Current (as of July 13, 2024) Constitution Proposal

| **Proposed Constitution** | **Comments** |
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| [Preamble](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13376235) and Purpose  Most Recent: Ruthie at 12:32 pm on 7/4 | PREAMBLE  With affectionate dedication to God, the Universal Father, it is our conviction that the well-being of individuals, families, and society will be uplifted by the formation of an organization devoted to the purposes herein stated; we, therefore,  unite under the name of The Urantia Book Fellowship, hereinafter referred to in this constitution as UBF, and adopt and establish this revised Constitution Of UBF.  PURPOSE  The purposes of UBF are to foster and support an evolving spiritual community dedicated to learning, sharing, and living the teachings of The Urantia Book. |
| Albert: 1st purpose statement is about the purpose and should be in the time varying strategic plan outside of the constitution. 2nd purpose statement includes mission-related statements but is simpler and easier to understand. |
| Ruthie: We are not prepared to push this new statement through since there is not enough acceptance among SCICR members, nor among GC members, nor the membership at large. Altering the purpose statement is a big deal and should not be rushed. Suggests keeping the old purpose statement.  Ruthie also presented the purpose statement in the FEF Corp and wondered if there was legal language we must use for the purpose to preserve our non-profit status. |
| Tom Allen: Suggest using Ruthie’s idea and then putting in the new one before the old one. Ruthie approved this idea. |
| Douglas proposed instead: The guiding purpose of UBF is to foster a spiritual community dedicated to studying, disseminating, and embracing the teachings of The Urantia Book. We aim to deepen our understanding of humanity’s origin, history, and destiny while recognizing the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of all people. By embodying the transformative teachings and example of Jesus and upholding the core values of truth, beauty, and goodness, we strive to promote the comprehensive well-being of individuals and society. We champion a philosophy and cosmology that resonate with humanity’s intellectual and cultural progression, fostering spiritual unity and fraternity among our members. |
| Dave Gonzalez liked Douglas’ alternate proposal as a compromise but agreed with Ruthie’s idea that there is not enough time to agree. |
| Ruthie Draft Proposal per email dated July 8:  The purposes of UBF are:  To foster and support the learning, sharing, and living the teachings of The Urantia Book, and  To foster and support an evolving spiritual community.  [10-Minute Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxGhxk_u5AY&authuser=0) |
| [Article 1: Membership](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375956)  2 pages.  Most Recent: Jena at 3:29pm on 7/6 | MEMBERSHIP  Section 1.1. Qualification: Any person who declares a desire and willingness to learn the teachings of The Urantia Book and to abide by this Constitution shall qualify to be a UBF Member.  Section 1.2. Registration: The Secretary shall maintain a list of Members consisting of those persons who meet the qualifications for membership and who have registered as Members and/or are recognized as Members by virtue of their  membership in a Local Society. |
| Section 1.3: Lila and Ruthie both think Voting Members should be defined in the constitution. SCICR has some revised language for that. You can see the July 1 proposed language around time stamp 1:30:39 in the SCICR recording dated 7/1/2024. Revision to Section 12.5 can be viewed in that same recording around time stamp 1:43:06 |
| [Article 2: Affiliated Partners](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375955)  Most Recent:  Jena at 3:39pm on 7/6 | AFFILIATED PARTNERS  Section 2.1. Affiliated Partners: Intentional groups of three (3) or more people sharing purpose with UBF and interested in affiliating with UBF shall be referred to herein as UBF Affiliated Partners. |
| Section 2.1. No attribution, submitted by Sue Seccombe: Affiliated Partners may have their desired organization but shall appoint one person as group secretary to help coordinate communication with UBF. |
| Section 2.1 by Albert Lassiter:  Something like the following sentence should be added as has been done to Section 9.1: Details regarding becoming an Affiliated Partner shall be contained in the UBF Operations Manual. |
