

Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Committee
Conference Call Meeting Notes
April 25, 2011

Present Members: Scott McNeill; Michael Sallwasser, *Co-chair*; Arthur Tackman; Jonipher Kwong; Wendy von Zirpolo, *Co-chair*

Not Present: Connie Brown; Helen Boxwill; Natalie Fenimore; José Ballester, *Board Liaison*; Taquiena Boston, *President's Representative*; Alex Kapitan, *Staff Support*

Start Time: 7:00 PM Eastern Time

End Time: 7:45 PM Eastern Time

Note: beginning of phone call was not recorded.

Topic	Discussion	Decisions/Actions
Check-in – Michael	Committee members checked in.	
Meeting at GA – Michael	<p>Scott reported that JTWTC will meet at General Assembly Friday 7am-8am, Saturday 7am-8am, and Sunday 7am-9am.</p> <p>Arthur asked if anyone is working on any kind of agenda for GA that members will have in advance for what topics will be covered. Michael shared that no one is currently working on it but perhaps that could be a topic for the May conference call. Arthur suggested that people submit suggestions before the May call. Wendy offered to send a list back to everyone of all the things people have suggested, before the call.</p> <p>Conversation about possible locations for meetings.</p> <p>Arthur asked for a round-up of all GA times JTWTC's presence is required at. Thursday 11-12:30: gathering with ComCom/NomCom. Plus meeting times above.</p>	<p>Scott will send this info via an email.</p> <p>Everyone: submit suggestions for GA agenda.</p> <p>Wendy will send a list of suggestions back to everyone.</p>
Post-GA ARAOMC training – Michael	Natalie, Jonipher, and Scott will be attending the training.	
Update on discussion with the Board – Wendy and Michael	<p>Wendy reported that JTWTC received a go-ahead that no matter what decision the Board makes about the committee, the three things presented make sense as next steps. Wendy (in person) and Michael (via phone) met with the Board at their April meeting for over an hour. They are evaluating their relationship with many groups, not just JTWTC, talking about whether each should stay a board committee, whether the charge needs to change, etc. Wendy and Michael presented the three ideas for next steps with the caveat that unlike the past, JTWTC felt that engaging with more than one would be a good idea, but that JTWTC was looking for feedback around any decision they've come to around the committee's role or if they thought that one or more of the ideas would fit regardless of their decision.</p> <p>1. Accessibilities, 2. Board itself, and 3. looking back at effectiveness of former JTWTC reports (was</p>	

	<p>tabled for the time being).</p> <p>Wendy reported on the accessibilities idea to the board: talking about how it would be more encompassing than the original accessibilities report, may well be as broad as where we are as a faith around accessibilities—whether we simply want people to have access to our building facilities, or whether we see it as a social justice issue, seeking full participation of people living with disabilities, and engagement in the world in areas of concern for people living with disabilities as part of all that.</p> <p>Michael reported on the Board itself idea: sharing that it wouldn't just be looking at policies and languaging, but the effects of their policies on advancing ARAOMC in congregations, from a number of different angles. Both narrow and broad.</p> <p>Nancy Bartlett reported from the Committee on Committees that they hadn't figured it all but 1. the liaison position isn't the best way for the Board to have a relationship with committees. Wendy and Michael shared that that wasn't a sticking point for them. The conversation turned to the importance of this work, the charge from congregations at GA that lead to the formation of JTWTC... Wendy asked whether it was fair to say that it wouldn't make sense for this committee to be a staff committee, and whether it would make sense for the JTWTC to move forward in any of these areas with the understanding that if they moved forward especially with the Board idea, there would be another conversation about how the process could work. Left with an affirmation that yes, JTWTC should go ahead.</p> <p>There was discussion about how it would be great if <i>this</i> is how JTWTC interacted with the Board. They were excited about the level of conversation that happened. Wendy thought that what made it effective was the process JTWTC had electronically about those areas ahead of time.</p> <p>Michael shared that he felt there was a validation of JTWTC's past work and that the Board thought all three ideas sounded worthy.</p> <p>Arthur asked if they were still working on whether the board was still working on how JTWTC would relate to the UUA and the Board, and Michael and Wendy said it felt like JTWTC would continue to be a Board committee based on the conversation.</p>	
<p>Things to lift up – Michael</p>	<p>Michael asked whether there were further things folks would like to share about what should be lifted up during the report that Wendy and Michael will be making at GA to the Board on JTWTC's last report, and/or what is brought to the ComCom and NomCom during lunch on Thursday at GA.</p> <p>Arthur shared that a conversation did happen online about what should be lifted up, and thought that the ideas Scott offered were right on target.</p> <p>Wendy could see one following from the other (re: the two gatherings at GA).</p> <p>Michael commented that Wendy and Michael will talk in May and pull together all the suggestions people had about what should be lifted up and prepare an outline for how JTWTC will proceed with each of the two meetings at GA.</p>	<p>Wendy and Michael will talk in May and pull together all the suggestions people had about what should be lifted up and prepare an outline for how JTWTC will proceed with each of the two meetings at GA.</p>

<p>JTWTC next step(s) – Michael</p>	<p>Michael asked how folks would like to make the decision about what our next step(s) will be—whether the decision should be made over the phone in May or during the face-to-face meetings at GA.</p> <p>Arthur asked whether there will be a JTWTC plenary report this year. Wendy shared that she asked for 5-6 minutes.</p> <p>Wendy suggested that JTWTC engage in a process of talking about how they would engage with each of the three ideas, and then lay out a plan of action at GA, including expected outcomes.</p> <p>Scott shared that he would like more voices present. Arthur shared that he didn't feel there was enough time between now and GA to do anything in depth. Michael likes Wendy's idea. Wendy shared that it feels like a face-to-face thing, and Scott agreed.</p> <p>Michael suggested that past reports be assessed serially/chronologically rather than trying to assess all of them at once. Wendy offered that that is the sort of thing that may be best captured in a discussion together, face-to-face.</p>	
<p>Notes for next meeting</p>	<p>The next meeting will be Monday May 23 at 7pm Eastern (to avoid Memorial Day).</p>	<p>Alex will send this note as a separate email.</p>

Respectfully submitted,
Alex Kapitan
May 9, 2011