

Earthcare Working Group

Peace and Justice Committee, Tasmanian Regional Meeting

ZOOM Meeting, 17th May 2020 1:30 PM. Janice and Stephen Blakeney, NW Coast Recognised Meeting, convenors

Welcome.

I acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional and original owners, and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather today and acknowledge Elders – past and present.

A Moment of silent reflection. Wisdom from the Talmud

Quote often attributed to the Talmud: *“Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.”*

Present at this Meeting: **Janice & Stephen Blakeney, Maxine Barry, Lucy Slevin, Karen Dedenczuk**

Apologies: **Peter Jones, Sally O’Wheel**

Members were unified to drafting a “Vision Statement” for the EWG, which may include the words “Realizing our duty to discern, bear witness and act on our convictions to halt the degradation of the earth.”

Meeting dates: Members were unified in the view that future Meetings would be 3rd Mondays of the month at 2:30 PM via ZOOM.

Members were unified to elect specific issues (listed below) to research background resources and share information by means of a common [Google Drive file titled “TRM Earthcare Working Group”](#) to support future and ongoing actions.

Members names listed against specific topics to research/action:

Documents shared:

1. List of Concerns. To begin, are there other ideas that should be considered here? Next, can we consider each idea with a view to finding way forward? Do any concerns need more clarity/acknowledgment amongst the Friends? Have concerns in the list already received action or implementation? How are we led to work with these concerns?

- Human population and its impact of consumption on the world's finite resources (Janice & Stephen)
- Injustice of and lack of sharing those resources with the developing world's peoples (Janice & Stephen)
- Development at the expense of native habitat in ignorance of the recognised conservation practises of Tasmania's native peoples and species extinction (Maxine)
- Acknowledgement of the great harm humankind has imposed on the planet with particular reference to the Australian situation (Maxine and Lucy)
- Realizing our duty to discern, bear witness and act on our convictions to halt the degradation of the earth (Karen)
- animal rights, contribution of animal agriculture to climate crises (Lucy)
- our duty in Tasmania to protect these forests and the incredible natural environment we have here. (Lucy)
- Promote regenerate agricultural practices (including common land usage) (Karen)

Documents uploaded to Google Drive

2. Letter to Tasmanian Regional Meeting 2019 RE: Climate Crisis and Contribution of Human Population
3. SPA (Sustainable Population Australia) Policy Statement: Highlighted sections (by Janice Blakeney)
4. Earthcare Witness "On Human Population" booklet, 2019 from Albany California, Strawberry Creek Meeting, Berkeley CA.

Convenor will circulate Minutes, up load to Google Drive and issue new ZOOM invitation codes.
CLOSE with reflection on the day's gathering, recognising the value of everyone's knowledge and contributions.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 15th JUNE 2020, 2:30 PM Via ZOOM