

**Center for Spiritual Living
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 6:30 – 8:30
CSL Olympia, Libby Road 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: Angelina O'Connor, Laura Farris, Teri Echterling, Buffie Finkel, RScP, Rev. David Robinson, Kathy Gilliam
Practitioner: Susan Einhorn
Absent: none
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

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

Susan Einhorn gave the opening prayer.

Kathy did a reading from her own personal musings.

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

Rev David made the motion to approve the September 19th minutes with a small revision that became version 5. Angelina seconded the motion. The Council members present approve the minutes.

Mobilizing Our Mission

Rental Feedback

Buffie

Buffie was the Host to a recent rental event.

- The renter showed up early wanting to get in to the building for set-up.
- The renter had seen a photo of the sanctuary with tables in it and was surprised to find out she was renting the fellowship space. (Note: Admin Assistant did not send a photo of the sanctuary so unsure how renter obtained it.)
- The renter did not have people ready to help set-up tables which we expected them to have unless they tell us they are wanting to hire our custodian. Buffie helped set-up tables. We need to communicate that renters do their own set-up unless they hire our custodian.

- At the time designated for the end of the event, the renter was not ready to vacate the building and was there for another hour and fifteen minutes. Buffie had to help with tear down.
- We need to amend the contract language that says renter puts the dishes away since the dishwasher runs a long cycle and may not be finished in time for renter to put dishes away.
- Renter was told they would need to pay for an additional hour.
- Set-up and take down should be part of the time that is rented. The rental time starts when the door is opened and ends when the door is locked. This needs to be clear in the contract.

ACTION ITEM: Amend language of rental contract to make the above issues clear. Buffie and Tiffany will work of this.

Buffie suggests that each council member act as a host at least once and provide feedback.to _____

Parking lot addition: What are the criteria for events that we are co-hosting and make a written agreement for events that are not renters.

Terry Murray may be able to assist with information on renting and co-hosting events.

ACTION ITEM: Make a brochure (electronic for the web) for people about renting our space. Tiffany needs pictures of the Center for creating a brochure. Buffie has some photos.

Discussion point: We may want to explore how many events we want to schedule each month. No decision was made.

Rev. David suggest that the rental debrief happens outside of Council meetings. Perhaps a committee can do the debrief of events and help make adjustments to process and rental forms. A committee and Chairperson will need to be determined.

Prosperity/Stewardship Campaign

Rev. David & All

Rev. David reviewed all the information from the Visioning meeting. The theme this year is Filling Up, and Spilling Over. He changed the term Prosperity campaign to Prosperity Program. The visual for the Prosperity Program is a multi-level waterfall. As the different levels of the waterfall fill up, they spill over into a pool below. Rev. David asked for and received a waterfall image from CSL Seattle.

Rev David showed the Council a book mark that he created for the program. A suggestion was to change the orientation of the bookmark layout of the page so that they were laid out horizontally on a portrait page and that they would be the correct size to fit in an envelope and more could be printed on each page.

Chris Williamson, has a song, Waterfall, that was written in 1975 and is on the album "The Changer and the Changed." We're using this as our theme song for the Prosperity Program.

Buffie mentioned how, in the past, the theme would be carried through the year and part of the monthly prayers sent to pledgers and woven into the events and talks. That will continue for 2024.

Rev David believes in supporting the community's prosperity and it has been his agenda all along to increase our individual personal prosperity. As we prosper, we are able to give more to the Center. This next Sunday's talk is going to be a "come to Ernest" talk. We are running \$22,000 in the red, and underfunded by \$2,000 a

month. If this continues, we will burn through ¾'s of our savings by the end of the year. Are we, as a community, ready to step up and be stewards of this Center and the expense of being in this building? We haven't stepped-up so far. Only 5 out of the 45 pledgers took advantage of Rev David's offer to take part in a prosperity class. We need to expand our consciousness.

It's not just money, but also service to the community.

Archives Party in January

Buffie

Home office is hosting an online archives birthday party for Ernest Holmes. This is scheduled for Jan. 21, 2024, and Buffie thought it would be fun to have our own party along with Home office. Council had interest in doing this but a formal decision was not made.

'Bubble' Chart Review

All

Thank you to Angelina for putting the bubble chart into a more linear table format.

