

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

Date: September 25, 2022 **Time:** 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Clarity, Consensus and Commitment

Called to Order by Mark Ayers at 5:36PM

Board members present: Rev. Gil, Mark Ayres, Hana Dawson, Tamara Williams

Invocation – Rev. 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 – Annette Martinez

Approval of Minutes from the August Board Meeting: Approved with understanding we will have the financials updated from July with Tithe amount. *Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.*

Discussion Items

1. People & Events Coordinator Report - Carmella Herrera

Carmella's position ends this Friday, and she is happy to step down as she wants to move more into her roll in compassion ministries. Approved with *Clarity, Consensus and Commitment.*

This is an opportunity to find more volunteers to be in the center during the week and support those roles Carmella used to fulfill.

2. Report from Technology Director – Annette Martinez

Now that Mark is back, the calendar is looking good for the tech help on Sunday's. When the re-painting happened the t-loop strip got painted over and it appears to have impacted the sound quality when it's on. We need to investigate to see if it can be fixed and repaired to be able to have the t-loop running every Sunday to increase accessibility.

Some wireless devices (mouse, keyboard, etc.) were set up in the bookstore computer to lessen the number of wires up at the counter.

It would be nice to have QR codes set up for donating along with text options to the website for ease of accessibility.

Annette is going to spend a full day soon at the center to make sure all things tech are good and up to date, such as the WIFI password.

Annette would like to see us get another camera to have two cameras for recording, (one on each side of the stage).

Rev. Gil brought up that he and Annette have discussed setting up television screens in each side of the sanctuary to use instead of using the projector screen.

3. Spiritual Director's Report – Rev. Gil Olmstead

Rev. Gil shared that it has been a very good, eventful month. All of the 4th quarter speakers are scheduled for Sundays. He had a discussion with Susan Clark and they agreed that she would be taking on the role of the musician ministry officially after the first of the year, but will start to take small steps into her position in October.

Rev. Gil said he and Mark discussed creating a letter of call for Rev. Kamatara, and they are working on getting that done. They are also going to be doing the same for Rev. Tammi once she finishes panels. He is not looking at letter of calls for “duties” but to recognize how they help support the center.

Rev. Gil also shared that 12-13 people signed up for the practitioner retreat scheduled for the last weekend of October. Rev. Gil is excited to get the practitioners together, building community and hopes this will generate traction into the larger community.

Rev. Martha shared a list of her duties she had while she was senior minister with Rev. Gil and he is embracing the duties he was unaware he needed to pick up. Rev. Gil is looking into ways to find more collaboration in the center, setting up ongoing visioning and more leadership roles in the center outside of the board.

Davin is doing really well, working a few days from home and in the office other days. He's catching up on things that have fallen through the cracks since CJ left her position, and they are making good progress.

Dia De Los Muertos in November.

Rev. Gil shared he will not be present for Thanksgiving, so he asked who generally heads that. Annette said Mike Hacker is the one who usually does and the turkey was brought by Miguel and Michael. We'll check in with Mike Hacker first and see if he wants to head a team for Thanksgiving once again. Rev. Gill will be out of town from the 6th-14th of October and from the 19th through the 29th of November.

Rev. Gil asked how we get the numbers from the online views. Annette and Hana said we can see them live and also get the numbers from the back end. Annette said that it would be a good thing to have the main speakers (such as Rev. Gil) share it on their Facebook pages when we go live. Hana suggested we used to ask people to “check in” on Facebook then silence their cell phones, and that maybe we can share the Facebook live video then silence the cell phones.

4. Financial Report – Mark Ayers

- a. Review August report – Mark Ayers:** For the moment we're doing okay. Since June we've moved \$13,000 out of savings, and it is looking like we are having to do this again soon. Rent is going to be increasing in January by \$2000, due to the landlord's agreement to take off \$1000 from rent every month for the year of 2022 and then adding it to the monthly rent for 2023. The nice thing is the \$600 a month we've been paying for

the AC repairs drops off in December, so rent will only increase by about \$1400. Now that we have our Senior Minister, we expect to see attendance stabilize and then increase and with that donations to do the same.

- b. Tithe to CSL – 9% * = \$___ and \$100 goes to the La Placita Institute Community Fund (per Selena) (waiting on financial reports to come through)**

5. Community Meeting in October

Carol and Mark have decided it's time to host another community meeting and be forward and clear with the entire community where we are at with finances. John Kirk will assist in setting up the financial discussion and making sure things are clear for the discussion. There are 5 Sundays in October, and Mark would like to have the community meeting on Sunday, October 23rd. Rev. Gil stated he would really like to know where things stand and how many people we really need each year to keep a full quorum.

6. Pledge Campaign for 2023

We need to find a pledge committee, come up with a theme, and make sure we have a really strong and fun pledge campaign for 2023. The Board discussed giving the option for people to pledge online when setting up the recurring payments to the center.

Mark suggested we start the pledge campaign in November/December as this tends to be the time of most donations and feels this would be a great time to get rolling with the pledge campaign.

7. Reach Out

Mark is looking into revitalizing the Reach Out team and said that Denise Graham has showed interest in being on the team again. Pat Scanlon has agreed to be a resource as well if needed. Mark would like to see a canned food drive set up for Thanksgiving at the center followed by Michelle's Giving Tree for December as usual. His goal is that with the Giving Tre to get a Reach Out team back together to move forward into 2023.

8. Next Board Meeting – Sunday, October 16, 2022

Benediction – Rev. Gil, Practitioner

Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM