

MINUTES

Tenth General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Association

Held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

1971

The General Assembly was convened by the Moderator at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 10, 1971, and was finally adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 12, 1971.

A preliminary report of the Credentials Committee was presented and the Moderator declared that a quorum was present.

The standard Rules of Procedure were adopted.

Reports were presented by the President, Moderator, Secretary, Treasurer, Special Financial Advisor and by the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Following these reports, the Chairman of the Commission on Appraisal presented its report.

The first Item of Business acted on was a resolution relating to the use of the so-called Ford Foundation formula for the investment of the Association's funds. A substitute for the resolution appearing on the Final Agenda was offered by the proponents and there being no objection, the substitute resolution was presented to the meeting by the Business Committee in the text appearing below and was adopted.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has approved in principle the Ford Foundation formula; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been unable to apply the formula because of

- (a) the depletion of unrestricted funds and
- (b) the marked decline in market values; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to be in position to take advantage of the formula without unrestricted funds when conditions permit, now be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees take initiative to enlist the support of scholars and law reform agencies as well as educational, religious, and charitable organizations in developing and supporting proposed Massachusetts legislation to clarify the law concerning management of endowment funds, or to establish a new law, generally as recommended in two reports to the Ford Foundation.

The next item to be considered was the resolution calling for the Full Funding of the Black Affairs Council.

The text of the Resolution, printed in the Final Agenda beginning with Line 18 and ending with Line 32, in order to comply with the Standing Rules of the General Assembly governing budget matters, was changed by the proponents prior to the convening of the General Assembly.

(For a copy of these Rules, see the Association's 1971 Directory, page 168.)

Without objection, the new version was presented to the General Assembly by the Business Committee in place of the text appearing in the Final Agenda, and the Business Committee moved the adoption of the new version. Mimeographed copies of the new version were distributed to all the delegates. The new version is as follows:

WHEREAS, the UUA made a moral commitment to fund the Black Affairs Council for \$1 million, of which approximately remains unpaid, and

WHEREAS the Commission on Appraisal, elected by the General Assembly, presented a report to the Board of Trustees on January 16, 1971, which reads in part:

"The integrity of the UUA is at stake in its obligation for the funding of the Black Affairs Council. The Commission on Appraisal urges the Board of Trustees to pursue such ways and means of honoring that commitment . . ."

BE IT RESOLVED: (1) That the UUA complete its moral commitment to the Black Affairs Council by making the payments each year from the continental budget in an amount equivalent to 10% of the continental UUA operating budget until this commitment is fully paid.

(2) That the 1971-72 and 1972-73 budgets of the Association include allocations to the Black Affairs Council in the amount of 10 per cent of the total budget in each year, i.e., \$173,600 in 1971-72 and \$179,100 in 1972-73.

(3) The Assembly recommends reductions in other categories of expenditures as follows:

	1971-72	1972-73
1. Interdistrict Representatives	\$81,800	\$80,300
2. U.U. World (reduce to 10 issues per year)	31,500	44,000
3. Department of Ministry—Settlement Representatives	14,000	16,500
4. Secretarial Pool	7,000	7,000
5. Personnel Benefits (related to above staff adjustments)	13,600	20,900
6. Contingency Reserve	25,700	10,400
TOTAL	\$173,600	\$179,100

A substitute Resolution was immediately offered by Warren Ross of New York in the following text:

Denominational division and polarization on the issue of how best to fight racism because of these divisions have gone on long enough;

dilution of UUA efforts to fight racism because of these divisions have gone on long-enough;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that it is the intense desire of this Assembly that there be a single, joint fund raising campaign to finance all Unitarian Universalist efforts (other than those of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Inc.) designed to achieve racial justice and that the Board and Administration be instructed to confer with BAC, BAWA, and all other interested parties to implement such united fund raising.

Before there was any action taken on the motion to substitute, the General Assembly was resolved into a Committee of the Whole.

