

Minutes of the NAUA Board of Trustees Meeting, February 12, 2025

The February NAUA Board of Trustees meetings was called to order at 10:05 am PST. The meeting was conducted on Zoom. The following members of the Board were present: Rev. Todd Eklof, Ron Strange, Bob Simoni, Lynn Jinishian, Judi Durham, Terry Anderson, Jan Anderson, Marga Hanna, Mike Long and Stephen Polmar. John Wunderlin was absent. The presence of a Quorum was confirmed. Additional NAUA members present: Rev. Terry Cummings and Joyce Kinnear.

The minutes of the NAUA Board of Trustees meeting of December 11, 2024 were approved with a minor revision. The minutes of the NAUA Board of Trustees Retreat/Meeting of January 8, 2025 were approved without revision.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bob Simoni reported that he had opened a saving account for NAUA. At present the balances in NAUA accounts are as follows:

Checking Account	\$ 6,241
Savings Account	\$42,708
Total	\$48,849

During the period 1/1/2025-2/7/2025 there were total inflows of \$5,107.55 consisting of donations and interest. During this same period there were a total of \$ 774.77 in outflows for technology services and website. Bob also announced that NAUA now pays for the Zoom expenses for all NAUA programs including the UUC Spokane Sunday Zoom Group. These costs had been previously paid for by Terry Anderson.

President's Report: Rev. Eklof pointed out that the President of NAUA alone selected the Keynote Speaker for the NAUA Summit Meeting in 2024. In fact, he selected two keynote speakers because the first speaker chosen withdrew. Rev. Eklof asked the Board's agreement that this practice be continued, namely, that the President of NAUA be given the prerogative to select the keynote speaker for NAUA Summit meetings. The members of the Board unanimously agreed. Rev. Eklof stated that he is currently considering Professor Emily Chamblee-Wright as a possible keynote speaker for the next NAUA Summit.

Rev. Eklof asked the Board for their support in promoting a liberal and civil culture amongst our members. He noted that in some groups, specifically naming the UUC Spokane Sunday Zoom Group and the Forum Circle, that disagreements have led to disturbing and unacceptable confrontations and behavior, in some cases causing members to leave those groups. There was some discussion as to means to address this difficult and recurring problem.

Motion by Terry Anderson: Moved that NAUA change the support of its web services to CiviDesk of Montreal and Denver, to pay \$2,450 for costs of the transfer and to purchase a 20-hour service package for \$2,600. Total cost \$5050. The motion was seconded. After further discussion and explanation, the Board unanimously approved this motion.

Planning for Summit 2025: Joyce Kinnear, Chairperson of the Summit Committee, asked the Board to set a date for the 2025 NAUA Summit as soon as possible. In addition, she raised the question of whether the 2025 Summit would be an all on-line Summit or a hybrid of on-line and in-person activities. There was extensive discussion with expression of diverse opinions. Some supported having the hybrid model of both on-line and in person meetings one year and only on-line meetings the next year. Others felt very strongly that the in-person experience was very important and that without that there would be a loss of “energy”. There were also concerns about the quality of the on-line experience in that there were significant problems at the 2024 Summit. It was explained that a professional conference service would be engaged for future on-line Summits so that there would be a high quality on-line experience avoiding the issues that were problems at the last Summit. Others expressed concerns about problems with cross-border travel arising from the current political situation in the United States. Joyce Kinnear expressed the opinion that there was not enough time now to organize a Summit with an in-person experience.

Motion by Stephen Polmar: That the 2025 Summit be entirely on-line and that other opportunities be sought for an in-person social interactive event or events. The motion was passed, 7 in favor, 2 against, one abstention.

As for dates for the 2025 Summit, the end of September or 1st week of October 2025 were tentatively proposed. The Summit Committee will propose dates for the Summit. Joyce Kinnear stated that she would provide monthly updates on the progress and any issues for planning the 2025 Summit meeting. Additional individuals are needed for the Summit Committee. Rev. Eklof Todd asked Terry Anderson to explore organizations that would be on-line conference providers for the support for an on-line Summit.

Discussion of Member Support Ideas: Rev. Eklof provided his plans for member, fellowship and congregational support through a “Church/Worship Store”. This will require formation of a committee which would include other ministers. The store would provide materials for services, such as music, other information and also ways of obtaining pastoral care or other ministerial services. The store could create “space” for entrepreneurial

services by ministers as some are already doing. He pointed out that even fellowships had sufficient financial resources to pay for the services of ministers. However, he viewed the ministerial portal created by Jay Kiskel as a low priority in that there are very few ministers available. He essentially viewed the "Church/Worship Store" itself (or whatever it is called in the future) as the equivalent of a portal.

Judi Durham raised the question of training/education of Lay Leaders for fellowships or congregations and whether this would be a function of the "Church/Worship Store" or of the Member Services Committee. This raised the question of potential overlap between these two committees, which needs to be clarified. Rev. Eklof stated that he planned to have the "Church/Worship Store" functional within this year.

Rev. Eklof, President left the meeting at 11:45 am Pacific Time and Bob Simoni assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Motion by Terry Anderson: Moved that committees that needed to recruit new members be permitted to do so by means of an e-mail announcement to NAUA members. This motion was seconded. After brief discussion this motion was approved unanimously.

Chairpersons of committees that require additional members were requested to submit their request to Joanne Krettek and Terry Anderson who will prepare an e-mail request to NAUA membership.

Motion by Bob Simoni: Moved that a payment of up to \$250 be allowed for speakers for the NAUA Worship Service and for the NAUA Academy. After brief discussion this motion was approved unanimously.

A motion for adjournment was made, approved unanimously and the Board meeting was adjourned at 12:05 Pacific Time.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephen Polmar
Secretary
NAUA Board of Trustees
February 13, 2025