| Section 2.1 from Ruthie: I've heard the example given that an organization such as UUI could choose to become an "affiliated partner." Can someone give a use case as to why and how this hypothetical formal designation of "affiliate partner" might change the relationship of UBF and UUI? What would UBF now be able or willing to do with UUI, which it could not or would not do without this designation?  Many more details can be viewed directly in [the discussion forum](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375955).  She added at the end:  If the intent is to compensate for the fact that some people don’t have societies around them, wouldn’t it make more sense to focus on encouraging new societies to form, and encourage virtual interaction for those who don’t live nearby other readers? Not sure how the proposed affiliated groups solves the the core issue of not enough societies. Geography does not need to be a limiting factor. Societies could meet virtually. |
| [Article 3: Societies](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375953?tpg=2)  Most recent: Albert at 6:44pm on 6/29 | SOCIETIES  Section 3.1. Local Societies Transition: All Local Societies heretofore affiliated with UBF shall be autonomous and be granted Affiliated Partner and Society status. All Local Societies members, as certified thereby, shall be UBF Members.  Section 3.2. Societies: Affiliated Partners that also have a minimum of ten (10) members who have each read The Urantia Book in its entirety, may apply for additional designation as a Society. Societies shall be called upon to advise the Governing Board on matters of policy and strategy.  Section 3.3. Society Advisory Council: The Governing Board shall offer to meet annually with a Society Advisory Council, which shall include Voting Members who are members of Societies |
| Albert Lassiter said there may be confusion about the use of the proper nouns “Local Society” and “Society” as appears in the draft constitution. Many details in the [discussion forum page](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375953?tpg=2). |
| Section 3.1: Local Societies Transition. Albert Lassiter commented: In Section 3.1 Local Societies Transition, it might be useful to clarify if "All Local Societies" means only active local societies, or does it include recently inactivated (or similar) local societies.  There may be some formerly "active" local societies that may be able to scrounge up three people, and if so, can they "transition" to a "Society" status without first having to become an Affiliated Partner?  Or perhaps such details would best reside in the Operations Manual? |
| [Article 4: Governing Board of Directors](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375952)  Most recent: Thomas Allen at 8:19 am on 7/03 | GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS  Section 4.1. Composition: The Governing Board shall be composed of twenty-four (24) members.  Section 4.2. Terms: Governing Board members shall serve for six (6) year terms and may be reelected.  Section 4.3. Qualification: All UBF Members shall be eligible to serve on the Governing Board who also:  (a) Attest to having read The Urantia Book in its entirety,  (b) Demonstrate involvement in the UBF community,  (c) Effective in 2025, commit to abide by the Operations Manual and Conflict  Resolution Policy, and any future UBF Policy Document  (d) Effective at the Biennial Meeting in 2026, are registered as Voting Members, and  (e) Commitment to share and live the UB teachings.  Section 4.4. Board of Directors: The Governing Board members shall constitute the Board of Directors of UBF under the State of Illinois not-for-profit corporate law. UBF shall be governed by its Board of Directors.  Section 4.5. Strategic Plan: The Governing Board shall develop and annually update a guiding document for the Management Team. The procedure for creating this Strategic Plan shall be maintained in the Operations Manual.  Section 4.6. Powers: The Governing Board shall have the power to oversee and manage the affairs of UBF in accordance with this Constitution and the laws of the State of Illinois. In addition, the Governing Board shall have the following powers:  (a) By an affirmative vote of a minimum of thirteen (13) members, may delegate its authority and power, or part thereof, and may revoke such delegation.  (b) To define in the Operations Manual procedures for:  (1) Member input and participation in the Annual Meeting.  (2) Society Advisory Council formation and interaction with the Governing Board.  (3) Determining eligibility for Voting Members, Affiliated Partners, and Society participation.  (4) Petitions by Voting Members and Affiliated Partners.  (c) By a two-thirds (2/3) vote, the Governing Board may remove a UBF Member or Officer for cause on its own motion or on the confirmation of a removal recommendation of the Judicial Commission.  (d) To create commissions with defined purposes, rules, budgets, powers, membership composition, quorum, and duration of appointment.  Section 4.7. Chair: The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Governing Board and annually be responsible for proposing a draft Strategic Plan to the Governing Board.  Section 4.8. Vice Chair: In the event the Chair is unable to act, the Vice Chair shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chair.  Section 4.9. Chair Appointments: Chair and Vice Chair elections shall be held at each Biennial Meeting. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years.  Section 4.10. Vacancy: A Chair or Vice Chair vacancy shall be temporarily filled at the next meeting of the Governing Board and shall serve until the next Biennial Meeting of the Governing Board.  Section 4.11. Compensation: Governing Board members shall serve without compensation.  Section 4.12. Quorum: A quorum at Governing Board meetings shall consist of a majority (13) of Governing Board members.  Section 4.13. Agenda: The Chair of the Governing Board shall develop and present an agenda for meetings of the Governing Board no less than seven (7) days prior to any Governing Board meeting. Agenda adoption shall be the first item of business at all Governing Board meetings.  Section 4.14. Meetings: All UBF Members are welcome to observe Governing Board meetings unless a closed session is called for:  (a) Regular Meetings: At the last Regular Meeting of the year, the Governing Board shall approve the schedule of a minimum of six (6) Regular Meetings for the following year.  (b) Special Meetings: Special Meetings of the Governing Board may be called with at least two (2) weeks’ notice with rationale, agenda, and dates for such meetings by the Chair or upon the written request of six (6) Governing  Board members. If an urgent Special Meeting has been requested to meet with less than two (2) weeks’ notice, the Chair shall by majority electronic vote ask the Governing Board to waive the two (2) weeks and Agenda  notices.  (c) Biennial Meeting: Beginning in 2026 and every two (2) years thereafter, one Regular Meeting of the Governing Board shall also be the Biennial Meeting at which newly elected Governing Board members shall be seated.  (d) Cancellations: Except for the Biennial Meeting, Governing Board meetings may be canceled or rescheduled by unanimous consent or by a procedure agreed upon by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Governing Board.  (e) Rules: All meetings of the Governing Board shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR). The Governing Board may create special rules that replace provisions of RONR by a two-thirds (2/3) majority. Such rules may be rescinded by a majority vote.  Section 4.15. Attendance: Governing Board members are expected to attend at least two-thirds (2/3) of Regular Meetings. Three (3) unexcused absences from Regular Meetings in a 12-month period shall result in a request for resignation. Four (4) unexcused absences from Regular Meetings in a 12-month period shall lead to a review for removal. Rules and exceptions shall be determined by the Governing Board.  Section 4.16. Scheduled Elections: Voting Members shall elect eight (8) Governing Board members for the seats that are about to expire in a Scheduled Election. Scheduled Elections shall occur every two (2) years, shall be conducted in accordance with the Operations Manual, and certified no later than fifteen (15) days prior to each Biennial Meeting. Candidates receiving the greatest number of ballots cast shall be declared elected. In the event of a tie, a run-off election shall be conducted.  Section 4.17. Nominations: Nominations of candidates in Scheduled Elections shall occur by the following methods:  (a) The Chair shall appoint a Nominations Commission Chair no later than 180 days prior to Scheduled Elections. The Nominations Commission Chair shall appoint, at minimum, an additional six (6) Voting Members to form the Nominations Commission. Two (2) Voting Members may recommend a qualified candidate to be considered by the Nominations Commission. The Nominations Commission shall screen and develop a list of qualified candidates to be approved by the Governing Board.  (b) Additional nomination methods may be added to the Operations Manual by approval of the Governing Board.  Governing Board nominations may be submitted to the Secretary no later than  sixty (60) days prior to Scheduled Elections.  Section 4.18. Governing Board Vacancies: Whenever a vacancy arises among the Governing Board or Officers, the Governing Board may appoint a replacement to serve until the completion of the vacated term.  Section 4.19. Independent Audit: The Governing Board shall ensure that an independent audit of its financial management practices by a duly certified professional firm is completed annually. |
