

Center for Spiritual Living  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday April 18, 2023 – 6:30 – 8:30  
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: Buffie Finkel, RScP, Angelina O'Connor, Laura Farris, Teri Echterling, Kathy Gilliam  
Practitioner: None  
Absent: Rev. David Robinson  
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

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

Buffie gave the opening prayer.

Angelina read from Mark Nepo's, Seven Thousand Ways to Listen.

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

## **Debrief Sunday Service**

All

In general, the Sunday service went well.

Sandy didn't have the affirmations and Spiritual practice from Rev. Beaty. There was a comment that someone noticed and missed the slide on these.

Discussion on the talk topics that are provided by home office. Rev. David is co-chair of the committee putting these together. The topics provide a structure to build a talk around for ministers.

This coming Sunday we won't have Brent and Amy. Instead, we have Rev. Andy Anderson as our guest musician.

Discussion on how to take payments for the Andy Anderson concert: Online for cards, Cash or check in-person.

Shani knows about working the extra hours in the afternoon for the concert.

## **Consent Agenda**

### ***Approval of Minutes***

An additional change to the April 4<sup>th</sup> minutes version V2tb, the updated minutes will be version V3. Change Monday March 6<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup>. Buffie made the motion to approve the minutes as they have been amended in Version 3. Angelina seconded the motion. The council voted to approve the minutes as amended.

### ***Approval of Financials***

***Treasurer***

The review of the March Financials will be postponed until next meeting as the Council was not prepared to discuss these tonight.

## **Resource Report (People & Money)**

### ***Finance Committee Recommendation***

***Buffie***

The Finance Committee has made a recommendation to the Core Council:

The Finance Committee recommends that the Finance committee chair appoint two people from membership along with the finance committee chair to perform a full review the 2023 financial books of CSL Olympia.

This would be done after the year concludes so that there is a full year's worth of books to review.

Laura made the motion to approve the financial committee's recommendation. Kathy seconded the motion. The council voted to approve the financial committee's recommendation.

The Finance Committee recommends to Core Council to approve an increase in Rev. David's continuing education budget item by \$1,610 to cover the cost of two events – Grief Facilitator training (\$495) and to attend this year's SOAR retreat (\$1,115). The Finance Committee will re-work the budget as planned after June and will make a budget recommendation which includes this modification.

Discussion by committee of how to support the staff and Executive director. The Grief facilitator training is a benefit to the Center as well. The Council agrees this is a one-time increase.

Angelina made the motion to approve the financial committee's recommendation. Buffie seconded the motion. The council voted to approve the financial committee's recommendation. Laura abstained from the vote.

The treasurer will communicate the results to the Finance committee.

### ***Rental Agreement Costs***

***Buffie & Tiffany***

Discussion of the Rental agreements and the fees that will be charged.

\$25/hr. Fellowship Hall

\$25 for use of dishes.

\$50 for cleaning/custodial fee or \$20/hr. custodial fee. Discussion on how much time it will take for cleaning after different types of events such as if there is food served. General agreement that \$20/hr. for custodial was appropriate.

Remove the \$10 for opening/closing and incorporate the cost into the rental fee.

\$50 fee to for Alcohol use at event

\$35 cooking fee was discussed and decided to be not necessary.

Discussion of \$50 or a percent of the total event cost as a deposit. The choice was for \$50.

Cancellation fee for cancelling within 24 hours of the event. Discussion and decision that less than 24-hour notice of cancellation may result in the partial or full forfeiture of the \$50 deposit. At the discretion of the Center.

Deposit may be used toward final bill.

Change of decorations on the stage only by prior arrangement and with assistance of the host.

A decision was made to vote on the fees that were discussed for the Basic rental agreement, for the fellowship hall and kitchen, without use of the sanctuary.

Laura made the motion to publish the costs of the basic rental agreement for the Fellowship Hall/kitchen. Beth seconded the motion. The council voted to approve publishing the fees for the basic, (fellowship hall/kitchen) rental agreement.

The Council decided to continue working on the Deluxe agreement (basic rental plus sanctuary, altar decorations, AV tech) and get the input of the finance committee.

The goal is to have something online that can be filled-out.

***Hospitality team coordinator***

***Buffie***

Discussion of the need for a hospitality team for our Events.

Council decided to take this to the Community meeting to discuss and get volunteers.

## **Mobilizing Our Mission**

### ***Board Retreat***

***Teri***

The Board retreat will be at Kathy's on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 am.

Since the retreat was not held at Ocean shores, Teri offered to host a beach day on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion of the agenda for the retreat.

Spiral dynamics presentation by Rev. David and Buffie

Uplifting and affirming activities and discussion.

Parkour Croquet, trust falls and Ziplining.

Teri will draft an agenda to share next time.

Kathy will prepare a light lunch or everyone can bring their own lunch.

### ***Open House Planning***

***Angelina and Kathy***

The event has changed. The open house team felt like it was too big. This event will be an invitation to our old members to come back. It will be presenting our history. Council discussed the difference between the open-house idea and the Welcome home event.

The team thought that the open house could be at the holistic fair.

Short discussion that the holistic fair is not an open house. An open house would be a separate event.

The Contact list of 400+ people will be invited to the Homecoming

There will be a gratitude ceremony at the event.

General event plan is for a program to run 3-6 pm.

Welcome

History posted on the walls

Mixer game

Snacks and possible wine, beer, non-alcoholic.

A ceremony, service, music.

The intent is to have a more sacred event that would not be appropriate at a general open house.

### ***Membership brochures***

***Angelina***

Angelina is updating the membership brochure and passed out examples to the council.

Discussion of some of the brochure content:

Becoming a member: people wanting to be a member will fill-out a membership agreement and put it in the pledge box, so that it is anonymous. The pledge form should not be put in the offering basket.

The asterisk can be confusing. Volunteer service is not a requirement and does not have an asterisk. Consciously participate in the six spiritual practices. Volunteer service is one way we do spiritual practice.

Angelina did markup on a hardcopy.

Discussion of the email trouble from emails coming from @cslolympia.org.

Buffie presented the idea of having an electronic copy of the brochure. This can be posted on the website.

### ***Activities for members proposal***

***Angelina***

Discussion of having activities that people can sign-up for and liability of the Center for events.

There will be an approval process before the Center puts the Center name on an activity.

Discussion of how these activities should be presented so that the Center is not legally “responsible” for people when they are participating. These activities may be held as just a group of people inviting others to come along.

## **Decisions to be Made**

### ***Scheduling Fall Events***

***Buffie***

*Picnic: Date will be on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>*

*Maybe we can have our picnic at the Center and it is also an open house. Kids activities. Comments that would we be providing food or have food trucks, potluck. Perhaps open house could be on our 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary.*

*Pizza and Participation: Date will be on September 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>. The 17<sup>th</sup> was selected.*

## **Calendar review**

4/10 – 5/19 – Rev. David Sabbatical

5/9 – Council Meeting

**Next meeting May 9, 2023, from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm**

## **Parking Lot**

Connecting Pledgers event

Legacy Circle, Benevolence Fund

Policy & Procedure changes/updates

Include an employee handbook

Retirement plan  
How to store name badges for the people to use on Sundays  
Financial Audit

Buffie gave the closing prayer.

Teri adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tiffany Merkel, Scribe