

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

Date: April 18, 2023 **Time:** 5:37- 7:32 pm
Clarity, Consensus and Commitment

Board members present: Rev. Gil, Mark Ayers, Doug Bowe, John Kirk, Sherry Noon, Hana Dawson, Tamara Williams

Guests present: Greg Gardner

Call to Order – Mark Ayers

Invocation – Reverend Gil

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 March Board Meeting (*Mark will make minor edits*) – All

Discussion Items

1. *Spiritual Director Report – Rev. Gil Olmstead*

a. Rev. Gil said he's excited about ticket sales for Rickie Byars concert. It's a fun event and potentially a good money-making venture; a good influx of energy.

He says changes in personnel are for the best and highest good of all involved.

He's had productive meetings with staff ministers and how all can support each other. They've discussed what they want to do; each has a vision for what they want to bring to the Center. He doesn't have details at the moment. It's at the beginning stage, but might include an expansion of roles.

b. Music team/sound – Rev. Gil is pleased about the music for Sundays. Susan Clark has a vision to make the sound better. She has done multiple experiments, learning

what works, what doesn't, and received help from John T, who has done extensive research on the sound board. Rev. Gil may move the responsibility of sound to Susan.

c. Mark asked Rev. Gil how things are going 8 months in. Gil said he's pleased, excited and happy to be here. Albuquerque is not his dream and that's ok. He's had virtually no one tell him what he's doing wrong. A lot of people are telling him they're excited and asking how they can help, which is very gratifying. He said energy is building. He's blessed with the staff ministers, practitioners are coming into their own, and self-leading. All this has triggered some internal reactions which came up a couple of weeks ago. He's excited about a vacation and having fun in Costa Rica. He's also excited about the Board and him moving forward.

Mark said that's good news all around. Everyone has stepped up in so many ways. If anyone is feeling burnt out, talk to him so we can come up with solutions.

2. Financial Report – Mark Ayers and John Kirk

a. Updates – Mark said that deposits haven't been made in several weeks. John doesn't want to share our financial statements because they're not accurate. When deposits were made, they were booked in "unrestricted," not to specific accounts. We can't match the batch report with the count. Using a link from the bank to QuickBooks would provide more accountability. Carmella and Tamara have put a lot of work into redoing the Sunday count sheet, which will work better. He will revise the batch sheet for Breeze, too. Even the amount we have in the bank isn't accurate.

Mark said that Davin has given his notice. He will stay around long enough to train a replacement. CJ called to check in. Going forward, Davin and Mark will work together. Mark removed the count from Davin's duties; each Monday, a team will do the count. The money should go into the safe in a big envelope.

b. Review March report – John said that we have \$18,2543 in our checking

account, \$3253 in savings and \$375 available on our debit card. We expect the amount to go up with Rickie Byars events. We have a lot more contributions than before and need to redesign the forms to accommodate them. He thanked Carmella and Marylyn for working together on figuring out some accounting issues. John moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Sherry seconded it, and it was approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

c. Monthly tithes to CSL – Mark said we sent \$200 to CSL and he wants us to gradually increase donations. Mark moved for RGCSL to donate \$300 to CSL in April and increase it to \$100/month until we reach 10% tithing. Greg said he supports Mark's concept. Rev. Gil said we should be tithing 10% but let's get a better picture next month. Mark said he appreciated John's work.

The motion was seconded by John and all approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

d. Mark said he'd like to transfer \$250 back to savings to replenish it. John would like to know what our monthly cash flow is (payroll, rent, etc.), and then we can figure out what we can put into savings. He wants to get a better handle on our minimum cash flow. Rev. Gil said we should get a better picture next month. Mark said he appreciates John's work.

3. Board President Report – Mark Ayers

a. Hiring new administrative assistant

i. Job description: – Mark said that Davin's job description is well-written and moved to approve it as is, which was seconded and approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

ii. Search Committee – Mark will chair the committee and would like John, Liza Kerr and possibly Gilbert on the committee.

iii. Posting – Suggestions were to post the job announcement on FaceBook, Craig's List, New Thought community, UNM's Daily Lobo.

4. *RGCSL Communications & Marketing Report – Tamara Williams*

a. *Website development – Tamara said it's going well. The team is discussing the big picture and wants to communicate RGCSL's "authentic self" on the website, both in words and images to attract newcomers, welcome back people who used to attend RGCSL as well as keeping the site informative to our congregation. The team is making progress on tackling the toughest, most important pages first – the home page, About Us, and I'm New, among others.*

b. *Logo/consistent branding – Tamara and Rev. Gil are scheduling a meeting with Nancy Bowers, who co-created the logo initially, to re-create it.*

5. *Hana to Tech Director with compensation – John moved to hire Hana as Tech Director for*

\$400/month for the rest of the year, removing the title "Interim." Tamara seconded it and all approved it with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

6. *Nancy Bowers to Webmaster – John moved to remove "Interim" from Nancy Bower's role as webmaster, pending Mark's discussion with Nancy. Tamara seconded and all approved it with*

Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

7. *Rickie Byers Concert – Rev. Gil said where help is needed the most is logistics: selling tickets, greeting, support for tech., putting together VIP bags. Hana and Mark volunteered to help the day of the concert. Mark will assist at the door to sell tickets if they are not purchased in advance. Hana will assist with whatever is needed that day. Sherry volunteered to help with the VIP bags.*

8. *Tribute to Annette – Mark said that on Sunday the 23rd, he will ask Jeopardy-style questions with answers from the congregation to acknowledge Annette. Donations have been given from members of the congregation and the board for the gift card for Southwest Airlines.*

9. Hefferlin Grant – Mark and Hana are going to meet tomorrow to see what is needed for the grant. Hana is meeting with Rev. Gil Thursday to discuss the tech items she's researched and would like to purchase if the grant is approved. Sherry Noone is willing to assist Hana with the grant.
10. Fundraising – Sherry has been working on a survey she's sent out to members of the congregation to get ideas flowing for workshops, fundraising, events. Sherry will present her findings at the May Board meeting.
11. Rev. Gil said there will be a presentation on healing hosted in the Center next Thursday the 27th, which will be open for all congregation members.

The May board meeting s changed from May 16th to Tuesday, May 23rd.

Benediction – Sherry Noone