

Center for Spiritual Living - Olympia
Core Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 3, 2026 – 6:00 – 8:00 pm
In person and Zoom 647 238 9585, pw 761508

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: Rev. David Robinson, Carrie Barrett, Cherie Gordon, Craig Francis, and Kathy Gilliam
Guests: David Dickerson and Jeremy Mason
Practitioner: Buffie Finkel, RScP
Scribe: Rev. Carrie Masters

The meeting, held in person and on Zoom, was called to order by Carrie Barrett at 6:00 p.m.

Buffie Finkel, RScP, provided the opening prayer.

Rev. David shared a reading from Richard Rohr on Punishment & Reward.

Check In – All

Share a relational highlight from the last couple weeks.

Consent Agenda – Carrie

Approval of minutes – 2.17

Rev. David moved to approve the minutes as revised. Motion seconded by Cherie. All in attendance approved.

Decisions

Approve Greg Laura

Bylaws Section 12.1 Core Council Member. A Core Council member may not be either a close relative nor have a live-in relationship with any employee of the Center or other Core Council Member serving a concurrent term, unless specifically approved by the Core Council.

Due to the Bylaw set forth above, discussion of Greg's nomination to the Council resulted in agreement that he would be a good voice on the Council. He would not be allowed to vote on anything to do with Adrienne's employment to avoid a conflict of interest.

Rev. David motioned to approve Greg Laura as an incoming council member. Craig seconded the motion. All those in attendance approved.

Hillary Myers Exception (9.10)

Bylaws Section 9.10 Qualification of Members of the Core Council Members - Members of the Core Council must be members of the Center in good standing, have taken at least one year of classes or equivalent, be active pledgers, and be mentally and physically capable of carrying out all of the duties and obligations of a Core Council member.

Due to the Bylaw set forth above, her nomination for Council was discussed. She is currently enrolled and active in the Spiritual Principles & Practices class, which is a CSL Foundational class. She has been attending services for about a year and has the wisdom and qualities needed to be a beneficial council member.

Rev. David motioned that we make an exception to her candidacy for election to the Core Council. Carrie B. seconded the motion. All in attendance approved.

Event Proposal: Art Fundraiser – Carrie

After discussion regarding the event, it was agreed to move forward. Lisa is coordinating the artwork and sales, with no upfront financial commitment required. Concerns about food handling were raised, and Lisa is checking with the Hands-On Museum to make sure volunteers can bring appetizers to the event. She will also check to see which sections of the Museum will be open to us.

Rev. David motioned to approve the event, and Carrie B. seconded the motion. It was approved by all in attendance.

Youth Proposal

There was hesitancy about moving forward with having a contracted person assist Sunday School at the cost of \$40 per Sunday due to funding issues and the low number of children in attendance. It was revealed that a \$500 donation was just made to the youth program for Adrienne to use at her discretion regarding the youth. It was agreed that more information from Adrienne was needed to feel more positive about the proposal. Marlisa was mentioned as a resource to guide us on whether to have the helpers be employees or contractors. It was revealed that the Finance Committee has the formal proposal, and Denny sent it out to the council members.

Rev. David will speak with Adrienne and gather additional information to present at the next Council meeting.

Thank you cards

Kathy brought cards for the council members to sign, along with a goodbye card for Kye to give him at our celebration of him on March 15th after the service. Chocolate cake is involved. Everyone will be invited.

Business

Staff review update – Rev David

Staff reviews are scheduled for Sunday, March 15, at 12:30 for Brent and 1:30 for Adrienne.

Nominating committee – Carrie

The Council discussed the use of binders for each board member. There are 2 binders available now for 2 new council members, but one more is needed. To save paper and ink, Tiffany can send an invitation to access the documents that would be included in the binders. It was also pointed out that all of the binder contents can be found online. It was decided to ask incoming council members whether they want a binder or access to the documents online.

Annual Meeting: potluck – Carrie

Our Annual Meeting will be hybrid, with online attendance available for those who wish to attend remotely. The slides for the presentations are evolving, thanks to Rev. David. All who have seen the slides say they are beautiful. Pictures of the 3 council candidates are also on the slides.

Regarding the potluck, it was reported that Crystal needs helpers in the kitchen to help set up before the meal and clean up after. She understands that Carol plans to attend the meeting, but she isn't sure whether Carol knows there is a potluck before it.

Tiffany is to find out if she is to check people in before the meeting.

Bylaws Section 10.6c Election of Officers

Election of Officers Within 30 days after each annual meeting of Members, the Core Council shall hold a meeting for purposes of organization, election of officers, and transaction of other business. At this meeting, the Secretary of the outgoing Core Council shall act as Chairman pro tem while the new President is elected. The new President shall then assume office and proceed with the elections of the officers.

Rev. David explained the above section of the Bylaws and indicated that this could be done either right after the Annual Meeting or via Zoom.

Mobilizing Our Mission

Council Learning Opportunities

Rev. David plans to purchase copies of the book Piloting Church for each of the council members, as well as Buffie and Denny.

Jeremy expressed his gratitude for the council.

David Dickerson brought up the idea of having an Attorney on the council or one that we could contact when needed.

Rev. David asked David D to share a bit about himself so that we could get to know him.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Buffie offered the closing prayer.

Calendar

3/4 – Spiritual Principles & Practices class
3/6 – Altar redo
3/7 – Intentions Retreat followup
3/7 – Leadership Team meeting
3/8 – Annual meeting
3/8 – Conversation Forum
3/10 – Women’s coffee
3/10 – Finance Committee meeting
3/11 – Spiritual Principles & Practices class
3/12 – Qigong
3/13 – Sound Bath
3/14 – Men’s group gathering
3/15 – Dances of Universal Peace
3/15 – Conversation Forum
3/17 – Women’s coffee
3/17 – Core Council meeting

Parking Lot

Benevolence fund - some movement beginning
Policy & Procedure changes/updates - Include an employee handbook
Retirement plan
Quarterly event to invite neighbors- Easter, summer potluck, Christmas bazaar?
Potential annual events
Building rental helpers