

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

Date: May 23, 2023 **Time:** 5:33 - 7:32 pm
Clarity, Consensus and Commitment

Board members present: Rev. Gil, Mark Ayers, Doug Bowe, Sherry Noone, Michael McPherson, Hana Dawson, Tamara Williams

Guests: Greg Gardner, Marylyn Kirk

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 April Board Meeting – Not submitted yet; Tamara will send before next meeting

Discussion Items

1. Interim Administrative Coordinator's Report – Mark Ayers

a. Mark let Davin go today; it was very amicable. Davin is coming in tomorrow to turn in the key and have closure. Mark hired Marylyn Kirk as Interim Admin Coordinator and moved to approve approximately 25 hours/month for her to get up-to-date. Doug seconded it, and all approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

b. Mark said we received one fabulous cover letter and resume from Nancy Bowers. We need to keep this confidential for the time being. Applications are being accepted until the end of the month, and all resumes need to be sent to Mark. The Search Committee is Liza Kerr, John Kirk and Mark, and they will probably need money for training and will act on it before the next Board meeting.

c. Breeze training – Marylyn will be giving this training and sent all of us 2 dates to choose from. We should all sign up and learn how to use Breeze.

d. Marylyn reported that she created a weekly donation count sheet, updated the check request form, and completed other tasks.

2. Spiritual Director Report – Rev. Gil Olmstead

a. Rickie Byars wrap-up – We collected \$5700 in income and had \$1865 in expenses. There were over \$900

in bookstore sales. We're looking for more ways to get people through the bookstore and he welcomes ideas.

b. Personal calendar – Marylyn and Rev. Gil have sent up a calendar night on Tuesday, June 6 to get things on the RGCSL calendar.

c. Rev. Gil's class, Change Your Thinking, Change Your Life, has been moved to June 21. He invited people to promote it, in particular to people outside the area, since it's being offered on Zoom as well as in person.

d. Upgrade in Rev. Tammi's role – Rev. Gil said Rev. Tammi is interested in increasing her role and they're talking about a way to create a salary for her that doesn't impact our budget. When they work it out, he will present a letter of call that could significantly increase our funds. It could be a wonderful opportunity for Rev. Tammi and the Center.

e. Announcements during Sunday service – Rev. Gil said that Norm resigned from this and Brian Kurtz will do it next week. We could have 3-4 people do it on a rotating basic. Contact him if you're interested. He wants announcements to be interesting and serve the Center.

f. Rev. Gil is going to be out of town the first two Sundays in June but will be there during the week. Rev. Kamatara is scheduled for the first Sunday and Rev. Tammi will give the talk the second Sunday.

g. Rev. Gil is feeling very positive about the Center and is appreciative of the support. So many people were impressed by the Rickie Byars concert, especially because of the excellent volunteers that day.

h. He said Yvette Trujillo officially joined our practitioners team. Tamara congratulated Rev. Gil on this, and he said he stayed in the background, just "loving her up" and that she approached him about it. Mark said Rev. Gil embodies the law of attraction. Examples are Circles USA, Yvette, Rev. Tammi, etc. and that he's very happy with the direction we're going.

3. Begin Strategic Planning – Mark Ayers

a. A strategic plan had been created in 2019 and got derailed because of COVID. It's time for a new strategic plan. Our lease is up in 2025 and we need to take a look at options. Mark will co-chair the committee and wants to expand the team to people who feel a call to join it. He asked for suggestions. Sherry and Greg are interested; Mark invited Doug to join if he wants to do so.

4. Financial Report – Mark Ayers

a. Mark said we're holding our own. Seven people had pledged to donate with a credit card and they haven't been billed since January. Once this is taken care of, it should help.

b. Monthly tithes to CSL – We've been raising our CSL tithing by 100/month and Mark would like to continue this. He moved that we raise our tithing to CSL to \$400 for May; Hana seconded, and all approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

c. Small monthly deposits to replenish savings – Mark wants to re-build our savings, at least nominally, with \$250 to start. Sherry agreed that it was a good idea and a good practice of stewardship. She seconded the motion and all approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

d. Reporting monthly income – Mark said that reporting monthly income and expenses is the Board's responsibility. He'd like us to do so in the newsletter. Mark will work with Marylyn and Rev. Gil on this and provide a report to show transparency and remind people we do have expenses and their participation is important. His goal is to do so in the first newsletter in June.

e. John Kirk should be a check signer – Mark moved that John be a check signer, Hana seconded, and all approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

f. Motion to end bookkeeper relationship – Mark said that based on recommendations from Marylyn and John, we should end the relationship with Selena as bookkeeper, which would save us \$300-\$400 per month, as Marylyn or John can do that work. Rev. Gil added that if needed, we can hire a payroll company. Mark moved to end the contract with Selena as bookkeeper by the middle of June, based on her contract. The motion was seconded and all approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.

5. Vide President's report – Hana Dawson

a. Hefferlin Grant Update – Hefferlin will be reviewing the grant requests June 22 -23, and she will keep us posted. Rev. Gil said John T. was immensely helpful with ideas for the sound board. Hana has lots of ideas about how to utilize equipment from the grant. She thanked Tamara for a beautiful job of writing the marketing information for the grant and is highly optimistic about receiving it. The community came up with \$2500 for the matching grant.

b. Tech team needs help – She's recruited Tom Gardner, Nancy Bowers, Victor, Mike Hacker, and John for the Sound Board. Only 2 people are doing the camera and Streamyard: Mark and Hana. They need more help.

6. RGCSL Communications & Marketing Report – Tamara Williams

a. Website development – Tamara said there were a few gaps in meetings due to travel but the website team is back on track with weekly meetings. They are continuing to write content for the new website, including our ministries, the bookstore, and being part of a global community with CSL.

b. Logo/consistent branding – Rev. Gil, Nancy and Tamara are meeting to discuss the logo.

c. Other items – She said the newsletter team is doing well, consistently producing the weekly email and print versions. Sheryl Rae is possibly interested in volunteering for MarCom, and they will discuss this on Thursday.

7. Sherry Noone

a. Drumming Circle – Sherry said that she has two candidates willing to lead a drumming circle. She suggested 6 – 7 pm on a Wednesday and if the weather is good, it could happen outside. A lot of people are interested and this will probably start in July.

b. Other Groups - Sherry said one person volunteered to host a women's group in her backyard. She would like to announce this on Sunday. She'll also announce a book club.

Next Board Meeting – Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Benediction

Amendments made after the meeting via text and/or email:

1. John Kirk moved that the RGCSL Board of Trustees approve Nancy Bowers, as the new Administrative Coordinator, read-only access for all three RGCSL accounts at United Business Bank. This was seconded by Mark. The Board approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.
2. Additionally, a motion was made and seconded to approve adding Nancy to the expense account/debit card, including procuring a card in Nancy's name if the bank deems it necessary. The Board approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.
3. Mark texted that he was able to get Church Mutual to renew our liability insurance effective May 9, 2023. They are in the process of writing up the policy. He wrote that when he receives the documentation, he will forward it to the office. Our first premium will be due in early July but the insurance was reinstated when he called in early May.
4. John moved and Mark seconded that the existing expense account be switched to a new Bookstore account. John will order checks and deposit slips, and the current debit cards will be closed out. The Board approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.
5. John moved and Mark seconded that the current debit cards be cancelled and that two new debit cards be issued from the existing primary checking account. Those cards will be issued to Rev. Gil and Nancy Bowers; each card will have a \$500 limit. The Board approved with Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.