**Minutes of a meeting of the**

**Intercultural Diversity Commission**

**April 22, 2024**

**7:00 p.m.**

The Intercultural Diversity Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council met on Monday, April 22 2024, in person at Köz Bingöl Turkish Restaurant, North York. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

**Present**: Amy Lee (Chair), Néstor Medina, Amber Lee Rowe, Innocent Karuhanga, Joel Aguirre, Hedy Baker-Graf.

**Regrets:** John Joseph Mastandrea

**Staff**: Kim Uyede-Kai

**Sharing Circle**

The commission members had a time of sharing personal, community, and community of faith news as they arrived.

**Welcome**

Chairperson Amy Lee welcomed everyone.

**Prayer**

Innocent Karuhanga led in prayer.

**Agenda**

The agenda was approved by consensus.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the Commission meeting held March 25, 2024 as circulated were approved by consensus.

**Update on Seoul Presbytery Memorandum of Understanding – Amy Lee**

Amy Lee reported that there has been a meeting of the sub committee of Amy Lee, Richard Choe, John Joseph Mastandrea, and Kim Uyede-Kai to discuss how to proceed. Néstor Medina was invited to attend the next planning meeting. A Zoom meeting to get to know each other first was proposed. There is 13-hour time difference between Seoul and Toronto so timing of the meeting is a factor.

**Annual Meeting Report – Amy Lee**

Amy reported that the Commission’s annual meeting report to Shining Waters Regional Council was due on May 6. Commission members shared highlights they thought should be included:

* Korean language translations of four documents completed
* Gathering of ethnocultural/ethnolinguistic communities of faith ministry personnel and lay leaders
* Welcoming new Commission member, Amber Lee Rowe
* Conversations about PROK Seoul Presbytery and Shining Waters Regional Council Memorandum of Understanding with John Egger and a new sub-committee of the commission
* Supporting the Black Clergy gathering
* Co-sponsoring the disability justice webinar series and panel
* Debriefing the Commission’s presentation and presence at the 2023 regional council annual meeting

All these will be gathered into a draft annual report for Amy to submit.

**Sabbatical Dates – Kim Uyede-Kai**

Kim reminded the Commission of her three-month sabbatical/study leave from August 1 through October 31. New Justice and Faith Formation minister, Shawn Redden, will support the Commission while Kim is on leave. Shawn will join the May commission meeting so she can get to know members.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Zoom on **Monday, May 27, 2024 06:00 PM**

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/83746363611?pwd=a6dayGFIy5bELhgSpB87GYa7AMgG9A.1>

Meeting ID: 837 4636 3611

Password: 511192

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.