

Africa Speaks Continuation Committee 28th April 2020

Present: Edward Elliott, Modupe Ehirim, Jules Ouoba, Liz Patten, Tim Welch.

Absent with Apology: John Gathuku.

1. Devotional & Prayer

Devotional thoughts were shared from Jeremiah 10 and the warning that the people should not be putting their trust elsewhere other than in God. Note verse 23 where Jeremiah prays and says: "We know LORD, that our lives are not our own, We know that we cannot plan our own course...." Jeremiah goes on to pray that the wrath of God will be poured out upon the nations that do not recognise Him. All this points to the fact that we should bow to God's sovereignty in the current pandemic and ask for His protection and His mercy (rather than His wrath) for the world.

A committee member observed that the countries hardest hit so far, have been those with the best medical facilities and expertise. Whilst we are grateful for this, perhaps this serves as a reminder that our trust should not be in (the blessing of) modern medicine, but that we should remember the truth that "Doctors treat but God heals".

There followed a time of prayer, thanking God for His health and protection and praying for the leaders of the nations, those who are ill and also for the LORD's leading for today's meeting.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes were approved.

3. Website Development

(a) Update

At the last meeting, we had received four different quotations and we had agreed to consult with three people who have expertise in this area. We received helpful feedback from two of them. In the light of everything, it seems that Calvary Studios would be the best, followed by Skyline Design. Looking at Calvary's price (around USD\$2760), we understood that we may need additional security and ongoing maintenance.

(b) Discussion of Quotes

Following some quite detailed discussions about Calvary Studios and Skyline Design, it was motioned that we should go forward with Calvary Studios. This was unanimously agreed by the other members. We will give return to one of those who consulted with us regarding this, since they had kindly offered to help us in moving forward. We were reminded of the membership's desire to have a database that they can refer to for contacts of recommended (eg.) editors, printers, etc.

The next step will be to come to a final agreement about the price and to pay the 50% required deposit. We discussed to what extent we are delegating the process of moving forward and to what extent should all of us be involved? It was agreed that matters of budget should be approved by all, but provided we are copied in to significant emails, then Modupe and John can move this ahead but with the freedom to refer back to other committee members if need be.

4. Discipleship Program

We made contact with a potential program developer as agreed last time, but so far have not received a response.

5. New Business

- We thanked Tim for preparing the report to Tyndale House Foundation in preparation for their board meeting this week.
- We continue to wait on hearing from a possible candidate for Africa Speaks director, as agreed by the end of June at the latest.

6. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 20th May at the same times, to be confirmed with John.

7. Prayer

We closed the meeting with prayer.