

Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Committee
Conference Call Meeting Notes
November 29, 2010

Present Members: Michael Sallwasser, *Co-chair*; Arthur Tackman; Jonipher Kwong; Taquiena Boston, *President's Representative*; José Ballester, *Board Liaison*; Scott McNeill

Not Present: Helen Boxwill; Wendy von Zirpolo, *Co-chair*; Connie Brown; Natalie Fenimore; Alex Kapitan, *Staff Support*

Start Time: 7:00 PM Eastern Time

End Time: 8:00 PM Eastern Time

Topic	Discussion	Decisions/Actions
Opening moment of Silence		
Reading from Our Covenant – Scott and Jonipher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ speak directly with persons with whom we have a concern or question – Michael ▪ clearly state our needs for a response, input, assistance, clarification, break, and support to each other as soon as possible – Jonipher 	
Check-in – Michael	Committee members checked in.	
Google Group – Michael	Michael relayed the suggestion that a google group listserv be used to streamline email communication. Jonipher suggested making the minutes available on the google group. Others, including Arthur , asked that it be an additional option but not a requirement for everyone to use.	Alex will set up the google group and email everyone about it.
Status, General Assembly group – Jonipher, Arthur, José	<p>Michael passed along Wendy's comment around trying to line up connections with both the Nom Com and the Com Com for face time with JTWTC to discuss the report. The Nom Com asks that we select a non-plenary time and they will plan on joining us. The Com Com response was also positive but suggested that perhaps the joint (existing) NomCom ComCom joint luncheon would be a good time. What do we think of selecting a time to invite any and all Committee chairs?</p> <p>Arthur reported that meeting the deadline for GA program proposals seemed unfeasible and past JTWTC workshops hadn't seemed that effective in the last few years. Meeting with the committees in person would give them the opportunity to have conversation about the report. Michael reported that both Michael and Wendy have talked to committee chairs. Nancy would like to have JTWTC present the report to the ComCom. Arthur offered that it should be up to NomCom and ComCom what would work best for them. José agreed.</p> <p>Arthur brought up the issue of giving a brief report on the report at the plenary, which is something that is typically done as a matter of course.</p> <p>Arthur also brought up the agreement to have a JTWTC meeting at GA for at least 4 hours, and offered that extending that amount of time might be in order depending on what needs to be accomplished.</p>	<p>Michael and Wendy will get back in touch with reps from ComCom and NomCom about joining their luncheon and doing a meeting afterward that others would be invited to.</p> <p>The GA group (Jonipher, Arthur, José) will take the lead on soliciting topics from the rest of JTWTC for a meeting at GA.</p>

	<p>Michael suggested working that out as time goes on and José concurred. Jonipher suggested that a survey be sent out to all JTWTC members asking what everyone would like to see accomplished at GA. Michael suggested it being something that could go on google docs.</p> <p>Michael asked if folks would like to have more people in the room hearing the report than just NomCom and ComCom. Arthur suggested that it be worked out by principle groups that are involved. Michael offered that another audience that we might consider inviting would be folks from different advocacy groups, like Equal Access or DRUUM, so that our recommendations get adopted.</p> <p>Michael suggested doing the NomCom ComCom joint luncheon and then propose a meeting afterward that we could invite others to. José is in favor.</p> <p>Michael suggested that the GA group take the lead on soliciting topics from people for a meeting at GA. Jonipher and José agreed.</p>	<p>Michael and Wendy will take the lead on reserving 5 minutes of plenary time.</p>
<p>Status, Future of JTWTC group – Michael and Arthur</p>	<p>Arthur offered that this may be a good time to discuss where JTWTC is going, after finishing a 2.5 year report-writing process. How effective have we been in assessing and monitoring – doing a study and publishing a report (3 reports completed thus far)? Have we been effective in the last 3 years? For one thing, do we need to talk specifically about accessibility, as something that was rolled into the JTWTC at a certain point without being fully addressed? Where are we going, what’s the best way to get there, and what should our role be? This might be something that the committee should discuss.</p> <p>Michael added the questions: have we effected change? Is there a way for us to determine the progress? Policy/governance may not affect our mission but it may affect our accountability – perhaps we would report to the administration rather than to the board. Also, Michael thinks that advising, counseling, and doing trainings would be getting away from our original role.</p> <p>Scott doesn’t feel like he has the ability to offer feedback or imagine what other methods might exist. José wondered what the relationship will be under policy/governance, since GA charged the BoT with setting JTWTC up. Jonipher also feels too new to speak to what has worked in the past and asked if there is a place where research on this could be done. Michael offered that the JTWTC hasn’t ever taken on the effectiveness of their reports, and wondered if we should look for outside expertise on how to best assess and monitor and other techniques we might consider. Scott and Jonipher like that idea. Jonipher added, however, that if it ain’t broke don’t fix it. Scott doesn’t feel the personal need to change anything but likes the idea of getting thoughts from others who have done this.</p> <p>Taquienna offered thoughts on effectiveness vs. success as something that folks at the UUA are thinking about currently, and wondered where the last report might intersect with some of the work in the Multicultural Growth portfolio around developing leadership resources for UUs to develop more multicultural competency. Michael asked Taquienna if she had any sense of where we might find other groups doing assessment and monitoring who we could talk with or read reports by. Taquienna offered that the Methodists have a commission on race but doesn’t know how much assessment they’ve done but they’ve put out a number of resources for their congregations. Also, some non-UU groups have surveyed different groups doing anti-racism work—Taquienna offered to look up one report that she</p>	<p>Arthur and Michael will take on drafting what questions might be asked in a survey monkey to people who have been the subject of JTWTC assessments, as a way of working toward an understanding of JTWTC’s effectiveness.</p>

	<p>knows of.</p> <p>Michael suggested perhaps sending a survey monkey to the folks who have been the subject of JTWTC assessments and ask if they read the report, found anything useful in it, are there things they've adopted in response, were certain sections more useful than others, etc. General sentiments of approval were given by several JTWTC members.</p>	
Status, Process Group – Helen, Connie, Wendy	<p>Connie and Wendy (via Wendy's email) would like to include members from each of the board report groups in this subcommittee's process for a call most likely in January. Volunteers were not nailed down but strong support for this idea was expressed.</p> <p>In Wendy's email she also gave the thought of developing an online process to capture positive as well as negative experiences folks had during our time together as fodder for future conversation and plans for team building, saying that if folks favored that idea, she could put something up relatively easily on survey monkey. This was not discussed on the conference call.</p>	
GA Reimbursement – Michael	<p>Michael recapped that folks will only be reimbursed for a shared room, possibly only up to Saturday night. José said that he believes there is a post-GA ARAOMC training on Monday. Michael said that attending this would be covered by the board. Scott and Jonipher and Natalie have not yet attended this training. Michael reminded everyone to make travel reservations promptly in March.</p>	
Covenant Observation – Scott and Jonipher	<p>Michael offered a covenant observation in Scott's place, who had to leave just before the end of the call. Jonipher also offered a covenant observation.</p>	
Check-out – Michael	Committee members checked out.	
Notes for next meeting	Next meeting December 27.	

Respectfully submitted,
Alex Kapitan
December 1, 2010