While the General Assembly was acting as a Committee of the Whole, the question whether to accept the substitute Resolution was debated and a number of changes in the version of the substitute Resolution were proposed. Most of the questions posed by the Resolution as printed in the Final Agenda as well as those in the proposed substitute were debated.

While still in the Committee of the Whole a third substitute Resolution was suggested which consisted of inserting between paragraphs (1) and (2) in the motion as presented by the Business Committee, the text of the Ross amendment. This suggestion was defeated in the Committee of the Whole.

The General Assembly was then reconvened in regular session by direction of the Moderator, and the matter that was still before the General Assembly was whether to accept the Ross substitute Resolution. There was extensive debate during which a motion was offered by Benjamin Scott to amend the proposed substitute Resolution by adding at the end thereof the following text:

To quickly implement this the Black Affairs Council shall join in an united all-out effort with the UUA to help raise the pending deficit and increase the income of the Annual Fund of the Association by at least 10% and as much more as possible. As a condition for this effort by BAC, the UUA shall complete its moral commitment to BAC by making payments each year from the continental budget in an amount equivalent to 10% of the UUA operating budget until this commitment is fully paid.

This amendment was defeated by a vote with 318 voting in favor and 475 against the amendment.

The meeting then voted 512 to 387 to accept the Ross substitute Resolution and by a vote of 467 to 404 the substitute Resolution was adopted.

On the following day a motion was made to reconsider. A motion to table the question of reconsideration was defeated and the motion to reconsider was also defeated.

The Resolution entitled Amnesty and Repatriation for War Resisters set forth in the Final Agenda was amended and then adopted in the text set forth below:

BECAUSE: the Canadian Council of Churches' 1969 estimate of the number of United States military refugees and draft resisters was 60,000 with projections of 20,000 per year together with substantial numbers of similar expatriates in other countries, and

BECAUSE: most of these young men left the United States after a decision of conscience over the prospect of assisting in an illegal, immoral Vietnam War, and

BECAUSE: Unitarian Universalists respect such demonstrated allegiance to personal conscience and to the affirmation of life;

BE IT RESOLVED: The 1971 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association direct its continental offices in Boston to use its powers of advocacy to bring about enactment of United States legislation which grants amnesty and repatriation to those men who are in prison or in self-exile by reason of refusal to serve in the Vietnam War; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That the 1971 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association affirms its support of the efforts of the Canadian Unitarian Council to raise funds from Unitarian Universalist societies and individuals to aid in ministering to the needs (physical and spiritual) of American expatriates.

The resolution entitled High Cost of UUA Assemblies set forth in the Final Agenda was amended and then adopted in the text set forth below:

Recognizing that some Unitarian Universalists are barred from attending the annual assemblies by the high cost of travel and hotel accommodations;

BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1971 UUA General Assembly instruct the President of the UUA to investigate the possibilities of holding future assemblies on college campuses with the aim of reduction of costs and the provision of an atmosphere more conducive to mature deliberation.

That the 1971 UUA General Assembly instruct the Board of Trustees to give full consideration to the needs and schedules of youth delegates; that inexpensive food and lodging be arranged by the UUA, and that the General Assembly be scheduled at a time when high schools and colleges are not normally in session.

The resolution entitled Procedures on General Resolutions set forth in the Final Agenda was amended and then adopted in the text set forth below:

WHEREAS all major denominations in the United States give resolutions on major issues of public concern serious, lengthy and sustained formal consideration in their national meetings; and

WHEREAS general resolutions brought before the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly have over many years been consistently scheduled for the last regular business session of the last day of official General Assembly business, making thoughtful and thorough consideration difficult if not impossible, especially in instances of serious controversy and multiple competing forms of resolutions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1971 Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly instruct the Planning Committee for the next General Assembly to so schedule general resolutions that adequate Assembly time can be made available for formal consideration of such resolutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the 1971 General Assembly instructs the Unitarian Universalist Board to initiate a review of the process of generating, selecting, discussing and acting upon general resolutions with the purpose of exploring the potential of district meetings and organization, local church meetings, polls, or other means of providing more broadly based, understood and well supported resolutions for General Assembly action, and direct that a report be made on this review to the next General Assembly.