| From Ruthie: Sections 4.5, 4.6, and 4.16 all reference the Operations Manual. She asks:  Before the UBF Operations Manual is created...  ...Who has the power and responsibility to decide the "Strategic Plan" of the Management Team?  ...Who has the power and responsibility to decide how "Member input and participation in the Annual Meeting; Eligibility for Voting Member, Affiliated Partner, and Society participation; and Petitions by Voting Members and Affiliated Partners" are addressed?  ...Who has the power and responsibility to decide how Scheduled Elections be handled? |
| Ruthie suggested many specific changes. See more details in the link above: 1. I think the quorum of the GB should reflect the actual number of occupied seats on the GB, not fixed at the number 13.  Suggested change to 4.12: strike "13"; and replace "Governing Board members" with "the currently occupied seats of the Governing Board."  2. Voting requirements need to specify whether the set of total possible votes referenced to calculate the majority is the entire GB, or the majority of voters at the meeting. \*RONR allows for both, but if you read below you'll see that it generally advises against the former, in favor of utilizing the majority of the members actually present.  Suggested change: When it is the intention that voting requirements be a "majority (13) of the [entire] Governing Board," this text should be replaced with "majority of the currently occupied seats of the Governing Board" or "majority of the quorum," if the revision in bullet point 1 above is adopted.  I suggest that we insist on a majority or 2/3 vote of "the entire Governing Board" only for something as weighty as amending the constitution, as in Article X. For all other decisions, I propose that the GB should be able to pass motions based on a majority of the quorum—GB members present at the meeting. That's the point of a quorum—to establish the minimum number of people who are allowed to make decisions on behalf of UBF.  3. Abstentions should be addressed in the constitution, in regard to both voting requirements and quorum. There are many details about RONR regarding this issue in her comment. |
| 4.17: Nominations: (b)Ten (10) Voting Members of the UBF may directly nominate a qualified candidate: Lila said: I think 10 is too large a number. It should be maximum 3a candidate voting members to nominate:  Ruthie agreed and said it seems to negate the whole principle of voting members having the power to elect the GB, if realistically the GB itself would have the greater power of determining who is ever nominated. How much influence would voting members have to elect the GB, if the GB itself has the more realistic power to decide who goes on the ballot? Change suggested: Three (3) Voting Members of the UBF may directly nominate a qualified candidate.  Tom Allen wrote: I agree that ten (10) is too many. We should reduce that to two (2). A new member who only knows two (2) Voting Members and many regular members would not be eligible despite good credentials and readiness for service. |
| [Article 5: Officers](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375951?tpg=2#13378934)  Most recent: Jena at 4:05 pm on 7/6 | OFFICERS  Section 5.1. Officers: The Officers of UBF shall be:  (a) President: The President shall be the chief executive officer and preside at all meetings of the Management Team.  (b) Vice President: In the event of the inability of the President to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President.  (c) Secretary: The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining a record of UBF Members and Voting Members, taking minutes at all Governing Board meetings, and making available all Governing Board motions and decisions  to UBF Members once the minutes have been approved. In the event of the inability of the President or Vice President to perform their duties, the Secretary shall exercise the powers of the President.  (d) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the principal financial officer and shall have general supervision over the funds and properties of UBF. The Treasurer shall provide regular updates on the financial status of UBF at least quarterly.  Section 5.2. Officer Appointment: Officer elections shall be held at each Biennial  Meeting. Only current Governing Board members can become elected Officers,  who shall hold office for a term of two (2) years. |
