

Present: Tyler Kerr, Brian Sellers Petersen, Stephanie Johnson, Weston Matthews, Nathan Empsall, Lester Mackenzie, Delia Heck, Sarah Nolan, Lew Powell, Rob Hirschfield, Melanie Mullen, Andrey Thompson, Mark Richardson, Jack Cobb (OGR)

- Opening prayer
- Introduction
  - Check in, prayer requests
- Update on grant and networking (Brian)
  - Cathleen and Brian on networking, Sarah and Perry on grants. Compiled lists of organizations and lists of individuals to contact when grant application goes up
  - Sarah on grants: Full grant request process with webinars rather than letter of intent process. Draft of grant application sent to task force for comments and approval.
  - Need to set dates on webinars.
  - Two rounds of grants.
  - Both people on taskforce and not on taskforce are WELCOME TO APPLY and will be fairly treated. Those on the taskforce who apply will not be involved in the application review process.
  - Delia on definitions: set deadline to weigh in.
  - On eco justice sites for storytelling: having difficulty finding some to weigh in.
- Andrew on theology working group: Preaching is an important part of environmental theology because of Nathan's survey.
  - Using grants to fund the making of materials for creation care theology
- Thoughts on climate revival:
  - Sarah- Using this as a networking piece for grant recipients?
  - Brian- Help build a larger religious movement through this revival.
  - Andy- some reservations. Thinking strategically about what we are trying to accomplish through this revival.

**(Andy Thompson took over for Tyler Kerr at 3:00)**

(Continuing discussion of revival)

Andy noted the need for strategic thinking about outcomes and being very intentional about doing this effectively, given the resources involved. Others agreed.

Rob mentioned Bishops United Against Gun Violence and events around GC, and how effective those have been. Maybe we should think about this in the context of the next GC? Mark noted that there is a tradeoff there, since GC is so busy; but it maximizes use of resources.

Stephanie J. raised the possibility of some kind of civil disobedience or action during GC in Baltimore. Nathan has participated in events like this, coordinating with local groups to organize something.

Melanie suggested reaching out to dioceses of MD and Washington. DC is planning a revival at their convention involving some kind of environmental justice action.

The group should communicate with Gay Jennings and to HOB to suggest a focus on creation care and environmental justice in planning for GC 2021. This wouldn't necessarily be exclusive of a revival; they could be complementary. This conversation will continue on Basecamp and at the next meeting. The need for clarity about outcomes was reiterated.

Melanie updated the group on the search for an associate. The position will be located in DC. They would like members of this committee to be a part of the selection process. The emphasis of the position would be on communication, networking, support work. The finance office handles much of the grantmaking work.

The climate pledge was successful, and pledges are still coming in. We have close to 2,000 pledges. This has also helped create a list of people interested in creation care in different dioceses.

Stephanie J. listed the various requests for funding from \$110,000 unspecified funds in our budget; we don't have a quorum, we can't make specific determinations now. Andy asked if we could get more information on the Carbon Tracker, get access to it, and find out what dioceses have done with the information from it, in order to assess its effectiveness. Stephanie Spellers cautioned the group to be judicious with this funding to reserve some for opportunities that may arise later in the triennium. Stephanie Johnson will follow up with Marc and Sheila Andrus to update them on this.

Stephanie S. asked when we might have an answer for these items, which are time-sensitive; the next meeting of this group is in July, but we may be able to take a vote by email. Stephanie S. suggested tasking a smaller group to have more substantive discussion and make recommendations to the larger group. Brian, Sarah, Andy agreed to have this discussion; Delia can join after she returns from D.R.

Stephanie J. is still working on finding a date for an in-person meeting.

Submitted respectfully,

Tyler Kerr