

**Rio Grande Center for Spiritual Living
Board Meeting Agenda**

Date: February 21, 2022 **Time:** 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Clarity, Consensus and Commitment

Guests: Annette Martinez, Marilyn O'Leary, Greg Gardener, Carmella Herrera.

Board Members Present: Rev. Karen Linsley, Mark Ayres, Hana Mason, Tamara Williams,
Doug Bowe, Thomas.

Call to Order – Mark Ayers @ 5:31PM

Invocation – Greg Gardener

Vision/Mission/Motivational Statements – All

- Vision: Transforming Our World with the Power of Love in Action.
- Mission: Loving All Creation Through Spiritual Growth and Service; Always Staying True to Our Highest Self
 - To create a world class, leading edge, replicable, cultural model to spread Science of Mind on a foundation of love, freedom and truth that stands the span of time.

Acknowledgement of Guests – All

Approval of Minutes from January Board Meeting – All

Board gives clarity, consensus and commitment.

Discussion Items

1. Minister Search Committee Update – Maria Dion, Marilyn O'Leary or Doug Bowe

Marilyn shared that the search committee is going to meet Wednesday to have a discussion regarding the candidates after the 2nd round of interviews. Reverend Julie Lobato will be there to help guide them to the next steps. Marilyn states it's been very helpful having the guidance of CSL through this process.

They are looking at when to meet and plan (covid allowing) to bring the candidates to the center to give their Sunday talk, give their workshops and meet members of the congregation. They're looking at the middle of March to have the first candidate visit, then potentially the others in April since April is 5 months. They are making sure not to have the candidates come back to back to allow the largest turnout of congregants as possible. Marilyn feels that there has been a lot of intense spiritual growth for everyone on the committee.

The covenant speaks to having someone who is a good speaker, who can work well with other groups, which really speaks to needing a sense of unity. Marilyn states they've realized we are really in need of this Unity from whomever the senior minister is. They also recognize that our community has done very well despite all the challenges with covid, in addition to being without a permanent senior minister for as long as we have.

2. People & Events Coordinator Report (Carmella Herrera) – All

Looking at doing a Hero of the month. The board would acknowledge them in person at the center and then we will have an announcement in the newsletter the following Thursday.

The bookstore and reach out team need to be reorganized with needing a leader. Reach out has a lot of amazing volunteers, and with Pat stepping down they are needing a new leader in the group. With the center re-opening, Carmella is already seeing new people willing to step up and help out. (Carmella's report document included in send out for minutes).

Mark stated we are extending Carmella's position through the end of April and we will discuss what's next as we get closer to hiring a new senior minister.

3. Interim Minister's Report – Rev. Karen Linsley

Rev. Karen states that it is looking like we're planning to stay re-open and encouraging people to wear masks to be safe while at the center. The mask mandate will not be required unless we start seeing an increase in COVID once more.

On Tuesday's the Protocol meeting has been meeting on Tuesdays to work on re-opening the center in stages and doing all that we can to keep the center open without any more shut downs. Every week they are looking at the COVID numbers which assist in the decisions moving forward with re-open.

Tamara has been working really hard on the marketing committee, this committee will be meeting on Wednesday to discuss marketing. One thing they are looking at is having a common look between our website, the social media pages, and the newsletter.

Rev. Karen stated initially with Sunday speakers she wanted to bring people in from all over, however the community seemed to prefer having a small rotational group of speakers which seems to be going very well.

4. Financial Report – Doug Bowe “The Doug Bowe Show”

a. Review January report from Selena – Doug Bowe

Doug said that the total monthly income budget for 2022 is \$17,570.82. He said we're \$6000 below budget, since total expenses were budgeted at \$18,174 but actual expenses were \$13,930. The actual net operating income was \$2,761.

*b. Tithe to CSL – 8% * \$10,705.80 = \$856.46 and \$100 goes to the La Placita Institute Community Fund (per Selena)*

Thomas made the motion to approve, Hana seconded. The board gave commitment, clarity and consensus for the Tithe.

c. Approval of Revised 2022 Budget – Doug Bowe

Doug Bowe submitted the revised budget of \$190,289 vs. \$229,018. The net operating income budget previously was \$22,047 and the proposed one is \$25,607. The revised budget was approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

d. Pledge Campaign update – Mark Ayers

Mark stated that we are behind on the Pledge campaign and where we should be, largely due to not having a senior minister. Current pledge campaign has received \$65k in pledges out of our \$250k needed for our budget.

Mark is working with major donators and some of these are going to reach out to other major donators to get those pledges. They've also found some volunteers to reach out to members of the community to get their pledges a well. Our goal is by next month to have received enough pledges to feel supported to achieve our budget for this year.

e. Teresa Greco/ Practicioners' Request

We have now separated the \$2000 for Michelle Scholers into it's own budget.

f. Emergency Tech Expense/ Fund?

Mark is looking for a board appeal to reach out to the community to get \$1000 for the new Mic for the podium and the box needed to run streamyard. We already have \$300 pledged for this donation from practitioners and just need to get the rest of the \$700.

The board is asking Annette to put together a pledge for this and we will have an announcement in the newsletter for this.

Mark made a motion to approve this, Thomas seconded. Board approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment

5. RGCSL Communications & Marketing Report – Tamara Williams

The MarCom Committee is comprised of Rev. Karen Linsley, Annette Martinez and Tamara. Their first meeting will be on Wed., Feb. 23. Tamara will share with them the key points from the CSL Marketing workshop she attended. She said the committee will review and discuss a proposed list of 2022 RGCSL goals and how to implement them, among other things.

6. New Board Members

The board gave their clarity, consensus, and commitment to have John join the board. He is going to be sending us his application within the next few weeks, there will be a newsletter announcement as well as a survey sent out for everyone in the congregation to vote.

We are looking at a financial committee will be introduced and consists of John, Doug and Mark. Selena is going put together a sheet each month for financials for the committee to bring to the board. This committee will take over the position of Treasurer for the time being as we've been unable to find someone willing to step in as treasurer.

7. Anette Martinez – Tech Manager

Annette states we need a new box that feeds the camera to the soundboard then to the computer which will be \$560. We do need a new microphone for the podium which could be around \$400.

If it was possible a new soundboard would be nice to have at some point as this one is 15 years old, a few new cameras eventually would be nice, along with a “switcher”.

Rev. Karen states she received a text from a practitioner suggesting to send an email to requesting 10 doners to donate \$50 each which could cover the costs of the technology needed right now. This practitioner has offered to donate a specific amount and Greg Gardner has stated he will match whatever that amount is.

Annette thanked everyone who has stepped up in March to help with the tech support.

8. Next Board Meeting – **March 21, 2022** (Carol Helms will chair.)

Benediction – Rev. Karen Linsley/ Practitioner

Board ended at 7:16PM