



Unification Church of America
District 3: Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
District Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, October 30, 2012, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM EST

LOCATION: Via conference call

PRESENT: Mr. John Hessel (Interim Chair) Mr. Atsushi Takino
Mrs. Carol Pobanz Mr. Robert Bebe
Mrs. Meadow Tallakson Mr. Hero Hernández
Mr. Hiroshi Inose

ABSENT: Mr. Takashi Yashiro

STAFF: None

I. CALL TO ORDER & CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Hessel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and confirmed a quorum of the Council was present.

II. OPENING PRAYER

Mr. Hessel offered the opening prayer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motioned by Mr. Hessel
Seconded by Mrs. Pobanz

CARRIED 7:0 UNANIMOUSLY

- A. Discuss and nominate an interim District Pastor
- B. Select a Council Chairperson
- C. Select a National Representative

IV. COUNCIL BUSINESS

- A. Discuss and nominate an interim District Pastor

Summary: Valid concerns, from some of the membership, were brought to the Council regarding current District Pastor Dr. Ann's leadership style and decision making: 1) since her appointment, Dr. Ann did not seem very invested in the development of the local community and its members as she was hardly present at the Clifton Church during Sunday services, but spent all her time in New York City at the Manhattan Center; 2) Dr. Ann stopped or closed down several programs that had been running for quite some time before her arrival as District Pastor: Sunday School program, Blessed Family Department, the Choir, and restructuring of the leadership team including that of the local church itself as well as WFWP and ACLC.

The Council acknowledged these concerns, but also considered the circumstances of Dr. Ann's leadership: the top down approach of Lovin' Life Ministries and the possibility that Dr. Ann was obligated to make her decisions. Also, there was substantial backing from other members, stating that she is a big supporter of 2nd Generation education and development and that she has experience in the New York school district where she was responsible for finding solutions to problematic



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District Council Meeting Minutes

organizational systems. Furthermore, the Council desired continuity and stability in the faith community, especially in this period of difficulty. The District had already seen several leadership changes in a short time window. With the independent oversight body of the Council and with Dr. Ann being informed of the community's concerns of her past performance, together, the momentum of District 3's development could build instead of an abrupt stop and restart with a new pastor. Finally, outlying communities in Delaware and Pennsylvania expressed how they had never felt more connected to a faith community than with Dr. Ann.

Some possible candidates were briefly mentioned: Mr. Hessell, Mrs. Pobanz, as well as Jaga Gavin and Dario Farraboli. Mr. Hessell and Mrs. Pobanz did not have an interest being nominated for the District Pastor role and overall, as mentioned, for the sake of continuity, the Council did not pursue interviews with other candidates.

The Council plans to meet with Dr. Ann to address the concerns raised as well as be a guide in assisting her to be more invested in the local community, perhaps to the point of requesting other auxiliary responsibilities to be dropped.

Motioned by Mr. Hessell
Seconded by Mrs. Pobanz

That Dr. Ann be nominated to continue on as interim District Pastor for one year.

CARRIED 7:1
ABSENTEE VOTE (Mr. Yashiro voted YEA Dr. Ann)

B. Select a Council Chairperson

Summary: Mr. Hessell opened discussion for the selection of a Council Chairperson. He suggested that Mr. Beebe would be a great candidate, especially with his advanced academic background, personally, and his experience as principal of New Hope Academy, professionally. He also suggested that Mrs. Pobanz would be a strong candidate. Mr. Beebe countered by sharing that Mr. Hessell was most qualified as a highly respected member of the community and as a business leader. Mr. Hernández shared how there may be a conflict of interest with Mrs. Pobanz as Council Chairperson because of her paid position as a counselor at the Clifton Church. The Council decided to submit an anonymous ballot to Mrs. Pobanz.

Motioned by Mr. Hessell
Seconded by Mrs. Pobanz

That the Council choose Mrs. Pobanz as a temporary liaison to Dr. Ann and that the Council send their votes to Mrs. Pobanz by phone or email. The results would be announced at the next Council meeting.

CARRIED 7:0 UNANIMOUSLY



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District 3: Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
District Council Meeting Minutes

C. Select a National Council Representative

Summary: Mr. Hessell opened discussion for the selection of a National Council Representative. Mrs. Tallakson suggested that Mr. Hernández would be a strong candidate because of his past leadership experience on the national level with CARP. In addition, she explained the importance of raising up the young people in the movement, and what an impactful message it would make to have District 3, the largest district in the country, represented by a 2nd Generation. Mrs. Pobanz suggested that Mr. Beebe would also be a strong candidate for this role in regards to his academic background. Also, Mr. Inose suggested Mr. Hessell for the role. The Council decided to submit an anonymous ballot to Mrs. Pobanz.

Motioned by Mr. Hessell
Seconded by Mrs. Pobanz

That the Council choose the Council send their votes to Mrs. Pobanz by phone or email. The results would be announced at the next Council meeting.

CARRIED 7:0 UNANIMOUSLY

V. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the Clifton Church. The agenda will focus on a discussion with Dr. Ann addressing issues concerning her past leadership approach.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Mr. Hessell
Seconded by Mr. Beebe

That the Council adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM.

CARRIED 8:0 UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes Approved by the Council on November 13, 2012

Respectfully submitted.

Mr. John Hessell
Chairperson

Mr. Hero Hernández
Secretary & National Representative