

Center for Spiritual Living
Council Meeting Minutes
CSL Olympia, Libby Road
Tuesday, April 8, 2025 6:00 – 8:00 pm
In person 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: Kathy Gilliam, Rev. David Robinson, Carrie Barrett, Cherie Gordon, Craig Francis
Absent: Susan Strobel (hiatus)
Practitioner: Susan Einhorn
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

The meeting, held in-person and on Zoom, was called to order by Carrie.

Rev. David provided an opening prayer.

Kathy shared a reading from an essay about Thomas Keating's poem "*The Sound of Silence*" by
Cynthia Bourgeault, with the Council

Check In

How are you mobilizing our CSLO mission, purpose and vision?

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Cherie made a motion to approve the minutes from 3/18/2025 version 2. Craig seconded the motion.
The Council members present approved the minutes.

Resource Report (People & Money)

Team Leadership Meeting

Carrie

This group serves as a Leadership Team. This group can grow leaders in the community and train people to get into Council positions.

A question was raised about communication between the Council and the Leadership Team. The decision was made to have a Council Liaison to carry communication between the groups. Craig will be the Council Liaison for the Leadership team.

Craig is working on creating a team list with members and team leads.

The teams are going to be oriented to the positions in the bubble chart of duties for Council members.

Special meeting on Sunday April 13th

Craig

Discussion of the financial circumstances that has led to a special meeting being scheduled for Sunday, April 13th.

Last year pledged income was at 103% of budget at this time. This year the pledged income is 72% of what was budgeted.

Some possible reasons that were discussed included:

The political and economic climate has made people unsure of their finances.

People not understanding how to log in and donate through Breeze software.

This meeting is an invitation for people to step-up financially.

The CSL staff raises were based on the amounts pledged for the 2025 year.

Mobilizing Our Mission

Update on 20th Anniversary Celebration

Kathy

Kathy shared that the last two big tasks for the Anniversary planning team are completing the Commemorative booklet and sending out the invitations.

The ticket sales for the Anniversary event are to pay the cost of the event and there may be some additional funds to go back to CSLO.

ACTION ITEM: Rev David will order pens.

Council agreed that someone should be selling tickets on Sundays and also helping people purchase tickets on the computer in the Fellowship Hall.

Strategic Planning Process next steps

Carrie and Rev. David

Carrie, Rev. David and Julia meet on Zoom. Julia wants the Council to start the process of "Developing Our Why."

"Discovering Our Why" is work we will do on an individual level as well as creating a collective "Why" for the Council. The Leadership team and Practitioners will also develop their "Why."

Decisions to be Made

Finance

President

The emergency meeting held with the Finance Committee and Council on 4/6/2025 took care of the immediate cash flow situation.

Council duties/bubble chart

President

The new teams will be added to the Bubble Chart so that it is comprehensive. This work will be done when Craig and Buffie finish the Team Leads and team Members lists.

Council Learning Opportunities

Discovering your “Why”

Rev. David

Rev. David lead the Council in the process of discovering their “Why.”

Calendar Review

- 4/12 – Men’s group gathering
- 4/13 – Nourishing Our Community bidding begins
- 4/14 – Finance Committee meeting
- 4/15 – Women’s coffee
- 4/16 – Listening Circle
- 4/19 – Women’s Circle -canceled
- 4/19 – Game Night
- 4/20 – Nourishing Our Community bidding continues

Next Council Meeting April 22, 2025 6:00-8:00pm

Susan provided a closing prayer.

Carrie adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.

Parking Lot

Benevolence fund
Policy & Procedure changes/updates - Include an employee handbook
Retirement plan

Respectfully submitted, Tiffany Merkel, Admin Assistant