| Regarding (c ) Secretary: Sue Seccombe presented an email comment: Suggested addition: In the event of the inability of the President or the Vice President to perform their duties, the Secretary shall exercise the powers of the President or Vice President, respectively. (answered in 5.1.c of proposed constitution)  Jena Lassiter asked: Is there any language that is needed to ensure that someone takes minutes if the Secretary is unavailable? |
| [Article 6: Delegated Authorities and Responsibilities](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13375940)  Most recent Tom Allen at 3:03 pm on 7/1 | Section 6.1. Currently Delegated Authorities and Responsibilities:  (a) Management Team: The Management Team has the authority to:  (1) Implement the Strategic Plan within the Annual Budget,  (2) Manage day-to-day operations,  (3) Recommend improvements to the Operations Manual,  (4) Conduct legal, due diligence on matters pertaining to its delegated  authorities, and  (5) Develop employment policies and manage employee positions.  (b) Judicial Commission: A Judicial Commission shall be created to interpret this Constitution and to help resolve conflicts, disagreements, and misunderstandings. The Judicial Commission shall have the authority to:  (1) Develop and oversee the administration of a Conflict Resolution Policy, subject to approval by the Governing Board,  (2) Develop procedures for rendering opinions on UBF constitutional and policy issues, and  (3) Document, preserve records of, and submit written reports of its activities to the Governing Board.  (c) Election Oversight Commission: No later than 180 days prior to Scheduled Elections, the Chair shall appoint an Election Oversight Commission, which shall rise and report upon the acceptance of the Scheduled Election results at the next Biennial Meeting. The Election Oversight Commission shall have the authority to recommend to the Governing Board the means and mechanics for conducting Scheduled Elections in any manner that is fair, secure, reasonably allows all Voting Members equitable participation, guarantees voting anonymity, and provides certified results in a timely manner. |
| 6.1(a) from Ruthie: Numbers start at Section 6.1(a)(4). They should start at 6.1(a)(1). |
| General input about Article 6 from Tom Allen: Suggest that Article VI be deleted and particular items of responsibility be placed in the Articles in which they belong. |
| Article 7: Management Team  Most recent: Lila at 12:58 pm on 7/2 | MANAGEMENT TEAM  Section 7.1. Composition: The Management Team shall serve at the pleasure of the Governing Board and include:  (a) The President and Vice President, who shall serve as its Managing Directors,  (b) An Executive Director employed by UBF, and  (c) At a minimum, two (2) Additional Appointments for indefinite terms.  Section 7.2. Appointments: The Governing Board shall determine any Additional Appointments and hire the Executive Director.  Section 7.3. Compensation: The Governing Board may define compensation for Management Team members who are not Governing Board members.  Section 7.4. Adjuncts: Additional contributors to the Management Team shall be recommended as Adjuncts for indefinite terms as needed.  Section 7.5. Managing Directors: The Managing Directors shall be responsible for the approval of Adjuncts, shall have executive power to ensure the smooth day-to-day operation of UBF, and shall report on Management Team activities at Regular Meetings of the Governing Board.  Section 7.6. Executive Director: The Executive Director shall be responsible for managing employees and recommending compensation, when applicable, for Adjuncts.  Section 7.7. Meetings: The Management Team shall hold regular meetings open to Governing Board members as observers.  Section 7.8. Reports: A member of the Management Team shall be responsible to:  (a) Make meeting minutes available to the Governing Board, and  (b) Document and report on the organization, roles, and responsibilities of Management Team members and Adjuncts. |
| 7.1 from 2 members reported by Sue Seccombe: Five too small of a team, puts too few in charge.  Sue commented: Reminder: Management Team recommends, Board decides. |
| 7.4 from Lila: I think that appointments of Adjuncts should be approved by the GB. |
