

**Center for Spiritual Living  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 – 6:30 pm – 8:30 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: Tim Robinson

Absent: none

Guests: Cherie Gordon, Lynn Elliott

Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

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

Tim Robinson gave the opening prayer.

Kathy read from "How to Speak SOM," by Dennis Merritt Jones.

With new candidates for Council present, the current Council members shared their experiences of being on Council, instead of our usual check in.

## **Consent Agenda**

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

Buffie and Kathy suggested amendments to the February 6, 2024, Version 4 of the minutes. The change was agreed upon, creating Version 5 of the minutes. Buffie made the motion to approve the Council February 6, 2024 meeting minutes, version 5 as amended. Kathy seconded the motion. The Council members approved the minutes.

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

Review of the January 2024 Financial report. As the first report of the year, the January financial numbers are also the Year-to-Date numbers.

Center for Spiritual Living - Olympia		1/31/2024
January Net Income from Operations	Year to Date Net Income from Operations	Ameritrade Investment Value
\$1,273.70	\$1,273.70	\$211,733.63

Rev David made the motion to approve the January financial report. Buffie seconded the motion. The Council members approved the January Financial report.

## **Mobilizing Our Mission**

### ***Financial Audit***

***Buffie***

Denny, Marlisa and Craig Francis conducted an in-house review of the finances. This was not an official audit.

The findings were that the signatures for authorizing trade on the TD Ameritrade account had not been updated to reflect the new Council officers.

Action Plan: Changing the names of authorized people on the investment account will be done each year around the same time as the Bank signers are updated to reflect the new Council officers.

The Audit listed in the parking Lot was stricken through on the last minutes and will be removed from the list now that the report of the audit has been provided to the Council.

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

***Buffie***

Recommendation that Council develop policies around gifts/donations of receipt of securities and other assets.

Including

- The types of gifts we can receive
- How we handle gifts
- What we do with them.

Example: If we accept gifts of stock or investments, we need a policy for what we do with the stock, such as harvesting the value of the stock and buying more with it. Denny shared the gift policy that “Friendly Water” uses. Buffie shared the Friendly Water gift policy document by email with the committee when she sent the January financials email.

### ***Status of Council Nominations***

***All***

Cherie Gordon, Lynn Elliott and Susan Strobel have shown interest in the three positions.

Other people have expressed interest in stepping on to Council in a year from now.

Buffie explained that one of the steps to Council is to work on projects and committees, working with teams.

The Council meeting time and day is negotiated with the new Council each year.

Council officers are also elected each year by the Council.

### ***Marketing Team update***

***Angelina***

Flyers are getting put out now about the concert and the Spiritual Principles and Practices Class. Flyers will be put around town for these events. It was suggested that we ask members of the community to help distribute the flyers.

Sandy Dell is the Marketing team lead.

### ***Status of Rentals***

***Tiffany***

Yoga is starting on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Class is from 12:30pm-1:45 pm. This is a three-month trial basis.

Tiffany will be the host and arrive a little earlier than normal to allow for opening the building for the first time and seeing how furniture may need to be reset with the instructor, Carol Ramstack.

It is anticipated that 30 minutes will be the time for setting and resetting the room at first. Tiffany will show the instructor the opening and closing process and Council will determine at a future date if the instructor will be doing opening and closing by herself.

Tiffany was contacted and set emails to Sharonne O'Shea with InterPlay and has not heard anything back in the last week. Tiffany will attempt an additional contact.

### ***Technology in the Fellowship Hall***

***Buffie***

Women's Circle had a hard time setting up the system to play a movie.

Printed instructions are needed for how to play movies, Zoom or other uses. Trouble shooting for sound and video issues needs to be included in the instructions.

ACTION ITEM: Rev David will create instructions (not this week).

Rev David discussed getting a different microphone, especially for classes. Buffie researched a multidirectional microphone and the wish is to have two of these for Center use.

The question was raised if there is money set aside for technology and Rev. David shared that there are funds in the Audio/Video budget. The cost is currently \$350 each for the microphone.

