

**Center for Spiritual Living  
Council Meeting Minutes  
CSL Olympia, Libby Road  
Tuesday, April 22, 2025 6:00 - 8:00pm pm  
Meeting was In-Person and on 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, Cherie Gordon, Carrie Barrett  
Absent: Susan Strobel (Hiatus), Craig Francis  
Practitioner: Buffie Finkel, RScP  
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

Carrie Barrett called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

Buffie Finkel, RScP provided an opening prayer.

Rev. David shared a reading from *Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations*, with the Council.

**Check In** - How are you mobilizing our CSLO mission, purpose and vision?

## **Consent Agenda**

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

Kathy made a motion to approve the minutes from April 8, 2025 Version 2 and Rev. David seconded the motion and the motion was carried by the Council members present.

### ***Approval of Financial Report for March 2025***

***Rev. David***

The financial report for March 2025 was reviewed.

Center for Spiritual Living - Olympia		3/31/2025
March Net Income from Operations	Year to Date Net Income from Operations	Investment Value
\$-9494.29	\$-19,887.79	\$327,170.433

Discussion about the deficit, due to a lower-than-expected pledge fulfillment, and working with the Finance Committee and Investment Committees to pull money out of our checking account and also move money out of the stocks into a fund that will generate interest for us.

Motion to approve the Financials was by made by Cherie, seconded by Kathy and approved by all Council members present.

## **Resource Report (People & Money)**

### ***Finance Committee Recommendations***

***Rev David***

Recommendations from the Finance Committee:

1. Understanding the normal process of proper oversight with checks and balances, the Investment Committee also recognizes the importance of prompt action when there is a time sensitive need. In order to address an urgent need, it is recommended that the Investment Committee be authorized to act immediately to satisfy Core Council's request.
2. When there is sufficient liquidity (\$10,000) in the Center's savings account in reserve, it is recommended that all excess funds be invested in the Schwab Government Money Fund (SNVXX). When it is determined that cash flow requirement volatility has subsided, the Investment Committee will search for appropriate investment opportunities, using the funds in SNVXX.

Basically, the second recommendation is that we agree to have \$10,000 of reserve funds. This is what Marlisa has recommended, and we agreed to at the at the emergency meeting. At some point in time down the road, when we're not in such a stressful place financially, if we have more than \$10,000, the Investment Committee recommends that it be put into the mutual fund.

Carrie made a motion to approve the recommendations for the Finance Committee, with the additional stipulation, that we revisit this in six months. Kathy seconded the motion and all present Council members approved the motion.

## **Mobilizing Our Mission**

### ***Update on Anniversary Celebration***

***Kathy***

Ticket sales are not what we were hoping for at this time.

- We have sold 15 tickets so far, 12 of those are \$100 tickets,
- On Sunday a table will be set up for taking checks and cash for tickets. Marlisa will not be present on Sunday, so if anyone wants to pay by Credit or Debit card, they can use the computer in the Fellowship Hall.

There was a larger than expected expense for the musicians. We had made our calculations based upon what we pay our musicians on Sunday mornings. They have requested that they be paid what they would make on a Saturday night if they had been hired for a performance.

### ***Strategic Planning next steps***

***Carrie***

The Council did their “Why” at the last Meeting. Council discussed when to have the Leadership team and Practitioners do the same activity. The Leadership Team has had a little bit of an introduction to this.

Decision: The Council will wait until a little later in May to work with the Leadership Team and Practitioners.

The May 11<sup>th</sup> Community Meeting will be an opportunity to discuss this with the community. This is a 6-month or longer process.

### **Decisions to be Made**

#### ***Lawn mower***

***Carrie***

Discussion of the lawn mower. The groundskeeper couldn’t get the mower to run. Rev. David reported that Denny says there are two lawn mowers and one is working.

Craig is the Council liaison for the groundskeeper.

For the moment the one lawn mower is working but a process and procedure needs to be determined on how to handle mower repair in the future and how a mower will be replaced when needed.

Craig is the treasurer and it would make sense for the treasurer to be in charge of assets including building maintenance.

Council discussed alternative plans, in case the mower isn’t working, to make sure the lawn is cared for in time for the anniversary party.

#### ***Division of responsibilities***

***Carrie***

Craig is working on the team lists. The teams will be matched to the “bubble chart” of duties. This will be discussed when Craig is able to attend.

### ***Prosperity words***

Discussion about the prosperity words that will be available to put in the donation basket.

Decision: Have the Prosperity Team come up with a plan of how to distribute the prosperity words as people come into the Sanctuary on Sunday.

### ***June Newsletter article***

***Carrie***

Kathy volunteered to write the June *Council Corner* article.

Cherie Volunteered to write the July *Council Corner* article

## **Council Learning Opportunities**

### ***“Why” sharing***

***Rev David***

Council members shared their “Why” from the previous Council meeting’s Discovering our Why activity.

### **Calendar**

4/26 – Leadership Team meeting  
4/27 – Sacred Circle sign-ups begin  
4/27 – Helping Hands meeting  
4/29 – women’s coffee  
4/29 – Practitioner meeting  
5/1 – Begin creating directory  
5/2 – set up for party  
5/3 – 20th Anniversary celebration  
5/4 – Sacred Circle signups continue  
5/4 – Rap with the Rev  
5/5 – Prayer Shawl group  
5/6 – Tune in Tuesday  
5/6 – Women’s coffee

**The Next Council meeting is on May 6, 2025 6:00-8:00pm**

Buffie Finkel, RScP provided the closing prayer

Meeting adjourned by Carrie at 6:00 pm.

### **Parking Lot**

- Benevolence fund

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