Under the item in the Final Agenda calling for action on reports of the officers and of the Finance Committee, a resolution entitled Interdistrict Representative Program was adopted in the text as set forth below:

WHEREAS the over-riding concern of this General Assembly and of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association is that of maintaining essential programs in a time of fiscal crisis and diminished income,

AND, WHEREAS this Assembly has a responsibility in helping the Board assess priorities in its distribution of inadequate available funds,

WE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, hereby express our considered judgment that the interdistrict program, as currently incorporated in the budget of the UUA, is of lesser value and effectiveness than most other continental programs.

Therefore, if budget cuts become necessary and the Board must make hard decisions about priorities, we urge the assignment of a low priority to the interdistrict program.

The meeting then considered and took action on the General Resolutions appearing in the Final Agenda. The text of these General Resolutions in the form adopted together with the text of an additional General Resolution in the form adopted together with the text of an additional General Resolution admitted for consideration and action as permitted under the Bylaws in the form adopted appear in the 1972 Directory beginning on page . . . and by this reference are incorporated in and made a part of these Minutes. All the said General Resolutions were adopted by more than a two-thirds majority vote.

On Friday, June 11, 1971 the polls were open for the receipt of ballots from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in accordance with the notice set forth in the Final Agenda.

On Saturday morning when the General Assembly convened the Secretary of the Association read the tellers' report on the results of the election following which the Moderator announced that the persons shown in the report read by the Secretary had been duly elected to their respective offices and that in accordance with the Bylaws the persons elected would take office upon the final adjournment of the 1971 General Assembly. The results of the election are set forth below:

TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE

MRS. EDNA GRIFFIN

TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE FROM CANADA

JOHN MAY

COMMISSION ON APPRAISAL

DR. PAUL N. CARNES (2 yrs.)

TIS BATTLES

REV. JOHN CUMMINS

MRS. MARY W. HART

MRS. ROSEMARY S. MORRIS

PLANNING COMMITTEE

2 yr. term

REV. G. CLYDE DODDER

MRS. LIONEL FRENCH

MICHAEL MCKINLAY

DR. S. J. WILLIAMSON, JR.

4 yr. term

JEREMY BRIGHAM

MRS. ESTHER L. DAVIS ORR

REV. RALPH STUTZMAN

REV. DAVID R. WEISSBARD

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

MRS. BARTLETT BURNS

REV. FRED A. LESHANE

MRS. MAX KASSNER

MRS. GLORIA RESKE

REV. CHARLES S. STEPHEN, JR.

BOARD OF REVIEW

8 yr. term

REV. IRVING MURRAY

REV. EUGENE O. PICKETT

TON E. KELSEY

ANNETH WELLS

The next item of business to come before the meeting was to take action on the report of the Commission on Appraisal including consideration of related proposals to amend the Bylaws.

The proposal relating to subsections (1) (2) and (3) of Section 1, Article V of the Bylaws as set forth in the Final Agenda was amended from the floor to provide Accredited Directors of Religious Education with the same delegate status as ministers. The proposal as amended was defeated.

A second proposal of the Commission to amend Section 2 of Article IX of the Bylaws so as to limit societies to a single participation in the nomination of a President of the Association was adopted.

The third proposal of the Commission to amend Section 5 of Article III having to do with the election of District Trustees which was amended to include part of a change proposed by the Board of Trustees and amended in other minor parts from the floor was adopted.

The meeting then turned to the consideration of other amendments to the Bylaws.

The first proposed amendment which was submitted by the Business Committee was a proposal to amend Article I, Section 1 of the Bylaws to provide for biennial General Assemblies. The Moderator reminded the meeting that the same question had been presented to the 1970 General Assembly and that, as directed by the 1970 General Assembly, a poll had been conducted among member societies. It was announced that the results of the poll were as follows: 245 responded (23%), 209 voting affirmatively and 34 voting negatively.

