

# TNC Meeting Minutes

## June 24, 2024

### Communications

Tim Wesley

- Emergency appeal for food delivery
  - Amazing response from our donors: exceeded goal by more than 10%
  - Sent update through all communications channels
- TNC Social
  - Held June 2...thanks to Molly and Phil!
  - Any volunteers for fall?
- June newsletter
  - Posted today
- Western PA conference video highlighted clinics
  - [https://www.nyadire.org/uploads/4/7/6/4/4764398/tnc\\_featured\\_in\\_western\\_pa\\_u\\_m\\_conference\\_video.pdf](https://www.nyadire.org/uploads/4/7/6/4/4764398/tnc_featured_in_western_pa_u_m_conference_video.pdf)
- Monthly meeting minutes
  - Send to me by noon on Friday before the meeting
- Disbursement of funds requests
  - Allow 48 hours for review

### Engineers Without Borders and Critical Vehicles

Kevin Riley, Christopher Kuwana, EWB CMU students, Dr. Larry and Gashi Chikonyora  
Critical Vehicles

- TNC funds of \$800 were spent to replace the tires on the ambulance. A full fluid and filter change plus overall inspection of this vehicle has still not occurred, nor has required driver training. Reminders have been sent to the Hospital Administration.
- Ralph just signed the Critical Hospital Vehicle Commitment that had already been signed by all required Nyadire partners. He is in the process of returning the fully executed agreement to them.

EWB at CMU

- Biogas project completion and acceptance signing has been deferred from Charity Horiro to new primary school headmaster Tracy Maguze. Signing to happen while the TNC team is there.
- EWB National has defined the NGO for the next project to be the Western Annual Conference of UMC in Zimbabwe. Rev. Austern Chepiri has agreed to be the key contact at the Conference and he has completed the required information along with Gashi Chikonyora from the Nyadire Hospital for the Community Based Organization project request. With the review time needed by EWB National and student travel requirements at CMU, the students have prudently decided to delay the Nyadire Pre-Assessment trip until the year-end holiday/term break.

## Other infrastructure

- Working with electrical contractor Lincoln Nyamusara, three quotes were obtained:
  - Replace the solar batteries with lithium ion and new inverters for the hospital solar arrays at a cost of \$20,500. Mark LaRosa is exploring funding options before we see what funding options are available with Nyadire Hospital administration. This could also be done in a phased approach to spread the cost.
  - Install a solar array and inverter for the only two bore hole pumps without that capability. These are located in the field to the right of the HOH road and supply that side of the Mission. The estimate is \$5850. This would help water supply and substantially reduce the operating cost.
  - Replace one of the pumps referenced above at a cost of \$1030. Hopefully the Shop could do that for less and in any case, after TNC paid for replacement motors and automatic controllers two years ago, the Mission should bear this expense as their contribution if we proceed with B.Critical Vehicles

## Agriculture

Scott Sanford

### Current Situation:

- Farm Dept – Esnath indicates cabbages started sales Monday June 18 ... Planted green pepper 700 plants, Red pepper 700 plants, Yellow pepper 700 plants ... Onions 3,000 plants to be transplanted, 5,000 plants of cabbages to be transplanted, 5,000 plants onions to be transplanted early August ... Water still available behind the Nyaitenga river dam
  - Challenges: Pipes are inadequate, fencing needed around gardens
- Home of Hope
  - The weather is quite cold now and it is affecting crop growth in the garden. Stunted growth is being experienced on most crops now. Our peas are now ready and we are serving to our kitchen and we are expecting to sell to Mission residents and community the extras as they come. Our cabbages are doing well. The tomato crop is a bit slow with cold but are thriving. We have prepared an area for water melon and sugar beans which we intend to plant on the 15th of July. By this time, we will be expecting warmer weather conditions.
  - We had our first fish harvest 2 weeks ago and this first harvest all went to our children. We continue to trim the number of our pigs to reduce the numbers to manageable levels due to livestock feeds due to our very low harvest. We were able to harvest about one and a half tons maize (30 × 50kg bags of maize). With many pigs, the maize will be consumed quickly so we are reducing numbers. Our goat project is doing well.

