

Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Committee
Conference Call Meeting Notes
October 25, 2010

Present Members: Helen Boxwill; Connie Brown; Michael Sallwasser, *Co-chair*; Arthur Tackman; Wendy von Zirpolo, *Co-chair*; Jonipher Kwong (had to leave early); Taquiena Boston, *President's Representative*; José Ballester, *Board Liaison* (lost reception a few times)

Not Present: Scott McNeill; Natalie Fenimore; Alex Kapitan, *Staff Support*

Start Time: 7:00 PM Eastern Time

End Time: 9:00 PM Eastern Time

Topic	Discussion	Decisions/Actions
Opening Words – José	José offered the opening poem "Child of the Americas" by Aurora Levins Morales.	
Reading from Our Covenant – Helen and Arthur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize and affirm that we learn, process, and articulate in unique communication styles, considering how our communication styles affect others – Helen Promote dialogue by listening to understand with an open heart and mind – Arthur 	
Brief check-in – Wendy	Committee members checked in.	
Quick chat re: Alex Kapitan and Tracy Ahlquist – Wendy , Arthur , and Taquiena	<p>Tracy did not leave because of the report! Restructuring of the staff group allowed for new opportunities. Big thanks to her.</p> <p>Alex comes bearing similar resources and skills as Tracy; was previously at Beacon Press; is happy to be joining the group!</p>	
Board Report-Writing Process Discussion (post-meeting)	Helen shared feelings that the process was not what she hoped it would be. Concerned that not everyone's voice was heard, that deadlines weren't held (which affected others), that not everyone was able to contribute. Connie expressed having a lot to say but not being able to at the time. Wendy offered the idea that it would be good to eventually process this face-to-face, maybe doing more covenant-building. Jonipher thought that people had different ways of meeting deadlines, and wonders if there's a way to reconcile those differences. Michael is also looking for a face-to-face conversation or at least one that everyone was present for.	Everyone agreed that the best way to address this issue is to make it a major item on the agenda at next face-to-face meeting.
Reception of the Report	José reported that the report was well written and well received. The Board received two massive reports at once, of which this was one. The <u>Committee on Committees</u> took to heart some of the criticism and wants to move forward on how to educate on cultural competency—wondered if the JTWTC would consider doing a workshop at GA on cultural competency. The <u>working group on right relations</u> thought it would be a great opportunity to include JTW as part of the anti-racism training after GA when there are new trustees and members of committees; that will be brought up in April. Also, one trustee has requested that the Board have a discussion in April about the report and the future role of the	