| [Article 8: Judicial Commission](https://urantiabook.org/sys/website/system-pages/?pageId=18011)  Most recent: Jena at 4:40 pm on 7/7. | JUDICIAL COMMISSION  Section 8.1. Composition: The Judicial Commission shall be composed of a Judicial Chair, who shall be a Governing Board member, and an additional four (4) Judicial Commission members.  Section 8.2. Term: Beginning in 2026, newly appointed Judicial Commission members shall serve for four (4) years.  Section 8.3. Qualification: All UBF Members shall be eligible to serve on the Judicial Commission who also:  (a) Attest to having read The Urantia Book in its entirety,  (b) Demonstrate involvement in the UBF community, and  (c) Effective in 2025, commit to abide by the Operations Manual and Conflict Resolution Policy.  Section 8.4. Judicial Commission Appointment: Upon the completion of a Judicial Commission member term, the Governing Board shall renew or choose a replacement.  Section 8.5. Meetings: Judicial Commission meetings shall be called by the Judicial Chair or by a majority of Judicial Commission members.  Section 8.6. Decisions: Decisions of the Judicial Commission must be affirmed by a minimum of three (3) of its members.  Section 8.7. Vacancies: Whenever a vacancy arises among Judicial Commission members, the Governing Board shall appoint a replacement to serve until the completion of the vacated term. |
| 8.6 from Ruthie: Mentions ambiguity about what happens if there are vacancies; what is a quorum? She suggests language “regardless of vacancies” to add at the end of Section 8.6. Section 8.6. Quorum: Any ruling by the Judicial Commission must be affirmed by no fewer than three (3) of its members., regardless of vacancies.  Tom Allen replied and said that the language recommended might to OK. |
| Entire Section from Jena: Suggests that it is unnecessary to explicitly provide details for only this one commission in the constitution and provides rationale. |
| [Article 9: Finance](https://urantiabook.org/sys/website/system-pages/?pageId=18011) | FINANCE  Section 9.1. Fiscal Policy and Management: UBF shall adopt fiscal management policies consistent with not-for-profit laws and generally accepted accounting principles, details of which shall be contained in the Operations Manual and shall be approved or modified by the Governing Board.  Section 9.2. Annual Budget: The Governing Board shall define in the Operations Manual a procedure to develop and vote to adopt an Annual Budget and can modify the Annual Budget as circumstances dictate.  Section 9.3. Financial Restriction: Any Annual Budget deficit shall not exceed 5% of the unrestricted equity shown on the most recently audited balance sheet of UBF.  Section 9.4. Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of UBF shall be the calendar year, January 1 to December 31. |
| No comments as of 7/7. |
| [Article 10: Amendments](https://urantiabook.org/sys/website/system-pages/?pageId=18011) | AMENDMENTS  Section 10.1. Procedure for Proposal: Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed for consideration by majority vote of the Governing Board or by submission to the Governing Board made by:  (a) Any six (6) Governing Board members or  (b) Any ten (10) Voting Members.  Section 10.2. Procedure for Amendment: Proposed amendments to this Constitution require a sixty (60) day Governing Board notice period, including being posted on a membership discussion forum for at least forty-five (45) of those sixty (60) days. Following the notice period, eligible amendments must be placed on the agenda of the next Governing Board meeting. The adoption of any amendment shall require unanimous consent or a favorable vote by secret ballot of:  (a) Two-thirds (2/3) of the Governing Board members present, and  (b) A minimum of thirteen (13) Governing Board members. |
| Comments? |
| Article 11: Miscellaneous | MISCELLANEOUS  Section 11.1. Conflicts of Interest: Governing Board members, Management Teammembers, and Adjuncts shall adhere to a Conflict of Interest Policy maintained in the Operations Manual.  Section 11.2. Indemnification: UBF shall undertake to indemnify its directors, officers, volunteers, and employees against threatened and actual claims arising from their positions with UBF to the full extent allowed under the relevant section(s) of the Illinois General Not for Profit Corporation Act of 1986, or superseding Act, as amended, and make such determinations as required therein based on the facts and circumstances of such actual or potential claims.  