After considerable debate the proposal was defeated because

the necessary two-thirds majority was not secured. The vote was 381 in favor and 284 against.

A proposal to amend subsection (1) of Section 1 of Article V of the Bylaws so as to provide delegate status for Accredited Directors of Religious Education failed to receive the required two-thirds majority vote and was therefore defeated. The vote was 273 in favor, 159 against.

A proposal to amend subsections (5)(a)(b) and (7) of Section 6 of Article VI of the Bylaws so as to broaden the required sponsorship of items of business and general resolutions was adopted by the required two-thirds majority vote. The vote was 289 in favor and 114 against.

A proposal to amend Section 7 of Article III of the Bylaws to clarify procedures in the election of District Trustees in situations where there has been a failure or invalidity of a nomination or nominations procedure or of an election or election procedure was adopted by more than the required two-thirds vote.

Action on Constitution

A special committee appointed by the Board of Trustees to revise the Constitution and Bylaws presented a document entitled, BYLAWS OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION, constituting a restatement, rearrangement and consolidation of the text of the present Constitution, Bylaws and Rules. As a matter of form provisions now in the Constitution are contained in the Document as Bylaws but are identified in the section numbering by the letter C. The Document makes no substantial substantive changes in the provisions of the present Constitution, Bylaws and Rules.

The Document presented to the delegates for action comprised the text set forth in an Addendum to the Final Agenda (beginning on page II-17 and going through page II-54) amended to include: (a) perfecting changes proposed by the Committee, (b) changes in the text to incorporate in the Document amendments to the existing Bylaws adopted at the 1971 General Assembly.

The chairman of the special committee, Reverend Dwight Brown, described the work of the committee and explained the revisions and additions made in the existing Constitution and Bylaws most of which related to matters of clarification, arrangement, style and introduced modern section numbering. He also explained the changes which had been made since the printing of the Final Agenda. The chairman noted that in the Document the letter C is used to designate Rules promulgated by the General Assembly. Other Rules in the Document are proposed Rules of the Board of Trustees which presumably will be adopted by the Board of Trustees prior to the effective date of the repeal of the Constitution.

The Business Committee then proposed that the existing Constitution be repealed and that the existing Bylaws be amended to conform with the Document in the version presented to the meeting. By vote of the meeting a change was made in Section 10.1 relating to budgets and this change was duly incorporated in the Document. The meeting then took the following action on this final version of the Document, which final version is on file with the records of the Secretary of the Association.

1. Acting under Step I of the present Bylaws, the meeting voted to approve the repeal of the Constitution. The 1972 General Assembly will act on the repeal of the Constitution under Step II.

2. The meeting voted by the required two thirds vote to substitute for the present Bylaws of the Association the text of all Bylaw sections set forth in the final version of the committee's Document, the substitution to take effect if and only when the repeal of the Constitution of the Association becomes effective.

3. The meeting voted to adopt all those Rules in said final version which are preceded by the letter C, said Rules to become

effective if and only when the repeal of the Constitution becomes effective.

A final report of the Credentials Committee was read to the meeting. The report showed that the meeting was attended by 1022 delegates as follows: 780 lay delegates, 226 ministerial delegates, 5 delegates representing Associate Members, and 11 delegates representing the Church of the Larger Fellowship (Unitarian-Universalist). 356 churches and fellowships from 46 States, from the District of Columbia, from 7 Canadian Provinces and 1 foreign country were represented. In addition 26 members of the Board of Trustees who have the right to vote

by virtue of their office were present.

The exact text of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association as amended and in effect at the final adjournment of the 1971 General Assembly are printed in the 1972 Directory of the Association and said text is by this reference made a part of these Minutes.

The Final Agenda referred to in these Minutes by this reference is made a part hereof.

