

**Rio Grande Center for Spiritual Living
Board Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2025**

Clarity, Consensus and Commitment

Housekeeping – 4:30 – 4:40

1. Sherry Noone called the meeting to order – Board members present were Michael McPherson, Jennifer Wilmer, Terry Burns, Sheryl Rae, John Tallon. Gil Olmstead and Deb O'connor joined later.

2. Marilyn O'Leary led the Invocation

3. Vision/Mission Statements were read.
4. Sherry acknowledged guests: Greg Gardner, Sue Klump, Marilyn O'leary (as high watch for the board), Mark Ayers,

Executive session (Sue, Deb and Gil not present) – Mark shared about the pivotal point the resulted in his resignation:

Payroll needed to happen when Nancy was out with Covid and we did the special call for income - \$1200 came in. Not enough to make payroll so \$ raised went to Gil's salary. Those who made the decision should not have...Board should have been part of that decision.

Money for an intended purpose should not be used for something else.

Those funds are not yet repaid. Integrity has been compromised.

Need to have conversation w/ those involved and be clear.

End of Executive session.

5. Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2025, Board Meeting – John moved to approve the minutes as presented, Terry second, all in favor: CCC .

6. Sherry announced that Michael Creager decided to not be on the board at this time.

Reports:

Spiritual Director's Report - Rev. Gil 4:40 - 4:55

1. Town Hall Debrief – The meeting went well and John had feedback from several.
2. The board agreed to reopen the Partners Campaign. Gil will talk with Sheryl this week about getting that restarted.
3. Solid Grounds has been attended by 50-80 people each of the last 3 weeks. It seems to be getting traction and beginning to build reserve – once we have \$2K reserve, start giving back to RGCSL. "Self-sustaining means what? It is not a line item on P&L but

needs to be. (30% to RGCSL during 1st summer) Terry moved that income/expenses included in the financial statements... Michael seconded.

a. Michael suggests a minimal \$5. Terry – move charge min \$5 admission, Mike 2nd. John thinks that board should not make that decision. Ultimately need to just make an accounting for Solid Grounds. Sherry moved that we table this topic.

4. Other centers included in online classes are sharing profits with the centers involved according to the participants who attend from each individual center.
5. Letters of call
6. A letter is going out from Gil stating he will re-set his pay to 30 hours per week. By doing this we save 8200 for the center for the balance of the year. (move to the space list)
7. Gil spoke w/ Amani at ABQCSL and they are open to renting to us and working together.

Asst. Minister's Report – Rev. Deb 4:55 – 5:05

1. The Journey Back to Self has been completed and it went well, people are asking for part two.
1. Gil, Kamatara Classes
2. Greeters – organized greeters – have 2 per Sunday – Noni fell and broke hip – surgery tomorrow.
3. Unity Attendance – Deb said there are usually 10-12 Unity people present Sunday. Attendance is going up overall! (63 were present today including a couple from Solid Grounds!)

Financial Prosperity Task Force Report - Mark – 5:05 – 5:10

1. Expertise from other Centers – Mark will send to the Board a complete list of Ministers to contact re: financial prosperity, along with a set of questions to be asked of them. Members of the Board selected which persons to contact and report the results at the March 10th and subsequent meetings.

Space Team Report – Terry- 5:10 – 5:25

1. Options - Possibly renegotiate space to just suite T (not space R). Terry will send floorplan so we can see where the lines ar.
 2. Other – join another space
 3. Both require termination of lease.
- a. If we default on lease – after 10 days 5% late fee – if not paid by then, the landlord has the right to demand that we correct the default and they could change the locks and seize everything.
4. New owners may not be so forgiving – original lease was 2013.
 5. Some ideas include going w/ church in a box and have home office space.
 6. We have the option to sublet but must have approval of owner.

Treasurer's Report – 5:25 – 5:50

1. Town Hall Budget Slides
2. Analysis Strategy

3. Near Term Expenses/Other Issues

a. Wish List – board needs in on financial decision. Each designated donation needs to be honored as quickly as possible and promises made to congregants need to be kept. Sherry proposed we make a plan to pay back in a timely manner. Terry asked if we can use a cheaper option. Otter AI can be changed to using transcript from recording of board meeting. \$500 was specifically for nametags and \$100 was specifically for Otter.

4. We need ideas on increasing income and decreasing expenses as we are looking at very possible crisis in March.
5. ACTION: Michael suggested – blanket email to all churches asking if they have space. MUST GET INCOME FROM TODAY TOTALED RIGHT AWAY.
6. We will have an emergency MEETING according to what Nancy finds in finance.

Committees & Ideas – John 5:50 – 5:55

UNM has large conference rooms that may be free of charge? (OSHER) (OLLI) Church in the box?

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Tamara has designed a two-sided post card as a promotional piece to be placed in various places in Albuquerque

Next Meeting will be March 16, 2025 – 3:00 – 4:30 PM. NOTE Time Change

Rev Deb led the closing prayer.