

Center for Spiritual Living
Council Meeting Agenda
Monday, November 2nd, 2020 – 7:00-9:00
Zoom ID 647-238-9585

Our Mission is to be an open, expanding and welcoming community that learns, shares and lives spiritual principles.

Our Purpose is to reveal our wholeness and connection with all that is.

Our Vision is to live as Love in a world of Love.

Present: Buffie Finkel, RScP, Larry Gilliam, Jean Hill-Miller, Teri Echterling, Rev. David Robinson, Christi Johnson

Absent: Barb Yanagimachi

Practitioner: Sylvia Schroeder

Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

The meeting, held virtually on Zoom, was called to order by President, Buffie Finkel at 7:00 p.m.

An opening prayer was given by Sylvia.

Mission Moment –A reading by Buffie: Generous Redwoods by Carl Ingram

Scheduling readings - Christi will do the reading for Nov 23rd. Teri will do a reading for the first meeting in December

A roundtable check-in followed, answering the question, “How have I been applying and living our Mission, Purpose & Vision Statement?”

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes from October 19, 2020

- Rev David had changes which he provided, and Christi had clarifications.
- A request was made that the meeting recording be checked for the discussion on the membership of the Benevolence Committee. Was Marlisa named as being on the committee?
- A clarification was suggested that the reference to Santa be expanded to Santa telling a story.
- Teri made a motion to approve the minutes, as changed.
Rev. David seconded the motion. Motion was discussed, voted upon and carried.
Buffie abstained from the vote

Resource Report (People & Money)

- Report on progress of our Investment Policy’s committee work- BF & DR
Buffie read the charge of what the council’s responsibilities are in regards to the Investment account, the Investment policy committee work and the Benevolence fund and wanted to alert Council members that there would be additional work.
Rev. David shared that the committee (Denny, Buffie, Larry and Rev. David) had met twice. They are making progress on the policies and procedures.

- Report on status of pledges – Larry
Larry suggested Rev. David share the latest news.
Thirty-six pledges were received, 45 if you count the couples as individuals. one additional pledge has come in since.
So far \$137,647 has been pledged. Several new pledgers and a few did not repledge. The goal Rev. David has is meeting the pledge level of last year which was \$140,000.
- Budgeting process beginning this week – David
Starting Nov. 3rd, the budget process will begin. Marlisa (bookkeeper), Larry (treasurer) and Rev. David look over the expenses and previous budgets and propose a preliminary budget to be presented to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee reviews the budget thoroughly and after it passes their scrutiny the budget goes to the Council and is reviewed there.
Christi had questions regarding the budget process and service teams budget requests. Rev. David suggests that Marlisa, Larry and he will reach out to service teams that haven't submitted requests yet when they are building the budget. Christi consulted the service team bubble sheet and contacted Ann regarding Spiritual Cinema. Spiritual Cinema requested \$100. Rev David commented that the Spiritual Cinema wasn't in the budget this last year and is not a functioning service team at the moment. The bubble sheet should be updated as the information is outdated. Christi also contacted the lead for the Compassionate Care team co-coordinator Carol.
Buffie suggested that the Compassionate Care team could be another source of support for the community other than the Benevolence fund.
- Annual Report to HO complete –Rev. David
Rev. David reported that the Annual Report to Home Office was completed. Five delegates were named in the report. The CSL-Olympia maintained their pledge level from last year, by pledging \$17,000 this year. Attendance levels, budget information such as what percent of expenses is composed of salary, names of the minister and practitioners, are also part of the report. Rev. David will share a copy of the report with the council.
- Community Development liaison report—Christi
Part of this discussion occurred in the budget process report earlier in the meeting. Christi will contact Diana Palmer regarding the Membership coordinator position. A job description for the Membership Coordinator wasn't found on the admin computer. Caroline will craft another job description.
Angelina will join the Announcement team and Larry will step down. Larry has the spot for the third Sunday of the month. Later in the meeting, a message was received that Angelina will start on Nov. 15th.

Decisions to be Made

Shall we invest in any of our current or future projects?

Buffie posed the question, "Is there any part of our community that needs money now?"

Buffie inquired about scholarship funds. Discussion included that the three foundation courses are pay-what-you-can and no longer need scholarship funds for those.

Discussion of on-going education expenses and the possibility for paying for annual convention fee for practitioners. Rev. David will look at the budget and see if that can be added

Council Learning Opportunity

Report from Mission Increase Foundation presentation-Buffie and David

Buffie and Rev. David attended the Annual Fundraising Plans seminar and shared highlights. Make plans with confident uncertainty. Don't ignore the elephant in the room, but don't overthink it. Learn to be flexible. Develop plans that grow Champions as well as financial resources.

Create a plan driven by our mission and vision, centered in the greater cause we are connected to. Our vision should be so big that money alone will not be enough.

A worksheet was supplied for gathering past fundraising data including the number of volunteers, volunteer hours and other criteria.

Rev. David added more information about the organization that holds this seminar. He also explained their term PEO; Participant; Engagement; and Ownership. The Ownership level people should produce more Participants; as others see the positive changes in the owner's life and they want to participate.

The last few years we were in financial survival mode and now we have turned the corner. Rev. David posed the question "How do we want to invest our resources to have an impact in the larger community, the world? How is our mission and vision changing and growing beyond our CSL community."

Mobilizing Our Mission

- Zoom Chat room Monitor ideas—Buffie
The suggestion is to have a monitor to send a private chat to newcomers and ask if they want to receive our eNews.
Buffie suggested that the Chat room monitor could also post the artist and name of the song as music is played.
Teri suggested that perhaps this could be a volunteer opportunity.
- Community meeting agenda: reimagining Church?—all
Rev. David said there is a video from Home Office that can be shared on the topic. He plans to review it, but has other commitments this week
Rev. David suggested an update on general topics such as the investment program and the policies and procedures, being developed, the budgeting process, staff reviews are underway, pledge totals.

Calendar review

- Sacred Circles begin week of 11/2
- Visioning – 11/7
- Community meeting 11/15
- Sacred Sunday Evening – 11/15
- Employee review deadline 11/30
- Deepening with the Divine Retreat – 12/12
- Budget approval 12/21
- Solstice/Christmas Service 12/20

Parking Lot

Check in with Nova - Rev. David

Next meeting – November 23rd on Zoom

Closing Prayer was given by Sylvia and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Merkel -scribe