Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - FINAL
Oakland Center for Spiritual Living
May 17, 2026

Present: Doug Myers, Deborah Jackson, Rev. Dr. Sunshine Michelle Coleman, Suzanne DuBois, Elke Moritz. **Absent:** Nancy Hester

Pray in by Deborah
Check In

Treasurer's Report - Elke

General Highlights for April:
Donations /Monthly: Total general contributions for the month are $ 22,541.96, which is 4.71% increase from the same month last year $ 21,528.30

April had 4 Sundays this year & amp; last year.
General Contributions were in normal range compared to recent months.
Gross Profit-Income / Month: $ 26,477.79
Total Expenses / Month: $ 28,484.63
* Net LOSS/ Month: - $ 2,006.84

INCOME points of interest:
Facility Use NET: $ 1,720.00 ($2,345 income & amp; $625 expense)
Education NET: $ 203.00 income (no expense)
EXPENSES outside of regular/monthly…
$ 1,006.78 Fire Safety Testing & certification (annual, in budget)
$ 200.00 AV Maintenance & Training
$ 616.20 Sr. Minister 2026 Conference cost (in budget)
$ 937.08 Water bill every other month landed in April
(Water bill high, but prior bill was estimated and a bit low, so assume April was high to balance)
Personnel Expenses: $ 14,806.44, which is within budget range.
Sunday Musicians: $ 1,750.00, which is within budget.
Balance Sheet - Funds as of end April 2026
● BofA Operating Acct *: $ 23,013.24

● BofA Education Acct: $ 1,000.00
● BofA Bookstore Acct: $ 2,555.19
● BofA Buffer Acct: $10,416.56
● Vanguard Acct Fed. MM Fund: $ 2,139.52
● Building Fund, Summit & amp; Self-Help Acct: $ 7,086.10
● Self Help MM Acct: $ 10,863.03
● Self-Help, 3 CDs: $ 213,991.56 – Mature: June 17 (2x $15,531.94) & amp; June 24 for big one
● BofA Designated Acct: $ 17,152.83
* Deferred Income: received & amp; held in Operations bank balance at end of month reported (NOT yet shown as income): $ 1,343.00 for May 2nd Event

Upcoming Maturing CD

Elke spoke with Tao (bookkeeper) who suggested that we invest $15K in one CD as before and keep $15K in the money market account as ready cash plus interest (compounded). They're still awaiting the interest rates to be published before making a final decision on how/where to reinvest the funds. Elke will ensure that a decision is made before the June 17/June 24 maturation date and work with Beth on the investment, who we're asking to make the transaction from the maturing CDs as she did with the initial investment into a CD.

Action Items

Elke advised that the Finance Committee is fine with Beth coming onto that committee and will advise Beth accordingly.

BOT Action Plan during Rev. Sunshine's LOA (June, July, and potentially part of August)

Rev. Sunshine has assembled a full speaking schedule for June through August that includes speakers, musicians, and documents/slides. She shared that she put together a high level document to highlight the functions in need of monitoring and who would do so.

Rev. Geri Carder and Rev. Allie Hutchinson are ecclesiastical point people for inquiries to be directed to, and the Board will be serving as leadership stewards that can provide guidance if needed. Rev. Sunshine mentioned wanting to designate Rev. Geri Carder as a delegated signing authority for up to $500, plus approving timesheets, pay requests and the like. The Board would still need to approve any expenditures over $500. The Board agreed and didn't think a motion was necessary for the delegated authority (note: Rev. Sunshine will write a note to Doug and Tao about Rev. Geri has the signing authority that she has.

The rest of business and operations are expected to flow as usual. The Board agreed that, if Rev. Geri is available to attend the first hour of the June and/or July board meeting, she is welcome and they will shift the agenda to incorporate her presence at the beginning of the meeting. Meanwhile, any questions can be brought to Doug on behalf of the Board.

Preschool

Rev. Sunshine updated the BOT on the status of the preschool project. A lot of headway has been made and a draft agreement was created with terms from both parties that she asked for the board to review in the meeting. Deborah raised concern about how to change the culture and behavior of our community in use of the back lot that will change in capacity and access due to preschool. Also, she raised, "How do we advertise to our entire community about this?"

Rev. Sunshine mentioned that she's seeking a referral to an attorney to review the lease agreement. Someone mentioned asking Christopher Brown about fixing the thermometer in the nursery as well as adding a shut off valve for when the tenants leave and it is not in use (or a timer). There was also a question about the actual hours of operation for the preschool, since teachers often come early and leave later than the advertised time. Those are the hours that should be captured in the lease agreement.

Also, someone suggested that we remove from the agreement the specifics about what is included in the rental amount (like specific utilities). Most agreed; Rev. Sunshine said she would make the adjustments. The board was OK with the rest of the language in the agreement.

MOTION: Suzanne made a motion for OCSL to enter into an agreement with Piedmont Play School as put forth in the draft facilities use agreement,

pending a legal review before finalizing. Doug seconded the motion. All were in favor and none opposed. Someone suggested that Tao monitor our July - August utility costs to see if and how they increase given our new tenant arrangement. Rev. Sunshine said she will now advise our OCSL community that we are moving forward with a proposed lease agreement with the preschool.

Inquiry/proposal for a deeper 3-community collaboration

Rev. Sunshine had asked that this topic be put on the agenda for presentation and discussion before she goes on medical leave. She mentioned the increasing collaborations that the three CSL Centers in Oakland (East Bay Church, Heart & Soul, and Oakland CSL) have been engaging, i.e. joint workshop with equal representation at the CSL Annual Convention in Reno in April, Collaboration vs Competition with our joint social justice/sacred activism/imagining justice meetings combining once a month since the beginning of 2026; the New Year's Eve joint gathering; last year's outdoor gathering.

When Dr. Soni Cantrell-Smith was in Oakland for the OCSL 80th Anniversary Gala she also visited the other Oakland Centers and got thinking about the joint venture she had been engaging with Unity, Associated New Thought Network (ANTN), and CSL. She posed to the 3 Oakland ministers the possibility of an idea of a deeper collaboration. She then introduced them to Rev. Bobbi Becker who had been instrumental in the design and implementation of a unification of two CSL Centers in Southern California. Rev. Bobbi walked the 3 Oakland ministers through their model that centered around shared values and collaboration and eventually brought their two communities together as one. The 3 Oakland ministers have been meeting regularly to explore what collaboration could look like and are proposing to each of our respective boards the following next step:

To form a committee with representatives from each Center (9-12 people including the 3 senior ministers) for the purpose of exploration, with Rev. Bobbi Becker as the external facilitator (paid), with further collaboration up to and including unification.

There was robust discussion that ended in the following motion that is worded similar to Heart & Soul's motion that was unanimously approved by their Leadership Council:

Motion - Form a committee of three representatives from Oakland Center for Spiritual Living - including the Senior Minister, one Board of Trustees representative, and one community member — to participate in an exploratory process regarding increased collaboration up to and including possible unification with the three Oakland centers. All were in favor and none were opposed. There was a question about how we will choose representatives for this committee? Note: The Heart and Soul Leadership Council had a similar inquiry seeking clarity regarding the (exploration) committee's expected responsibilities, time commitment, and process structure before selecting representatives.

Since the meeting went long discussing the financials, Rev. Sunshine's medical leave, and the preschool and collaboration projects, the remaining agenda items were tabled for further discussion.

Rev. Sunshine prayed us out then the meeting was adjourned.

Next Board Meetings:

June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20

Open Forums:

Board needs to come up with proposed schedule