) that is deemed significant, the following clause shall be added;

**“SUNSET REVIEW-that the decision on the matter of \_\_\_\_\_ shall automatically sunset on the following date \_\_\_\_\_ unless renewed or otherwise dealt with.”**

- 3) A sunset review shall commence within one (1) to two (2) years of the significant measure having been adopted unless the review deadline is extended by decision of the body.
- 4) A simple majority in favor of a sunset review shall trigger a review.
- 5) When reviewed the amendment will be retained or not retained by a majority vote.
- 6) If the measure is renewed or amended, the body shall determine if a further sunset clause is required.
- 7) It is understood the effect of sunsetting a decision will be to have the measure (or part thereof) completely reversed if no decision to continue or amend the measure is made.

- 8) The Secretary (for GC) and Secretary General (for EC) shall each maintain a log of decisions with a sunset provision and on the meeting agenda of any regular meeting of that body shall report on the status of reviews pending with the associated deadline date.
- 9) The Judicial Committee be empowered to create and report a list of decisions made in the period 2015-2020 which in its opinion might have benefited from a sunset review clause. The Judicial Committee shall invite input from all GC members when preparing the list.
- 10) This sunset review regime shall itself be subject to a sunset review.

**Tom Allen moved to refer the Sunset Review Motion to Judicial Committee fto make a report with any suggestions or proposals at the next GC meeting. It was seconded by Mike Painter. That motion passed by majority vote.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PST**