Respectfully submitted,

F. JANE HOPKINS
Recording Secretary

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

(all adopted by at least 2/3rds majority)

PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

BE IT RESOLVED: The Tenth General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association urges the President of the United States:

1. To order the Joint Chiefs of Staff to issue a cease fire to all American troops in Southeast Asia immediately; also, to announce and plan a complete and immediate withdrawal which in no way will be contingent upon the progress of peace negotiations.

2. To cease all aid by the State Department, Defense Department and all other agencies of government which contribute to the military buildup of the countries of Southeast Asia.

3. To promote creation of an interim coalition government for South Vietnam which will include representatives of all political factions of any appreciable size in the country.

4. In recognition of our basic responsibility for much of the destruction in Southeast Asia, to do two things:

a. Create an emergency relief agency charged with the responsibility for providing hospitals, medical care, food, sanitation facilities and housing.

b. Request an immediate appropriation in the amount of six billion dollars to the United Nations Development Program, earmarking it for the development of industrial and agricultural productivity, education, public utilities, public health and social services in the countries of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

CIVIL LIBERTIES

WHEREAS the Unitarian Universalist Association opposes any kind of surveillance of private citizens or government employees; and

WHEREAS, we feel that such surveillance leads to a potential for control and intimidation that is alien to our form of government and foreign to a society of free men and women; and

WHEREAS our society has progressively become more information-oriented, creating a potentiality for abuse and misuse of validly gathered information; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Army Intelligence and others have had at least a few of our Unitarian Universalist churches under surveillance;

BE IT RESOLVED: The Unitarian Universalist Association go on record as opposing any governmental abuse of surveillance whether by means of professional data gathering systems; census forms, federal questionnaires, interviews, Army investigations, wire tapping, or data banks, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association urges:

1. The President to exercise the moral leadership of his office as recommended by the Scranton Report on campus unrest.

2. Support of Congressional hearings to consider the total impact of data collection programs on the preservation of individual rights.

3. Congress to uphold the constitutional protection of individual rights to privacy and the right of an individual to remain silent about himself and herself.

4. That the federal government inform the recipients of these questionnaires of their rights with regard to these forms, including the fact that the forms are voluntary, and the reason for the collection of the information.

5. Citizens should have the right to examine any governmental files concerning themselves. The President and the Congress are urged to issue appropriate executive orders and to pass legislation to effectuate this objective.

6. Urges our members to join and support the American Civil Liberties Union.

RIGHTS OF THE POOR

Believing that the rights of human beings include the rights to minimum income, adequate housing and legal services and dignity in old age, and

Believing that it is the responsibility of government to secure, protect and defend these rights, and to provide appropriate services to implement them;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The 1971 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association urges that the United States Government and the Government of Canada:

1. Provide family income through a program of income maintenance adequate to meet needs for food, clothing and housing; and

2. Commit whatever resources are necessary to provide a decent home for every American and Canadian family; and

3. Enact legislation to achieve equity in tenant-landlord relationships, protecting the rights of both tenants and landlords; and

4. Enlarge legal services for the poor and disenfranchised throughout the United States and Canada, with appropriate funding, without political harassment, manipulation and intimidation.

NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN

Convinced that a federally sponsored health insurance plan has become mandatory in view of the fact that the health care costs have continued to soar;

BE IT RESOLVED: The Tenth General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association urges all member societies to support a National Health Act to be acted upon by the 92nd

Congress of the United States, under which the federal government would provide the legislative and administrative machinery whose provisions would be identical throughout all fifty states of the union, to make certain that hospitalization and medical services and materials be made available to all;

That specifically:

