



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

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**DATE:** Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM EST

**LOCATION:** Clifton Church

**PRESENT:** Mr. John Hessel (Chair) Mr. Atsushi Takino  
Mrs. Carol Pobanz Mr. Robert Beebe  
Mrs. Meadow Tallakson Mr. Takashi Yashiro  
Mr. Hiroshi Inose Mr. Hero Hernández (Secretary & National Rep)

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Dr. Ann I., Mr. Pablo I.

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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. Hernández

Seconded by Mr. Hessel

CARRIED 8:0 UNANIMOUSLY

- A. True Parent's Award nominations
- B. Revisiting the Camp Sunrise lease renewal discussion
- C. Further discussion on District 3 goals and a strategic planning session

IV. COUNCIL BUSINESS

- A. True Parent's Award nomination

Summary: The Council deliberated on the best way to select the nominees for the True Parent's Award. This discussion initially began because of the sheer complexity of the nomination forms and the Council wondered if there was a better, more qualitative (internal qualities) way to choose the nominees.

Mr. Hessel – What is the best method of selecting the candidates for the True Parent's Award? New York is doing a simple vote while Boston is doing a hybrid of voting and merit-based. We have 28 candidates that can be nominated and submitted to HQ, while 14 will be chosen in the end.

Mr. Beebe – Perhaps we can pass ballots out at Church and have people write down the names.

Mrs. Pobanz – I find it difficult to believe that people will eagerly self-nominate themselves for an award. Our members are so giving that it might be uncomfortable for them to select themselves.



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Mr. Inose – We need a very fair approach to selecting the nominee. I think we should allow for a vote and then we as the Council can select the 28 nominees. How do we decide the point system?

Mr. Hessel – If we make it a vote, then it will become a popularity contest.

Mr. Takino – I would like to suggest that we follow the original point system set out by True Parents. This way there is no discrepancy of the standards.

Mrs. Tallakson – I think re-encouraging members to nominate themselves based on the original point system with an email reminder and physically handing the forms out at church would work well.

Mr. Beebe – We should address the point of self-nomination. True Parents want to bestow this award for those who have worked hard. People need to be reassured to nominate themselves.

Mr. Yashiro – I think we can give an extension on the deadline.

Mrs. Tallakson – We should send out an email informing the members that if you need help with filling out the nomination form, please come to church and we will have a table.

Mr. Hessel – Perhaps in the future, we can create new types of rewards to show appreciation for members' hard work for service, caring, etc, and not simply once a year.

Motioned by Mr. Hessel

Seconded by Mr. Yashiro

That we accept the current point system provided by National HQ.

CARRIED 8:0 UNANIMOUSLY

B. Revisiting the Camp Sunrise lease renewal discussion

Summary: Dr. Ann returns with updated information on the Camp Sunrise lease. She has been in communication with Mr. Noah Ross, a Council Member of the New York District and a long time Board Member of Camp Sunrise.

Dr. Ann - Hyung Jin Nim said that National HQ will not subsidize the renewal of the lease. New Jersey will need to put \$7000 up front, along with the New York and Connecticut (part of Massachusetts) districts. Kaye Allen, General Counsel of National HQ, said that there is an option to secure a one year lease. Also, it seems that National HQ will not have a national camp at the same time as us (having one would compete with a local camp and make it more difficult have a critical mass of participants as well as generate enough revenue to justify the lease renewal). With \$7,000 from New York and \$1,000 from Connecticut, it would total \$15,000, which is 25% of the total cost (at least \$60,000) and is the down payment requirement.

Mr. Hessel – I'm glad that the lease option allows for one year. This removes a lot of the risk.

Mr. Yashiro – We need to select someone to manage and be responsible for the camp. Without that and without any plans for workshops and programs, it seems unwise to jump into this.

Dr. Ann – Years before, Mr. Sabourin managed the operations very well and was able to break even.

Mrs. Tallakson – There needs to be an agreement between the three communities to commit to a certain number of events or Sunday services.

Mr. Beebe – What is Mr. David Hunter's summer camp plan?

Mrs. Pobanz – Maybe we can advertise a position for this camp manager role among the three communities?

Mr. Beebe – Having Camp Sunrise doesn't seem to be in competition with Camp Shehaqua.



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Mrs. Tallakson – I'm afraid if we lose it, we will lose it forever. I think we should seek feedback from the community to see if they would be interested in using Camp Sunrise or if there are specific members that would want to host a one day workshop for music or dance, etc.

Mr. Hessell – Is it possible to get a former year's budget or profit loss statement?

Mr. Yashiro – Is this expense within our annual budget constraints?

