

**ITEM B.200  
FOR INFORMATION**

**JINISHIAN MEMORIAL PROGRAM UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND  
GOVERNANCE COMMISSION MINUTES, OCTOBER 2014**

Draft – Not Yet Approved (until Approved)

Minutes of the Jinishian Memorial Program  
United States Advisory Committee and Governance Commission of the  
Presbyterian Mission Agency Board  
of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Howard High School, Wilmington, DE  
October 30-31, 2014

CALL TO ORDER AND  
PRAYER

The fall 2014 Stated Meeting of the Jinishian Memorial Program (JMP) Governance Commission (GC) of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board was held together with the meeting of the United States Advisory Committee for the JMP (USAC). Martin Lifer, Chair, called the GC Stated Meeting to order on October 30, 2014, at 10:15 a.m. – confirming the presence of a quorum and opening the meeting in prayer. Vicki Gehrt called the USAC meeting to order.

ATTENDANCE

Those present for all or a portion of the meeting were:

Members of both the  
United States Advisory  
Commission (USAC) and  
Governance Commission  
(GC)

Vicki Chopourian Gehrt– Chair

Michael Haratunian—arrived at 10:37 am

Mark Momjian

Amgad Beblawi—Area Coordinator, Middle East, Europe, and  
Central Asia (World Mission)

Additional Members of the  
GC Only

Rev. Martin Lifer—Governance Commission Chair, present Thursday only

Rev. Jack Hodges

Staff

Eliza Minasyan—Coordinator/Executive Director (JMP)

Cara Taylor—Administrative Assistant (JMP), Recorder

EXCUSED

Greg Allen-Pickett—General Manager (World Mission)

MINUTES – May 15-16,  
2014

Upon a motion seconded, the Governance Commission (GC) voted to approve the Minutes of the GC Stated Meeting of May 15-16, 2014. Jack

**PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY BOARD**

**April 15-17, 2015**

**World Mission Ministry Area**

ACTIONS	<p>Hodges voted against (due to formatting not content).</p> <p>Upon a motion seconded, the United States Advisory Committee (USAC) voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the USAC Stated Meeting of May 15-16, 2014.</p> <p>Discussion considered the possibility of writing one set of minutes in the future.</p>
JMP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PROGRESS REPORT INFORMATION	<p>Eliza Minasyan gave overall program progress report. Members of the committee discussed positive opportunities already unfolding with JMP office move to New Jersey/New York, including mutual support with the Karageusian office and many networking opportunities. Louisville office was completely archived, primarily electronically. Eliza thanked Jack and Diane Hodges for their visit to Armenian projects.</p>
COUNTRY REPORTS INFORMATION	<p>Eliza Minasyan presented JMP Armenia Country report by Director Armen Hakobyan, Syria Country Report by Talin Topalakian, and Lebanon Country Report by Pauline Sagherian. Eliza highly valued the work done in the field.</p>
ACTION	<p>Mr. Rafi Habibian (Catholic), was nominated to the Lebanon Advisory Committee. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Governance Commission (GC) and USAC voted unanimously to approve Mr. Habibian.</p>
JMP FINANCIAL REPORT INFORMATION	<p>Eliza Minasyan presented financial reports. Discussion was deeply concerned with inconsistencies in cost allocation and budget changes from the Presbyterian Mission Agency Finance and Accounting Office. Eliza Minasyan mentioned that there will be budget shortage in 2015, since the 2015 budget was developed on different, much bigger total amount provided by Finance and Accounting at the beginning of the year. Country programs already planned for the next year based on the budget provided, and Eliza did not find it appropriate to cut the country budgets now. Board proposed that JMP cost allocation more realistically reflect actual services used and requested that costs be fixed (rather than a percentage) to reflect the JMP office move from Louisville to New York. Motion was seconded and approved to draft letter from Vicki Gehrt, Michael Haratunian, and Mark Momjian. The letter would request a meeting with Linda Valentine before the end of the fiscal year with Vicki Gehrt and Mark Momjian.</p>
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION INFORMATION	<p>Extended conversation brainstormed ideas to provide for congregational resources according to the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly action (11-07) to officially recognize the Armenian genocide. April 26 was designated for observance of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in Presbyterian churches, with accompanying educational and cultural forms of remembrance, and JMP will need to prepare materials for the congregations to use. Eliza also receives requests from all over the US for speakers on the Armenian genocide, and we need to set up a list. Special thanks to Mark Momjian for offering his help in Philadelphia. Amgad Belawi proposed centennial seminar trip to Syria (Latakia), Lebanon, and Armenia in 2016.</p>

**PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY BOARD**

**April 15-17, 2015**

**World Mission Ministry Area**

RECESS The GC and the USAC recessed at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. By general consent, Jack Hodges was designated as acting chair of the Governance Commission for final business and adjournment on Friday.

RECONVENE The GC and the USAC reconvened with an opening prayer by Jack Hodges at 9:30 a.m. on Friday.

PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION REPORT INFORMATION Conference call was conducted with Anita Clemons of the Presbyterian Church Foundation (PCF) and Cambridge Associates Chief investment officer, Max Senter, who serves as lead on investment team of six who advise the endowment fund at the Presbyterian Foundation. Members of the committee expressed concern for apparent underperformance of the Jinishian Fund. Members of the committee asked about the possibility of creating an independent portfolio for the Jinishian Fund within the PCF. Anita will send a copy of the original agreement regarding PCF responsibility to manage the fund and consult with Greg Rousos and Angela Duffy, legal counsel, with response to the committee in three weeks. Payout is projected to drop in 2015 but rise in 2016 if the formula does not change. PCF wants to payout the most possible while keeping the principal up with inflation. The USAC and GC voted unanimously to go into executive session. USAC and GC came out of executive session.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL INFORMATION Jack Hodges distributed report and calendar for Development initiative in southern California. Event will be at Occidental College Saturday, March 14. Mark Momjian will attempt to procure use of Orphan rug from 1890's belonging to Lee Jundanian.

NEXT MEETING The next stated meeting of the Jinishian Memorial Program Governance Commission and United States Advisory Committee was set for Sunday, March 15-16, 2015 in southern California.

ADJOURN WITH APPRECIATION AND PRAYERS By general consent, the Governance Commission and the USAC respectively agreed to adjourn their respective meetings together with prayer. Vicki Gehrt thanked JMP staff and each member of the GC and USAC for their service to JMP. Jack Hodges, on behalf of Chair Martin Lifer, thanked USAC Chair Vicki Gehrt and the staff and students at Howard High School for their hospitality. Amgad Beblawi offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Vicki Gehrt  
JMP United States Advisory Committee Chair

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Martin Lifer  
JMP Governance Commission Chair

**PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY BOARD**

**April 15-17, 2015**

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Eliza Minasyan  
Jinishian Memorial Program Coordinator/Executive Director

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Cara Taylor  
Recorder