1. Adequate pre-natal, hospital and post-natal care be provided every mother and child.
 2. Family planning, birth control, abortion services and information be made available to everyone wanting them free of charge without regard to age or marital status.
 3. Pediatric care, inclusive of all immunizations necessary, be made available to every child.
 4. Mandatory physical examinations be made of every child before entering school.
 5. Adequate health care for the physical, mental and social well being of the elderly be made available, including provision for custodial and terminal care.
 6. All medical, psychiatric, psychological, dental, ophthalmic and other care and/or devices be provided to every person requiring them.
 7. Medical research be provided for the purpose of extending the life span of men. (According to the 1970 Census, there are 74 men to every 100 women over the age of 65. We feel that medical research should investigate the reasons and possibilities of prevention of the early death of our male population.)
 8. Out patient Family Health (medical and mental) Clinics be available in both rural and urban areas.
 9. That the federal government, in collaboration with competent medical, sociological, and educational authorities, establish a greatly expanded program of medical education, so that an adequate number of people are prepared for the medical and paramedical professions to adequately take care of the future medical needs of all of our people.
- and that this all inclusive health plan be financed by major federal contribution but with participation by local government units, the private sector, and, where possible, by the individual consumer.

CHILD CARE CENTERS

Recognizing that there is widespread need for child care centers, that millions of children in North America are receiving either substandard supervision or no supervision;

Aware that growing numbers of mothers take jobs because of economic necessity desire for job training and continuing education; that child care centers are needed for other reasons, such as illness in the family, special problems of handicapped children, or for other compelling causes;

Acknowledging that the needs of children, our best resources for the future, must receive immediate and special attention;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: The 1971 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association:

1. Urges that highest priority be given in the United States and Canada at all levels of government to funding and activating quality, professional child care centers with effective standards, licensing, inspection, and enforcement.
2. Urges that funding be accomplished additionally through private grants and fees from parents where feasible.
3. Asks that member UU societies initiate study programs so that they can intelligently participate in the structuring of quality centers.
4. Asks that societies of this denomination consider use of their facilities for weekday child care centers.

PENAL REFORM

Recognizing that the rapid increase of violent crime accompanies a vast public ignorance and prejudice about its causes and methods of correction as seen by modern experts;

Noting that the majority of persons arrested are males between 10-30 years suffering such social injustices as poverty, racism, poor education;

Further noting that public pressure for punishment has resulted in barbaric prison and jail systems productive of more crime;

BE IT RESOLVED: The General Assembly urges its members and member societies undertake programs to: (1) educate members and non-members on the failure and inhumanity of punishment and on existing local, State and Federal detention facilities and prisons; (2) stimulate reforms of the present systems of criminal law and justice, giving emphasis to all rehabilitative services; (3) reform practices of pre-trial justice, including Bail Bond programs or others where local efforts can have substantial effect.

ENVIRONMENT

In view of the widespread and serious problem of pollution of our land, air and water;

In view of the rapid depletion of many of our non-renewable natural resources and the dangerous exploitation of our renewable resources, and

In view of the declining quality of life in our towns and cities, with ever increasing noise, crowding, and crime rates,

BE IT RESOLVED: The delegates at the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association gathered in Washington, D.C.

Urge all Unitarian Universalists individually and collectively to inform themselves about the hazards of overpopulation and pollution and to act in their personal and public lives to counteract those hazards in every way possible, and to influence others to act in the same manner;

Urge all Unitarian Universalist societies which have not already done so to establish and sustain environmental protection committees, including political action groups to influence public officials and others to act in environmentally responsible ways, and

Urge all Unitarian Universalists as individuals, as members of groups and as a continental denomination to press for legislation at all levels to diminish the level of pollution and to ameliorate the population problem in the hope that we may bequeath to the next generation a world ecologically stable and ethically sane.

ALTERNATIVES IN EDUCATION

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Unitarian Universalist Association go on record as being disturbed by the inadequacies of current public education and supportive of new educational programs.
2. That local societies work to make available their physical facilities and moral support to persons interested in educational advancement.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to:
 - 1) all local societies
 - 2) American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO)
 - 3) National Education Association
 - 4) Parent Teachers Association
 - 5) New Schools Exchange
 - 6) American Association of University Professors
 - 7) National Teachers Association
 - 8) National Association of University Women