Mr. Beebe – I wonder who would be able to actually take off from work to dedicate time to be a property manager? Perhaps it could be someone currently on the Church payroll to be selected for the property manager of Camp Sunrise.

Mr. Hessell – I'll try to contact Mr. Ross or Rev. Andrew Compton, New York District Pastor, to secure more details about finances and management issues.

Dr. Ann – There seems to be some interest in a national camp, but is still not clear. Regardless, I plan to have something for the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation over the summer.

C. Strategic Planning discussion

Summary: Dr. Ann spoke with Mr. Robert Sayre, a member from Pennsylvania and one of the core organizers of Camp Shehaqua, to get some insight on strategic planning. He has some experience with strategic planning consulting.

Dr. Ann – I had a meeting with the affiliate organizations (WFWP, ACLC, UPF, etc) and the general consensus from all the attendees was that the larger community does not know nor care what efforts are being made by these organizations. In addition, I want to engage the community in the strategic planning session, to get their buy-in in deciding our District's long term goals. The discussion would also involve how these affiliate organizations contribute to the long term goal of the District. I am suggesting that Mr. Sayre be the lead on the strategic planning session. The community would divide into several groups to allow for facilitation and discussion. Mr. Sayre requires a \$1,000 payment with an additional 50% earnings of all the participant fees. The other 50% would go to the District and used to cover expenses such as the meal, purchase of a book that will be used in the strategic planning (*Managing the Non-Profit Organization* by Peter Drucker) and any extra logistical needs for the event. He suggested the participation fee should be \$40.

Mr. Hessell – What's the goal of this? Would it be to get more engagement? Is it looking for consensus?

Dr. Ann – The purpose is to expand engagement and defining the outcome of the community's long term goals. People need the participation of the concepts of strategic planning and how to take ownership. This education session can bring out the initiatives of the members. It creates a process for facilitation and feedback. Out of these discussions would be the creation of the long term strategic plan for the District.

Mr. Hessell – I'm not sure if Peter Drucker's book would be the appropriate perspective to use to guide our Church, he is a business management professional, isn't he?

Mr. Beebe – In the six month period, I would like to see more specifics on what we would be working on. From my perspective, a big initiative would be witnessing. In addition, I think we need to reflect on how to change the atmosphere of the Sunday service for new guests. New guests remark how cold of a congregation we have, that it's not welcoming for new visitors.

Dr. Ann – It is a reality that many members themselves don't feel welcomed by each other.



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Mr. Beebe – I would like to take a hard look at the Mormon Church. They really know how to take care of new members.

Mr. Takino – I am conflicted in knowing what the best direction for our Church to go? Some circles are saying that they don't want to divide by ethnic group, but in reality, for example, at Sunday service, we mingle and socialize by our ethnic groups to the extent that new guests are alienated.

Mr. Yashiro – I worked with the fish business for 35 years. When an organization gets too big, it becomes inefficient. Every organization has to have a very clear purpose or goal. I experienced how effective things were when we worked in smaller, tighter knit groups with a very specific goal.

Mrs. Pobanz – Ideally, small groups provide the care and nourishment for families and relationship building. And then the Sunday service is a place to come together to reunite and celebrate.

Mr. Hessell – Do we ever want to re-initiate the small group model?

Dr. Ann – I believe if we implement this strategic planning session, I think the community will find their own answers in the strength of the small groups. It has to be an organic answer.

Mr. Hernández – I have a concern if we require members to pay for this planning session.

Dr. Ann – I think it's better so that people who show up are owners of the process.

Mr. Inose – I think we should encourage the members to make spiritual conditions. Combined with these conditions, when the Sunday service is improved, members who attend can have an even deeper experience and embrace each other more easily. So the first step is how to improve Sunday service. We should encourage members to attend on time and even encourage the creation of prayer groups that set a spiritual environment before the service. My suggestion is to create several subcommittees to focus on different key areas.

Mr. Beebe – I agree that we urgently need a Sunday service committee.

Dr. Ann – My ministry team has voiced a desire to have the support and insight of the Council members being involved in the improvement of the Sunday services.

Mr. Takino – Can we continue the subcommittee discussion?

V. SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS THAT REQUIRE FURTHER DISCUSSION

How can the District Council members support the Ministry Team in the different subcommittee areas?

VI. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Clifton Church.

VII. ADJOURNMENT



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Motioned by Mr. Hessel  
Seconded by Mrs. Takino

That the Council adjourns the meeting at 9:30 PM.

CARRIED 8:0 UNANIMOUSLY

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Minutes Approved by the Council on February 5, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. John Hessel  
Chairperson

Mr. Hero Hernández  
Secretary & National Representative