Buffie made the motion to purchase the microphone that is \$349 + tax that was researched. Angelina seconded the motion. The Council approved the purchase and the motion was passed.

***Ester Nicholson - guest speaker/musician/workshop leader***

***Rev David***

Ester is a Practitioner out of Agape. She is a singer and used to perform backup vocals for Rod Stewart and Bette Midler. She does a powerful talk and music. Her current fee is \$1000, though she would accept \$750. Currently \$325-350 is our budget for a combination guest musician and speaker.

Rev. David suggested seeking out members that could sponsor the talk and musical performance by contributing toward her fee.

April was brought up and it was decided that that was too soon as the March events are just now being publicized.

Ester also does a program on Racial Forgiveness. Rev David mentioned that Ester asked him to approach Interfaith Works for a Monday night program. The program is 90 min and followed by a an 8-hour training. The cost for the 90-minute presentation is \$1800.

(the price of \$1800 was mentioned no other price said in conversation of presentation and 8-hour training) ← explanation not for printing in minutes.

A question was posed if this was a person well known to others in the community, like Unity, that we could have Ester be one of our quarterly events to bring the community in to the Center.

Rev David will get more information from Ester. Also, Rev. David will mention Ester to Rev. Terry from Unity.

### ***Dances of Universal Peace Request***

***Rev David***

The leaders for the Dances for Universal Peace have requested that the group be allowed to stay for a short time after the completion of the monthly dances to have a tea and social time together. They would be responsible for closing procedures.

Discussion of potential challenges concluded with an agreement on a trial basis for a couple months to allow the group to have tea time afterward. There are considerations such as contributing toward purchase of tea, putting dishes in the dishwashers.

An MOU is needed for the Dances of Universal Peace.

Tiffany has drafted an agreement based on the Council's decisions for the Yoga class and will send the copy to Buffie to review. Buffie will see if she can use some of the document for the MOU with the Dances for Universal Peace group.

Guests were thanked and could leave at this time. Cherie left the Zoom meeting.

## **Annual Meeting**

### ***Revised Annual meeting Agenda and who's doing what***

***All***

Rev. David's report

Rev David will award the Practitioner pins.

Angelina and Rev David honor volunteers.

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Move questions before the elections, after all the reports.

Buffie and Marlisa should do the financial report together.

Kathy is getting small gifts and cards. Rev David has the gift certificate.

Kathy suggests that the honorees be contacted so they know that they will be mentioned at the meeting.

Karyn Lindberg just stepped off the Announcement team. Ross just stepped down from the prosperity stewards.

### ***Announcing nominees***

***Angelina***

Elections. According to the Bylaws, no nominations can be made from the floor unless the person had previously applied and was not selected for the slate of nominees.

### ***Prepare ballots for Members or vote by acclamation***

***Angelina***

Coral pieces of paper will be used to identify members. Member's names will be written on the paper. By raising their piece of paper, the member's will vote for Council nominees by acclamation.

Tiffany has already requested a member list be emailed from Marlisa and for Angelina to be copied.

### ***Talk about Community purchasing our Building***

***Buffie***

The discussion about buying the building is just planting the seed of the intention of the partners selling the building to CSL Olympia. This was something that came up from the meeting between the partners and the Council. This is just sharing of the intention but the how this unfolds is not revealed yet.

## **Questions by Guests - Council meeting time is now Tuesdays from 4-6pm.**

Tim Robinson did the closing prayer.

Angelina adjourned the meeting at 8:48 pm.

## **Calendar Review**

2/27 Practitioner Meeting

3/3 Rap with the Rev

3/5 Council Meeting

3/9 Ernest Holmes at Asilomar #2 begins

3/9 Men's Group Lunch

3/9 Heidi and Bob Concert

3/10 Annual Meeting  
3/12 Finance Committee Meeting  
3/11 Prayer Shawls  
3/16 Women's Group  
3/17 Dances of Universal Peace

### **Parking Lot**

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