

**Center for Spiritual Living
Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 20, 2024
4:00 pm – 6:00pm
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: Kathy Gilliam, Cherie Gordon, Lynn Elliott, Buffie Finkel RScP, Angelina O'Connor RScP, Susan Strobel
Practitioner: Susan Einhorn RScP
Absent: Rev. David Robinson
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

The meeting, held on Zoom was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Angelina.

Susan provided an opening prayer.

Angelina provided a reading for the Council from her journal.

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

Kathy made some changes to the minutes from the August 6 meeting as follows:

*Strike the one sentence third paragraph in the Onebody section that reads "**Discussion by Council concluded that we would have the program event here.**"*

*In the fifth paragraph of Onebody discussion strike "**CSL is providing a location for the program.**"*

*Insert in its place the following: **The Council discussed the pros and cons of calling this a CSLO ministry before Council has experienced the show themselves.***

Discussion by Council concluded that CSLO would host at least one performance of Onebody at the Center.

Susan Strobel made a motion for approval of the minutes of the Council Meeting from August 6, 2024 as amended during the meeting now version 4. Kathy seconded the motion. The Council members present approved the minutes.

Marlisa presented information on the changes to the mid-year budget that were made at the Finance committee after the Council had reviewed the midyear budget. These changes were made because there was no category in the budget or expenses were higher than the budget projected for the line item.

The areas that that Marlisa discussed were:

- \$100 was put in the budget for expenses if we need funds when we hold a concert/event. We had an expense of \$135 for a non-CSL concert earlier in the year that was added to the budget.
- The Pledge Party under the Prosperity program was increased by \$100 because we are having a visioning and prosperity event in addition to the closing luncheon.
- The Volunteer and Staff gifts budget was increased by \$100 for the farewell gift to Amy.

Susan Strobel asked about the expense for flowers for Amy, and where the funds would be taken from in the budget. Marlisa will review and find an area for that expense.

Marlisa said the current total of changes is about \$840 more than what the Council had approved previously.

Buffie clarified that the expenses that were presented by Marlisa were new changes and not among those that the Council had already reviewed. A previous area of concern was A/V team costs which are currently being reviewed and a plan is being made for bringing the costs down. The Music team had been only budgeted for 48 instead of 52 weeks and that was corrected in the mid-year budget.

Lynn asked about the proceeds of the art sale and if they had been accounted for in the budget. Marlisa Informed Council that those funds will be entered in the August income & expense due to the date they were received and are not reflected in this mid-year budget or the July budget.

The July Financial report was presented by Buffie.

The investment account decreased by \$18,563.42.

Buffie pointed out that we are currently paying payroll expenses for two extra employees and we are at 138% of budget for the year in our July expenses. In the past we only had three employees. This is an area to pay attention to.

The food for the art reception was not in the budget. The expense was \$135.14.

There are several times that expenses that were not in the budget have been allowed. There are expenses that were for speakers and musicians that were not in the budget. *After meeting correction - There is a budget for speakers and musicians.*

Kathy suggested that the \$640 that was received as commission from the art sale be used to pay the expense of food for the art show (\$135.14).

In early August, \$10,000 was transferred from the Schwab account to the Twin Star Credit Union checking account to cover expenses. This will show on the August financials.

The \$10,000 that was in a CD will be put into the Schwab money market account upon Denny's return. It is currently in our TwinStar savings account.

Center for Spiritual Living - Olympia		7/31/2024
July Net Income from Operation	Year to Date Net Income from Operations	Ameritrade Investment Value
\$7.87	\$ (1,226.85)	\$ 358,391.25

Lynn made a motion to approve the July Financial report. Cherie seconded the motion. The Council members present approved the July Financial report.

No motion was made regarding the changes to the yearly budget.

Mobilizing our Mission

Community Meeting – September 8

Planning for the Community meeting.

The Peace Pole has arrived. It was also one of those expenses that we did not plan or budget. *After meeting correction - This was paid for by a private donor and is not part of the CSLO income/expense.*

One of the ideas was to either install the pole that day or decide on where it to have it installed as a discussion during the Community Meeting.

