

Journey Toward Wholeness Transformation Committee
Conference Call Meeting Notes
February 28, 2011

Present Members: Michael Sallwasser, *Co-chair*; Arthur Tackman; Jonipher Kwong; Helen Boxwill; Taquiena Boston, *President's Representative*; Scott McNeill; Natalie Fenimore (a little late); José Ballester, *Board Liaison*; Alex Kapitan, *Staff Support*

Not Present: Wendy von Zirpolo, *Co-chair*; Connie Brown

Start Time: 4:35 PM Eastern Time

End Time: 5:35 PM Eastern Time

Topic	Discussion	Decisions/Actions
Opening words – Scott	Scott read a poem	
Reading from Our Covenant – Helen and Natalie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helen: respond, give input, assist, clarify, offer a break or give support ▪ Helen (for Natalie): continue to learn more about the diverse perspectives of those who experience discrimination in our community 	
Check-in – Michael	Committee members checked in.	
<p>April Board Meeting – what will chairs present? – Michael</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elements of Report to Highlight • Possible Next Steps for JTWTC 	<p>Michael shared that his understanding is that Wendy and Michael will be going to the April board meeting, but still waiting to hear from committee on right relations for confirmation.</p> <p><u>Elements of report to highlight:</u> Arthur shared that he wasn't sure he understood the thoughts Michael had sent in his email. Michael reviewed them. José confirmed that the issue of cultural competence and diversity of the board was a hot topic for the board right now, and that it will be a crucial issue as the board tries to reduce itself and deal with policy governance. Helen recommended not lifting up the Limits of the report being due to being a committee of volunteers. Scott shared that he was feeling lost in the conversation about changes to come but agreed that it was important to discuss how difficult it can be to find good folks who are culturally competent and how intentional that must be.</p> <p>Helen asked a tangential question of how many JTWTC members haven't gone through the ARAOMC training after GA, but the question was not answered.</p> <p>Michael commented that if the board reduces its size, it's not clear whether there will still be a committee on committees, and asked if there was anything in the JTWTC report that would give them the sense that they should retain that committee? Natalie shared that the report reflects the fact that both ComCom and NomCom have the role/responsibility to hold the board accountable, and someone has to implement JTWTC's recommendations. Scott wondered if members should look at the report and email any further recommendations for things to lift up. Scott, José, Helen, and Jonipher commit to doing so.</p> <p>Michael asked José if there are other changes that the board is contemplating. José shared that proper diversity on the board is definitely something that has come up, and wonders how we can evaluate what</p>	<p>Scott, José, Helen, and Jonipher commit to reviewing the report and emailing any further recommendations for things to lift up at the April board meeting.</p> <p>In closing, members were invited to email whatever they think should be lifted up—which recommendations are most important—and anything else they want Michael and Wendy to bring to the board.</p>

	<p>is being done and who is being put into place. Taquierna shared that it is further complicated in terms of how the UUA has evolved around anti-oppression / multiculturalism.</p> <p><u>Possible next steps for JTWTC</u>: Michael asked the question, Do we want to be in a position of developing programs/curricula, identifying them, or evaluating them? Arthur shared that he isn't sure who decides that – before his time the JTWTC decided not to go the route of developing programs/curricula. Michael conceded that the decision isn't JTWTC's but we are in a position to make recommendations. Do we want to expand the JTWTC's charge or narrow it? Helen asked Taquierna if there are staff assigned for such a role. Taquierna shared that she has the same questions as everyone else regarding policy governance's effect on accountability and who's accountable to whom. She's not sure what expanding JTWTC's role would look like under policy governance – if it's still a volunteer group how much more would the group be able to take on? or would it be a shifting of responsibility?</p> <p>Michael invited Arthur to review his suggestions for next steps – (1. Effectiveness of 2007 JTWTC assessment and the Accessibilities review at about the same time; 2. Review of accessibilities issue within the UUA; 3. Survey, toolkit, or other things we can do to promote diversity in our congregations as suggested by Connie and Jonipher). Michael asked if folks wanted to prioritize things, and Arthur said that it's hard to do without a sense of things – board has to decide how they're going to handle now 15+-year-old charges. Helen said that it might help to have some feedback from board about ideas raised. Michael offered that he and Wendy could present some recommendations and invite thoughts from the board. José asked if Michael and Wendy are speaking with the whole board or just the right relations committee, and Michael thought it was the whole board but isn't sure if a discussion of recommendations for next steps will be with the whole board.</p> <p>José shared that half the board is leaving at GA, and that they are struggling with policy governance and where responsibility will fall (what is staff work, what is board work?). He doesn't know what they will say about how JTWTC fits into the linkages. Michael is meeting this week with Nancy Bartlett and KokHeong McNaughton about what JTWTC will be doing at GA with ComCom and NomCom (entire JTWTC will meet with the two committees when it's just them—need to talk about what to highlight—and JTWTC will also meet at lunch/reception for all committee chairs).</p> <p>In closing, members were invited to email whatever they think should be lifted up—which recommendations are most important—and anything else they want Michael and Wendy to bring to the board.</p>	
Process Observations – Helen and Natalie	Helen and Natalie offered process observations.	
Notes for next meeting	The next meeting will be Monday March 28 at 7pm Eastern.	

Respectfully submitted,
 Alex Kapitan
 March 2, 2011