	<p>JTWTC, in terms of its relationship to policy and possible restructuring of the Board. January meeting will be full of Phoenix. Entire Board of trustees has not discussed the report yet (may do so in 11/18 conference call).</p> <p>Wendy asked if JTWTC chairs might be able to be part of the Board's conversation. José said yes. Connie asked if the Board might be interested in the JTWTC's sense of where they might go from here, and José said he thought they would. Michael is concerned with the idea of being in a state of suspended animation until April and what we would be doing between now and then. Wendy asked if there's any chance it could be addressed earlier than April. José said it wouldn't happen in January, but it could come up at one of the earlier conference calls. Helen shared that it affects the decision about when JTWTC would next meet. Michael asked if it was possible for there to be a working group of the Board that would work with the JTWTC to bring something to the Board for the April meeting. José said that yes, Chuck Wooldridge, the chair of the right relations working group, could serve that role.</p> <p>Wendy offered that the decision about when the JTWTC meets next needs to happen right away; but wonders that if the JTWTC decides to go to GA should it prepare/sponsor a workshop on cultural competency and/or whether we would participate in a post-GA training—both of those things would give JTWTC a platform from which to share the report. Connie feels that JTWTC has a lot of work to do including processing the report process and brainstorming ideas for a potential next report, and trying to mesh that with the policy/governance piece; would like to see the JTWTC offer the Board some ideas on how the committee might mesh with the current policy/governance adoption current and future. Also feels strongly that cultural competence is not a training, it's a process. Arthur seconded Connie's thoughts; said we need to decide whether to continue as before or go forward in a new way and also go to the Board in April with a plan.</p> <p>Wendy asked if Connie was expressing a wish for a spring meeting. Connie thinks the work could start over phone conferences etc. but would be good to be brought together in a face-to-face meeting. Michael said that the Board ultimately sees itself as making the decision, but it would be remiss for us to wait for them to tell us what to do. Thinks the JTWTC might want to stay away from developing a specific training and look more at the more global view of how to get there; the different modalities that promote cultural competence.</p>	
Whether to have a Spring Meeting or Go to GA	<p>Helen? said that it seems like given the things on the table, we would need to meet ahead of time. Wendy reminded everyone that the budget firmly won't allow it. Helen offered the idea that a GA workshop could be planned without the entire committee attending, like a panel. Connie brought up the fact that some committee members will be at GA anyway and the JTWTC would necessarily have a presence, and wondered if any partial funds might be able to play a part in things. José relayed that at this GA more than half the Board will be turning over (10 new trustees).</p> <p>Arthur put in a vote for GA as opposed to a spring meeting because of the greater exposure. In terms of putting something together for the Board meeting in April, the JTWTC wouldn't be able to do much at a spring meeting for that anyway given the timing. Connie offered the idea of considering some kind of partial subsidy of each. Wendy is a firm believer that budget reductions should not be transferred to</p>	<p>Straw poll resulted in 4 votes for GA, 2 votes for April meeting, 1 vote torn, 2 people absent.</p> <p>Wendy will send a brief email to update Natalie and Scott, ask them to listen to the listen to the call, weigh in on GA vs.</p>

	<p>members' shoulders. Thinks there's a lot that can be done electronically and that GA offers more opportunity to disseminate the report but also knows the committee would put a spring meeting to good use, particularly in terms of team building.</p> <p>Helen? asked how much time JTWTC would have together at GA to work as a group together; would we be able to come a day early or late? Wendy feels that the committee would have to make the space and would have to start scheduling now and that there are some appropriate options there. Taquienna asked how many JTWTC members have never been to a post-GA training: Connie, Arthur, Jonipher. Taquienna thinks that the Board would cover expenses for that training. Wendy felt it's fair to say that if GA was chosen, the next step would be to look at the budget and see if everyone could be there a day or two early.</p> <p>Discussion/overview of GA schedule and everyone's general availability.</p> <p>Original dates planned for spring meeting were April 7–9; Connie isn't able to make it. Wendy recalled that the straw poll in Boston returned relatively even results; proposed a new straw poll with the GA option including a commitment to a minimum of 4 hours together. Straw poll taken; see right column for results. Connie was torn because of the process work she feels is needed, the idea of waiting that long to do it, and what she sees as the impossibility of doing that work at GA. Helen shared that she doesn't think the process work could be done on the phone, but a lot of other things could be done on the phone. Arthur was concerned that the process work would be taking place so long after the fact.</p> <p>Wendy offered the possibility of designating a subgroup to design/ shepherd a process around processing and offer a recommendation, and another group to be in touch with Chuck Wooldridge about the future of the JTWTC, and a third group to be in touch with Chuck and also Nancy Bartlett about the JTWTC's GA involvement. The JTWTC November conference call could include updates. Helen thinks it's a good idea, possibly the best we could do. Michael still prefers an April meeting over GA but would gladly go with a group decision otherwise. Connie doesn't think process work is viable for GA.</p>	<p>April, and pick a group; will also outline who signed up for which group.</p> <p>GA group: Jonipher, Arthur, José</p> <p>JTWTC future ideas group: Arthur, Michael</p> <p>Process group: Helen, Connie, Wendy</p>
Covenant Observation – Helen and Arthur	Helen and Arthur offered covenant observations.	
Notes for next meeting	Next meeting November 29; will open in silence; José and maybe Jonipher or Natalie to offer covenant readings and observations.	
Closing Words – Wendy	Wendy offered a closing word.	

Respectfully submitted,
Alex Kapitan
October 26, 2010