Kathy suggested a committee be formed to decide on the location since there are areas that the pole cannot be placed due to the drain field or other issues.

Buffie suggested a Libby Road partner be on the committee for the reasons that Kathy mentioned.

Buffie volunteered to be on the committee.

Buffie also suggested that the planting of the Interfaith Work's Tree be part of the Committee's consideration so that a decision can be made about if we want a dedicated focus garden or not to plant the tree and pole close together.

Kathy has a vine maple in a pot that she is willing to donate to Interfaith Works in CSL's name. It would be nice to have it with the peace pole as a site of interest. It could even be a place where we could put a stone or remembrance for when we lose a member.

The Council will ask the members attending the Community Meeting to select a site for the peace pole. Buffie will have a map of the grounds drawn up for the meeting.

Angelina suggested that we hold a discussion about the Prosperity Campaign and request volunteers. This will be the last Community Meeting before the Prosperity Campaign begins.

A theme needs to be chosen for the Prosperity Campaign.

Angelina suggested that the Council members think about themes and graphics, and bring ideas to the September 3rd Council meeting. The Council members will discuss ideas then and be ready to present themes at the Community Meeting for selection.

A request was made to have a list of previous themes to review. No one offered to make a list for distribution to the Council.

Kathy suggested "Rising to New Heights" because this year's Talk theme is a "Grand Rising."

We will also need to recruit Prosperity Campaign Hosts that will provide the weekly motivation and updated pledge totals. Usually, the hosts select members to give a short testimonial about what CSL means to them and encourages pledging.

We don't know yet what the 2025 Talk theme will be. A Grand Rising was the 2024 Talk theme. The 2024 prosperity campaign theme for this year was "Filling Up and Spilling Over."

A suggestion was made for the Hosts and discussed by the Council. The potential hosts have not been contacted yet. Who is contacting them?

Amy's farewell party and gift

All

Susan Strobel is picking up flowers and a card. Cherie will get the cake. Rev. David has already purchased the gift certificate.

Discussion about the message to be written on the cake. The cake will be chocolate with chocolate icing and decorated with icing flowers and maybe music notes. Discussion of the possible messages to be written on the cake. The message will be the following, if it will fit on the cake. "Thank you, Amy, Love, Gratitude and Blessings."

Do we need Council Member on Duty?

All

Lynn is the person that people will talk to for Membership questions.

When a Greeter gets questions, the Greeter will find the appropriate people that will be able to assist.

Do we need a Council Member on duty each Sunday? Consensus was that we do not need that function anymore.

Buffie moved that we retire the Council Member on Duty practice until further notice. Cherie seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the Council members present.

20th Anniversary Celebration – April 27, 2025

All

Kathy mentioned that there would be a meeting with Rev. David on Monday or Tuesday of next week for discussion on the Anniversary celebration.

Community Directory

Tiffany

Tiffany finished the changes after Rev. David did editing and the content is ready. However, the template resized itself. Tiffany used last year's template and placed all new text in it and the template changed from Letter to Legal sized paper. Tiffany is going back through and resizing all content.

Additional conversation:

Lynn reported that Marlisa is almost finished pulling together a list of all the new members that have joined since 2020.

Angelina put together a Greeter's handbook that is at the "New Here" table. The schedule will be in there when one is created. The notebook contains everything the greeters need to know.

Topics for the next meeting

All

Policy and procedures for showing art at the Center
Slogan for the Prosperity campaign and hosts
Agenda for the Community Meeting

Calendar Review

8/24 Game Night
8/25 Amy Farewell Party
8/25 Kirtan – Christopher Lionheart 1-3 pm
8/27 Practitioner Meeting
8/31 Ernest at Asilomar session – "Oneness" begins
9/1 Rap with the Rev

9/3 Next Council Meeting

Next meeting September 3rd, 2024 at CSL and Zoom.

Susan Einhorn provided a closing prayer and the meeting ended at 5:45pm.

Parking Lot

Legacy Circle

Policy & Procedure changes/updates - Include an employee handbook

Retirement plan

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Merkel, Scribe