

**Center for Spiritual Living  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, January 23, 2024 – 6:30 – 8:30 (Council/Partners meeting 5 – 6 pm)  
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, Buffie Finkel, RScP, Rev. David Robinson, Kathy Gilliam  
Practitioner: none  
Absent: none  
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

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

Rev David gave the opening prayer.

Buffie did a reading from JoAnna Macy's and Molly Young Brown's "Coming Back to Life."

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

## **Council and Partners Meeting Summary**

Talking Points:

- CSL Staff hiring and supervision
- Check in on cleaning/maintenance standards
- Roof maintenance - will be done by Mark and Denny as members volunteering, not as owners.
- Transitioning building from the Partners to CSLO
- Other items – The MOU will be revisited.
- Schedule future meetings for Council and Partner

## **Consent Agenda**

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

Rev David made the motion to approve the January 9, 2023 Council meeting minutes, version 3 as amended. Angelina seconded the motion. The Council members approved the minutes.

## **Mobilizing Our Mission**

### ***Nourishing Our Community 2024 status***

***All***

Kathy has volunteered to be the Council representative for this event.  
Tiffany will be the contact for people interested in hosting NOC events.  
Carrie Barrett and Jody Carpenter have volunteered to help with the committee.  
Julie Aune has tech experience and could help with flyers. Jenn created flyer templates last year.  
Jenn can support the team with some technical information because she worked on the event last year.

Next actions:

We need testimonials from past NOC hosts to encourage others to host.

We need to have the hosts and events identified before bidding begins in mid-March to April (bidding is held for 3 weeks)

### ***Status of Council nominations***

***All***

Rev David will follow up with a recent Council member that expressed interest.

Angelina reviewed the Bylaws regarding taking nominations from the floor at the Annual meeting.

Nominations from the floor must be for someone that applied to be on council and wasn't picked for the slate. This was from the 5/23/2023 version of the bylaws in Section 10.1.

Rev David and Kathy will be contacting potential Council members.

It was suggested the nominating committee hold a meeting to review names of potential Council members.

The bylaw about spouses of staff members serving on Council was reviewed. The bylaw does allow spouses of staff members to serve on Council if they are approved by the Council.

### ***Pizza and Participation***

***All***

This event is on Feb 11<sup>th</sup> after service.

Buffie will contact Vic's about pizzas. Brewery City Pizza was also mentioned. The Council would like to order from a locally owned restaurant.

Angelina mentioned that we need an additional welcome committee member because she sometimes has Practitioner duties at the same time as when welcoming is needed.

### ***Publicly thanking people for their service***

***All***

The thanking of people for their service will happen at the annual meeting. Discussion of members that have recently vacated service roles that they filled for many years.

List of the people being honored:

Denny and Carol Kautzmann,

Caroline Fenn, Bob Miller, Beth Thompson, Laura Farris and Teri Echterling

### ***Results of Visioning from Community Meeting***

***Rev David and Angelina***

A separate handout was provided to the Council of the cumulative comments from the visioning. Only the first two questions were provided to Council since the other questions were more personal. The most frequent response was that people want the community to grow.

Discussion of activities that will help people get to know each other.  
Speed dating "Get to know you" where people spend 10 minutes in conversation before moving to next person.  
Having a Prayer Partner workshop.

The information gained from the visioning will be presented at the annual meeting with action items.

### ***Music event in March***

***Rev David***

Rev. David and Kathy will be on the committee for this event.

Heidi and Bob are the type of musicians that people would see at places like Traditions.  
Ticket Prices are \$20/ \$10 for 12 years old and under.

They will play on Saturday evening, March 9<sup>th</sup> and then at Service on March 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Rev. David will fill out the project forms for the event.

For future music events, most will be on Friday or Saturday nights. Some may play at Sunday Services.

There was discussion about having wine for sale or a glass of wine with an adult ticket sale. ID required.  
Tiffany will look up what type of permit is needed to have wine at an event. Tiffany offered to renew her MAST permit to pour alcohol.

### **Calendar review**

- 1/27 Ernest at Asilomar – (Saturdays through February 17)
- 1/28 Practitioner mini-sessions
- 1/30 Practitioner Meeting
- 2/4 Announce Annual Meeting
- 2/4 Rap with the Rev
- 2/6 Council Meeting
- 2/10 Men's Group

### **Closing Prayer & Adjourn**

#### **Parking Lot**

Legacy Circle  
Policy & Procedure changes/updates  
Include an employee handbook  
Retirement plan  
Financial Audit

## Summary

### Visioning for CSLO 2024

27 total responses; 22 in-person, 5 online  
*Note: people often offered several ideas per question*

**At the end of 2024, as you look back, where do you see CSL Olympia? Where are we going?  
What was birthed through/as us?**

And

**What is ours Collectively to do?**

Responses	% Responses
Growing our Community/Being visible in Olympia area/Invite others	60%
Deeper Spiritual Commitment/Increase faith/Commit to CSLO	48%
Share our Philosophy with others	30%
Hosting events at Center	26%
Marketing and Promotion	22%
Share the Love	16%
More member involvement/volunteerism	15%
Increase financial support	15%
Expand physical space (including classrooms and parking or portable)	15%

Other Comments (from one or two people):

- Be open to others/learn from others
- Support each other
- Host and Interfaith learning event
- Meet people where they are (not sure if this meant in locations other than CSLO or emotionally where they are)
- Think of ourselves as owners, take more responsibilities
- More social action
- 50% increase in membership in 2024
- As congregation grows, have two services
- Cultural diversity
- Sacred circles opening up pathways
- Social service projects (as support to our larger community and is a marketing tool)
- Hub for Spiritual events

For events people listed:

Dancing, small bands, theater, lectures

## **What is ours collectively to let go of?**

Old ideas  
Reliance on the flat screen experience  
Fear of interpersonal relationships  
Fear, smallness, self-centeredness  
Resentments and bad experiences of other churches  
Not enoughness  
Expectations that others will do the work  
Not feeling that there is a personal responsibility to support and grow CSLO  
Any limited thinking  
Playing small, handing on to old ways, beliefs and fears  
Single-mindedness old ways  
Release idea of small, familiar, comfortable community so it can grow  
Fear and complacency  
Feelings of lack  
Fear, worry, doubt  
To grow, people need to come here, we wait for them  
Conflict, being right  
Thinking small, attachment to past  
Fears of being seen and heard  
Yesterday's negativity  
Judgements, expectations, minimizing beliefs