



American Ethical Union

Inspiring Ethical Communities

2 West 64th Street • New York, NY 10023 • www.aeu.org
Phone 212.873.6500 • Fax 212-624-0203 • office@aeu.org

ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Report for Assembly Planning Committee

Chair(s): Carolyn A. Parker, Lawn'ence Miller

Please provide brief updates on the following areas of your Committee that occurred or developed during 2020:

Committee's Mission/Purpose:

Mission	Committee Responsibilities	Member Responsibilities
Plans and prepares for the AEU national Assemblies, educates members on AEU's projects/programs.	Manages programming and logistics for conference, Writes 2 Dialogue articles a year, Hosts Assembly and evaluates feedback	Attend meetings/calls, Answer emails, contribute to committee work

Programs/Projects:

The Assembly Planning Committee began meeting to plan Assembly 2020 in 2019, just as it began planning Assembly 2021 in 2020. The Committee's activities in calendar 2020 include:

- Regular monthly meetings to set up a plan for holding a business meeting during the planned World Humanist Conference in Tampa;

- Shifted planning to hold a virtual business meeting due to the spread of COVID-19;
- Engaged in additional subcommittee meetings (with input from NYSEC and Board representatives) to plan educational programs to precede the business meeting.

During Assembly 2020, participated in pre-business discussion group concerned with Assembly and provided advice regarding policy proposals. Committee (and Board) member John McCormick led discussion meetings regarding proposals for Assembly 2021 and delivered an amended recommendation to the Assembly, which passed: To hold Assembly 2021 virtually and for the Committee to recommend to the Board, but January 31, 2021, whether to hold Assembly 2022 in person or virtually.

The Committee immediately followed Assembly 2020 with a lengthy discussion of “lessons learned.” The Committee then began monthly meetings to plan Assembly 2021.

Assembly planning includes:

- Coordination with the Board to facilitate delegate discussions prior to the business meeting,
- Selection of theme and call for presentations,
- Development of program pattern (number of tracks, number of sessions, etc.),
- Logistics, including in-person meeting needs and use of technology, and
- More.

Goals for 2021/2022:

- Continue work to provide technology and promotion for Assembly 2021.
- Assess successes and problems with Assembly 2021.
- Pivot to plans for 2022: Theme, venue, program pattern, etc. (The Assembly Committee, following the mandate it was given in Assembly 2020, did recommend to the Board, in January 2021, that Assembly 2022--the business meeting and discussion sessions--be held virtually. However, the Committee could not make a recommendation regarding the educational programs typically associated with Assembly without more information regarding the desired format.)