Section 11.3. Dissolution: Should UBF dissolve, all its assets shall first be distributed to a UBF successor if the same be a tax-exempt non-profit entity, and if there be no such UBF successor, then all its assets shall be distributed to such qualified tax-exempt organization(s) as shall be designated by the Governing Board.  Section 11.4. Electronic Voting: Electronic voting in connection with the Governing Board and UBF Member meetings shall be permitted as defined in the Operations Manual.  Section 11.5. By-Laws: This Constitution shall serve as the By-Laws of Fifth Epochal Fellowship Corporation, an Illinois Not-for-Profit Corporation, File No. 35593012, authorized to do business as The Urantia Book Fellowship. UBF is a public charity organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes and qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, EIN: 36-6065800. |
| [Article 12: Transition 12.1](https://urantiabook.org/Fellowship-Constitution/13377604)  Most Recent: Tom Allen at 8:09am on 7/3 | TRANSITION  Section 12.1. Governing Board Transition: The first item of business upon the  adoption of this revised Constitution will be by secret ballot to elect twenty-four  (24) members to comprise the UBF Governing Board. All General Councilors with  remaining terms are eligible to be elected as inaugural Governing Board members.  If fewer than twenty-four (24) eligible candidates agree to be nominated, then the  General Councilors shall nominate and elect a sufficient number of Governing  Board members from among UBF Members of record to equal twenty-four (24).  The Governing Board shall hold an election to determine Governing Board terms.  Unless the procedure is amended by a minimum of thirteen (13) Governing Board  members, eight (8) members receiving the most votes shall hold office for a six (6)  year term, and those eight (8) members receiving the next highest votes shall hold  office for four (4) year terms, and the remaining shall hold office for two (2) year  terms.  Section 12.2. Officers Transition: At the inaugural meeting, the Governing Board  shall elect UBF Officers.  Section 12.3. Judicial Commission Transition: Unless the procedure is amended by a minimum of thirteen (13) Governing Board members, at the inaugural meeting, the Governing Board shall elect a Judicial Chair from among the members of the Governing Board, serving four (4) years and appoint an additional four (4) Judicial Commission members and designate the length of their terms, two members serving two (2) year terms and two serving four (4) year terms.  Section 12.4. Committees Transition: Current standing, ad hoc, and Departmental Committees shall be directed by the Management Team and, after consulting with the outgoing Service Team and committee chairs, be reorganized to best implement the Strategic Plan.  Section 12.5. Voting Member Transition Requirement: For the inaugural Scheduled  Election and expiring in 2027, in addition to the requirements defined in Section 13 1.3, UBF Members shall be Voting Members who also have read the entire Urantia Book.  Section 12.6: Operations Manual Integration: The Governing Board shall create an Operations Manual Commission that shall be responsible to:  (a) Create, modify, and maintain an Operations Manual,  (b) Ensure that the Operations Manual is fully responsive to and consistent with this Constitution,  (c) Review current UBF policies and procedures to determine which should be incorporated into the manual, modified, or dropped, and  (d) Review the ongoing needs of the Governing Board and Management Team to develop and propose new policies. |
| Lila: believes that we need 6 months to transition from 36-24 members. We need that time to evaluate who will be willing to attend and participate. |
| Tom Allen responded to Lila’s comment: I would dread doing all the heavy transition work with thirty-six (36) Board members. Attrition may not bring the number down to twenty-four (24) in six (6) months, and if there are more than twenty-four (24) at the end of the six (6) months then the same process for choosing the semi-permanent Board would take place.  This idea that there is not enough time to properly vet the best candidates by September 14th, and that six (6) months will assure better vetting is the concern by those advocating the six (6) month delay.  The sixty (60) + days we have left can be utilized thoroughly to vet the Councilors who are willing to step up and really be willing to work as a Board member. |
|  | 4.15 Pray as a group for anybody who needs to be removed from the group, so that their spirit lifts them up on their journey. |
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