The organizational skills are listed but not assigned to specific positions. People on Council have different skill sets. By not assigning positions to jobs, people can select the duties that are a good fit for them.

Teri asked if the council saw any duties that aren't currently being filled and does anyone have the bandwidth to take on additional duties.

Angelina didn't see an event coordinator on the chart duties. This person does not have to be the host but they make sure that someone is the event host, that the host knows what to do, and the coordinator can be able to fill-in if needed. This position might fit best under facilities management.

Tiffany has been maintaining the booking calendar, booking events, determining the tasks and needs for events and contacting staff.

And getting people coming to the building for events also gets people familiar with the CSL Center and who we are. That is part of marketing.

Laura is wanting to step off of Council but does not want to leave the Council in a lurch. Teri is stepping away from being President at the end of December when she moves. Teri will be happy to be a member-at-large until she completes her term in March. Buffie's term also ends in March.

The rotation of Council terms should have half the Council rotating off and half of the Council remaining for continuity each year.

A notice for the vacant Council position has been in the announcements and no one has stepped forward yet.

Buffie is comfortable continuing to do financial items.

The legal items under the Vice-President are pretty much covered for the year other than updating contracts for the new year.

We will need the Nominating Committee formed and that is two Council members, the Minister and two non-Council members.

The Interfaith Works representative position has been filled by Christi Johnson.

Kathy would like to be useful and is flexible for duties as needed.

It was discussed that it may be nice to fill the Secretary position before having the Vice-President position vacant. Another comment was that it may not be fair to ask Laura to wait until the Secretary position is filled. Maybe the community would feel more impetus if they know two positions on Council are open. It is generally easier to train both positions at once instead of one at a time.

Discussion of what is a quorum for the Council. A quorum would be four because Council is supposed to be a seven-member group. There hasn't been a problem with absenteeism on Council. Council members have been talking to individuals to check interest.

Susan provided spiritual insight of God in action with the Council and to let go of how to fill seats and let Spirit do what is needed. Remembering to take the "what" into consciousness before we get to "How."

Marketing

Angelina

There are teachers that have thousands of followers, Joe Dispenza, Gregg Braden, Mike Dooley, and we are saying similar things. How do we reach out and give people the opportunity to come here?

Sandy Dell has provided some wonderful information on marketing.

We need to have someone local to market for the Center. When we have special guests and events, these need to be promoted to the wider audience. Flyers for Brian Lottman and Swami Beyondananda should have been placed in all yoga centers.

We need a marketing committee. Sandy Dell and Rev David have been doing marketing.

We need to take this into prayer and consciousness before we get to the "How."

Action Item: Angelina agreed to review the marketing material that Sandy sent make some notes for the next council meeting.

Kathy thinks she can be useful in planning and outreach.

'What We Believe'

Angelina

We have been providing the "What We Believe" written by Ernest Holmes, to new attendees. In her practitioner classes, Angelina shared that many Centers are not using this anymore because of the language is a little stilted and doesn't resonate with how we speak now. The Global Vision from home office is also

something that we can provided. We may need to update our welcome documents to fit with a more modern audience.

A comment that the Global Vision is a vision whereas the “What We Believe” is about who we are.

ACTION ITEM: Rev David will update the language of the document in the Global Vision document to be used on brochures and our website.

Other Business

All

Swami Beyondanada is coming on October 20th and we need to discuss our plan for the event.

Rev David is the Host.

Marlisa is handling the online registration and ticket sales.

Swami is supposed to send a flyer so that we can post them at yoga centers and the Co-op.

We may need to have parking support if the grounds are wet.

We will put in the announcements that we need parking assistance.

Laura will contact Sequoia to arrange overflow parking.

Rev. David is hosting them at his house.

Calendar review

10/18 Wednesday Night Mystic Writings, Poetry and Prose

10/20 Swami Beyondananda

10/21 Women’s Circle

10/22 Dances of Universal Peace

10/28 Halloween Party

11/4 Spiritual Mind treatment class open to community.

Next meeting October 24, 2023, from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Susan provided the closing prayer.

Teri adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.

Parking Lot

Legacy Circle

Policy & Procedure changes/updates

Include an employee handbook

Retirement plan
Financial Audit