### Projects:

- Nyadire River Irrigation Project
  - I sent an inquiry to Rev. Mukundu and he responded that they are very interested in the project and had sent a request for funds for land clearing to the central office but have not gotten a response. I sent back a response that TNC is willing to help with planning and getting the project to a stage where there is enough

information so we can write proposals for funding to possible donors. We will need a plan with a timeline and costs estimates. I included a draft of the steps I thought were necessary to get the project to the grant applications stage to request funding from potential donors. I suggested that the first step should be to secure water rights because without water rights, the project cannot move forward. But I do not know who would be in charge of this step.

- Ralph sent a link to an article from UMC news on the drought in Zimbabwe that quotes Morgan Jeranyama, the UMC Ag project consultant that they plan on developing 100-hectare of irrigated land along the Nyadire River.
- Home of Hope
  - Poultry – Grain Storage building: Plastering with the main structure is complete now. Small portions to cover where the open windows on the chicken house side are left. It was not easy for the supplier to find the right kind of mesh wire to put on those openings. Now the mesh is with us. Meanwhile the builders are working on the floors. Emmanuel puts the structure at 80% complete by now. The builder has asked for a final payment of \$3,700. I have asked Emmanuel and Mary Beth to approve that the building is complete before processing the payment.
  - GEP Garden Project – advising as needed
  - Cattle dip tank – no activity

## **Rural Health Clinics**

Ralph Duckworth and Rev. Austern Chepiri

- The total Chindenga project budget is \$350 680.58 with \$30,000 being funded by GBGM.
- No payments were made during May. To date, we have made payments of \$277,134 for the project.
- Work at Chindenga continued during the month and was concentrated on painting walls, part electrical 2nd fix & part plumbing 2nd fix on the Toilet block to Mothers' waiting Home. In addition, Blair toilets and waste management pits were constructed. The MCH Building is 100% complete, the Toilet Block is 100% completed, the Borehole is 100% completed and the Two-Family Staff House is 100% completed. The Waiting Mothers Home Toilet Block is 70% completed and the Fencing and other General Services are 90% completed.
- Phase 3.1 is 100% completed and Phase 3.2 is 90% completed.
- To date, the local communities have delivered 185,000 farm bricks, 80 cubic meters of river sand, 70 cubic meters of stones, 260 cubic meters of gravel, and 100 cubic meters of pit sand to the project.
- Work planned for next month includes:
  - Toilet Block (Mothers' Waiting Area)
  - Painting of walls
  - Floor tiling
  - Electrical 2nd fix
  - Plumbing 2nd fix Duplex Two-Bedroomed House
    - General cleaning

- General Services
- Construction of cooking sheds
- Construction of Blair toilets
- Construction of waste management pits
- The project is proceeding nicely and should be completed by mid-2024.
- Monthly Financial Activity:
  - Balance beginning of the month                      \$56,804
  - Contributions for the month                              \$ 2,763
  - Disbursements for the month                            \$ -0-
  - Balance end of the month                                \$59,567

### **Girl Empowerment**

Bonnie Lawson, Charity Horiro, Crescencia Dangarembga

Ongoing Program:

- Locally purchased GEP supplies (needles, thread and plastic bags) were delivered to Nyadire.
- Requested inventory levels to plan for next purchase.
- Worked with VIM team to gather and pack supplies for GEP and other programs.

Girl Empowerment Garden Pilot:

- Draft of Memorandum of Understanding sent via VIM team to Dorothy and Charity. Using a workbook type format. Thanks to Scott for online resources.
- PPE equipment sent with team.
- Developing handouts for upcoming Inspired Women’s fundraising campaign.

Communication and Fundraising:

- Selling sewing supplies on eBay. Inventory from discontinued machine shipments.
- Developing a pitch and strategy for the next Inspired Women’s meeting. Two new chapters downtown have formed.

Looking Forward:

- After receipt of draft MOU, begin the draft for Conaway Munden fund.
- Follow up with Rotary Contact
- Fundraising: July is the international grant cycle at Inspired Women.
- Review inventory reports

**Next Zoom call meeting: Monday, July 22, 6:30 pm**