

**Center for Spiritual Living  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday November 21, 2022  
6:30pm – 8:30pm  
At CSL Olympia and Zoom**

***Our Mission** is to be an open, expanding, and welcoming community that learns, lives, and shares 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: Rev. David Robinson, Buffie Finkel, RScP, Lorrie Chase, Laura Farris, Beth Thompson, Teri Echterling, Marlisa Johnson, (Ex officio)  
Practitioner: None  
Absent: None  
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

The meeting, held in-person and on Zoom, was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

An opening prayer was given by Buffie Finkel, RScP.

Beth read about Gratitude from Brené Brown's, "The Gifts of Imperfection."

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***

Meeting minutes from Nov 7<sup>th</sup> were discussed. Not everyone was able to review the minutes before the meeting since they were distributed on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. The minutes will be reviewed by email.

There was an additional correction made to the October 17<sup>th</sup> minutes that had been reviewed by email. Teri found that on page 4 the word "or" should have been "our." It was agreed that this change could be made. To the approved minutes.

### ***Approval of financials***

***Rev. David and Marlisa***

Rev David presented the financial report from October 2022.

The new home fund has been expended and closed.

The equipment totals shown on the Balance sheet will change after the inventory has been completed.

Pledge income is at 95% and non-pledge income is at 112% of the budgeted amount.

The Ameritrade Investment account has increased by \$1,554.

Center for Spiritual Living - Olympia 10/30/22		
October Net Income from Operations	Year to Date Net Income from Operations	Ameritrade Investment Value
\$12,224	-\$355	\$56,951

Laura made the motion to approve the October, 2022 financial report. Teri seconded the motion, and it was carried by the Council.

## Resource Report (People & Money)

### 2023 Budget Review

*all*

Rev. David and Buffie discussed the budget preparation process and the 2023 budget was compared to the 2022 budget.

In 2022, there were two important fundraising events, Nourishing Our Community (NOC) and the Holistic Fair, which we were unable to schedule, as we had not moved into the building. These events will be planned again in 2023.

Some classes in 2022 did not receive enrollments sufficient to run. There was discussion around providing the catalogue of class topics to the CSL community and asking for input on level of interest for different topics.

The expected budget, as currently estimated, will have a deficit of \$4,822. There are some unknown factors as there has not been a history yet of the expenses that will be incurred regularly at the Libby Road address.

The budget is revisited in the mid-year to make any necessary adjustments.

The budget is based on the amount expected for pledges, but we are currently about \$10,000 short of that goal. The Finance committee and Budget Team expect more pledges as 2023 unfolds.

There is an expected income of \$3,000 for building rental for events.

Buffie made the motion to approve the 2023 budget as proposed. Teri seconded the motion and the council carried the motion.

### Staff Raises

*all*

Staff raises were discussed and Tiffany left the room for this discussion. After the discussion, Tiffany rejoined the meeting.

Lorrie made the motion that the Council would review the budget in July to determine if it will be possible to give bonuses to staff. Laura seconded the motion, and it was carried by Council.

### ***Staff evaluations***

***Laura***

Staff evaluations are continuing with Brent and Tiffany both having their evaluations on Tuesday, November 22, 2022.

Adrienne has provided Laura some dates for her review.

Sunday, Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm was selected for additional evaluations.

### **Mobilizing Our Mission**

#### ***Harvest from Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Community meeting***

***all***

Discussion about providing time at the January Community meeting for people to be able to vote by placing sticky dot labels on the class topics they were interested in and would commit to attend.

The sound system needs some service. Shani will need to talk to the outside provider for service.

The Community meetings held bi-monthly will be changed from the third Sunday of the month to the second Sunday of the month starting in March.

Suggestions were made for workshops that aren't certificated by CSL.

Rev David's sabbatical was also discussed at the November community meeting.

Council discussed how there have been occasions where people have been working in silos and information was not shared across groups. We need to raise awareness to communicate with others.

Thurston Talk was mentioned as a potential opportunity to get information about CSL services and events to more people.

ACTION ITEM: Buffie will investigate what is required to have information on Thurston Talk.

There will be a visioning session after the January 1, 2023 service for personal visioning and for CSL Olympia.

ACTION ITEM: Buffie will talk to Sequoia about parking for the Dec 24<sup>th</sup> service.

### ***Rental agreement updates***

***Rev. David and Tiffany***

Reverend David and Tiffany have been unable to meet yet to work on the rental agreement.

Rev. David has an agreement from his previous Center in California for a template.

Tiffany did an online search for rental agreement templates that were created for use in WA state.

This topic will remain on the agenda until we are able to provide a template for the council to review.

## **Decisions to be Made**

### ***Community Holiday Giving Plan***

***Rev. David***

The Women's Circle has made plans for a Holiday giving tree that will benefit the Family Support Center's drive for warm winter clothes.

## **Council Learning Opportunity**

### ***Mission Increase report***

***Buffie***

Buffie provided a handout and presented information on effective boards.

Many people attending this session were on large boards. Buffie asked how to increase participation in councils when there aren't a lot of people available.

Council discussed how we can train-up people for participating on the Council.

Strength finder tests and personality tests (like DISC) can be useful in knowing how to work in positions honoring your gifts and how to work with each other.

### ***Zoom experiences***

***Lorrie***

Lorrie brought forward an issue with video for Zoom attendees. There is a black square on the screen that is intended to hold space for a logo. Shani will need a high-quality file of the CSL Olympia logo.

## **Calendar review**

11/22 Evaluations  
11/28 Practitioner Meeting  
12/3 Deepening with the Divine  
(12/10 Buffie to London—just a reminder!)

## **Parking Lot**

Connecting Pledgers event  
Legacy Circle, Benevolence Fund  
Policy & Procedure changes/updates

Include an employee handbook

**Next meeting – -December 5th, 2022, 6:30pm-8:30 pm at CSL Olympia**

Rev David gave the closing prayer.

Buffie adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tiffany Merkel, Scribe