

Center for Spiritual Living
Council Meeting Minutes

CSL Olympia, Libby Road
Tuesday, September 9th, 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, Craig Francis, Cherie Gordon
Absent: Susan Strobel (hiatus)
Practitioner: Susan Einhorn, RScP
Scribe: Tiffany Merkel

The meeting, held in-person and on Zoom, was called to order by Carrie at 6:02 pm.

Susan Einhorn, RScP provided an opening prayer.

Kathy shared a reading from the book "Beatitudes for Justice Builders" by Lindi Ramsden.

Check In

What does it mean to you to be a community that lives spiritual principles?

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Rev. David made a motion to approve the minutes from 7/22/2025, Craig seconded the motion. The Council members that were present at that meeting approved the minutes. Kathy abstained as she was absent from that meeting.

Kathy had a correction regarding the Harvest Festival to the 8/19/2025 minutes after Rev David's corrections. . Kathy is donating the proceeds from the Garage Sale and also \$500 for the Bluegrass band.

Craig took notes on 8/5/2025 when Zoom did not work. He has sent these notes to Tiffany and she will transcribe them and send them to Council by email. Only Carrie, Kathy and Craig attended this meeting.

Resource Report (People & Money)

2026 Pledge campaign

Rev David

In the future, the Pledge Campaign planning needs to start in June.

A suggestion of discussing why do we Pledge as part of the campaign. This can build on this year's Growing Deeper, Rising Higher.

The Pledge Campaign theme sets the theme for the next year.

The Pledge Campaign usually starts on 9/28/2025 but we will delay it a week until October 5th. The end of the Pledge Campaign is October 26th. The Celebration Lunch will be on November 9th.

The CSL home office theme for 2026 is "Open at the Top."
We could do a version of this such as "Open to the Flow."

Decision: Cherie, Craig, Rev. David and Buffie will be asked to join in planning the theme.

Decisions to be Made

Final Update of Anniversary Celebration

Kathy

Kathy did not have a response yet from the bookkeeper regarding the final numbers for the Anniversary party.

Council Article for the October Newsletter

Carrie

Kathy will write the article for the October newsletter

Cherie will write the November article.

Articles are due by the 15th of the month before the newsletter is released.

Mobilizing Our Mission

Harvest Festival Update

Kathy

The primary update is we finally finalized our food. Lynn Elliott and Caroline Fenn have Food Handler permits now and are managing the food storage and serving. We have a menu that we can sell and know the ways that we can sell it and what we can and cannot do.

There was a nice turnout for the volunteers meeting. A spreadsheet is going out next week showing who's filling which slots at what time, and also leave blank spots so anybody else that wants to can fill themselves in.

Jenn is checking to see if Haggen's can help with sandwiches by possibly donating them, or giving us a discount.

The Harvest Festival is on Facebook, and we've boosted it on Facebook. We are reaching out to Interfaith Works, who has a much larger crowd than we do. Christi Johnson has agreed to take flyers out to the next meeting for Interfaith Works.

Sandy is doing outreach and she usually hits the radio stations. Jenn and Cherie are going downtown to post flyers at various businesses.

Discussion about all the places that flyers could be posted.

Discussion about who will be able to provide an old truck for the farm stand.

Carrie and Kathy have some sandwich boards to create advertising for the festival -.

The Garage Sale signs need to be all the same color so that people will know which signs to follow.

Discussion of who has pick-up trucks and would be able to transport garage sale items to the Center.

Community meeting planning 9.14

All

Carrie and Rev. David had a meeting with Julia Mattis about Strategic Planning. This meeting included how to heal the community and a communication agreement.

Rev. David provided the Council with a suggested handout from Julia. The Council discussed the handout and compassionate communication. At the Community Meeting there will be a presentation and discussion of our CSL Olympia agreement of communication and confidentiality.

The Community Meeting agenda:

- Opening Prayer -Susan Einhorn
- Upcoming events – Rev. David

- Possible Winter Solstice service – Dances of Universal Peace-Spiral Walk with candles
- Hillary and the monthly sound baths plus the special Equinox, Solstice and Qigong sound baths
- Finances – Craig
- Youth and Family – Adrienne
- Compassionate Communication and Confidentiality agreement – Rev. David
- Closing prayer

The next Community meeting is in December.

Calendar Review

9/10 – Financial Freedom class begins
 9/12 – Sound Bath
 9/13 – NOC Spaghetti dinner
 9/14 – Teen Group Class
 9/14 – Community Gathering
 9/15 – Finance Committee
 9/16 – Women’s coffee
 9/16 – Listening Circle
 9/17 – Financial Freedom cont
 9/20 – Women’s Circle
 9/21 – Teen Group Class
 9/21 – Universal Dances of Peace
 9/23 – Women’s coffee
 9/23 – Core Council meeting

Next Council Meeting - September 23rd, 2025 6:00-8:00pm

Susan provided a closing prayer.

Carrie adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm

Parking Lot

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

Respectfully submitted, Tiffany Merkel, Admin Assistant