

# Motion to Add Article VIII - Section 8.6 into the CONSTITUTION OF THE URANTIA BOOK FELLOWSHIP and to Rescind Paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 in the By-laws

#### Submitted by ten (10) General Councilors:

Tom Allen, Douglas Burns, Bobbie Dreier, Jackie Koury, Cecelia Lampley, John Lange, Barbara Newsom, Brent St. Denis, David Schlundt, and Sue Seccombe.

## Resolution to Place a Simplified Agenda Requirement from the By-laws into the Constitution

**Whereas,** constitutional simplicity will be enhanced by eliminating unnecessary By-laws with a short concise constitutional Section for General Council Agenda development requirements, and

**Whereas**, there is no mention of Agenda in the current constitution and there are unnecessary requirements in the By-laws, and

**Whereas**, RONR 41:60-63 already has rules for Agenda proposals that make several of the lines in Paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 in the By-laws redundant, and

Whereas, SCICR has approved this amendment unanimously, therefore let it be

**Resolved,** that Section 8.6 be added to Article VIII simplifying Agenda Development for the General Council, and be it also

**Resolved,** to rescind Paragraph 4.1 and 4.2 in the By-laws and renumber the remaining Sections and Paragraphs appropriately.

#### Section 8.6 would be inserted on page twelve (12) in our Constitution

To see Paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2, look at pages six and seven (6-7) in the <u>By-laws</u>

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#### **Article VIII**

#### **The General Council**

Section 8.6. Development of Agenda: A proposed agenda for all meetings of the General Council, shall be developed by the President of THE URANTIA BOOK FELLOWSHIP, approved by the Executive Committee, and presented to the General Council for adoption at the opening session of such meeting as the first item of business to be acted upon.

### By-laws to be Rescinded

Paragraph 4.1. Agenda for Meetings: The agenda for all meetings of the General Council shall be adopted by majority vote of the General Council at its opening session. Once adopted, the agenda governs the order of business for the entire meeting unless and until the rules are suspended by unanimous consent or the agenda is amended by not less than a 2/3 majority vote.

Paragraph 4.2. Development of Agenda: A proposed agenda for each Regular Meeting, Special Meeting, and Triennial Meeting shall be developed by the President of THE URANTIA BOOK FELLOWSHIP, approved by the Executive Committee, and presented to the General Council for adoption at the opening session of such meeting as the first item of business to be acted upon. The proposed agenda may be debated and amended from the floor. When adopted by majority vote, it becomes the agenda for the meeting. (See Paragraph 4.1, above.) The President and Executive Committee have complete discretion in developing the proposed agenda. The agenda of a Special Meeting of the General Council shall be limited to items which fall within the announced purpose of the meeting.

**Commented [1]:** I did not have any issue with this section at the time, but looking at it from the point of view of a separations of powers point of view I now wonder if this is the best way to move forward.

This can always be revisited if and when a tripartite structure is decided upon, but it looks like we could create a bunch of busy work amending things and then re-amending it, or at least the possibility of this.