

Borderlands UU
Annual Meeting
April 2, 2023

Prelude: Randy Mitchell played guitar and sang ballads appropriate to the UU message.

Chalice Lighting – Russ Peterson

President Russ Peterson called the meeting to order and stated that we had a quorum present.

President's Report - Russ Peterson said that Borderlands UU has had a successful year with much help from Members and the Board. He introduced the members of the Board of Directors.

Pastor's Report - Rev. Seth Wispelwey said that he has been with Borderlands for three months but it feels longer. He has appreciated the Worship Arts committee's help the Sunday services. He has had a chance to be himself. As a transition minister his job is getting the congregation to think about where they are going. They need a vision and a mission. His role is to listen and bring people together-Why, How and What. To get them to think about where they are going.

Good News -The currently pledges are above last year.

Better News - The memorial garden will be named for Jim Hoy who is being recognized for his hard work - blood and sweat. He designed the garden and has worked endless hours to make it beautiful. A plaque with his name will be hung on the gate. Jim said a few words about his ten years of work on the garden. He thanked the many who supported the garden project by working and paying into the garden account. He said that Carol helped with accounting.

A toast was made to Jim's honor.

Brief Testimonies from some Committee Chairs:

Membership- Jeanne Macauley reported that membership has increased but the committee needs more help.

Website- Barbara Lund said that many UU members and others have worked on the project. It will continue to be updated. There is need for volunteers.

Auction- Deb Mitchell and Diana King said the auction was fun and raised more than \$7000. Diana's new strategies using the computer were successful. Participation by the donors and bidders made the auction successful.

9 AM Sunday Forums- Jim Lund reported that the forums have been well attended with a few more coming up in April and will be started again in the fall.

Gallery- Deana Brooks announced that there is a new exhibit in the gallery featuring photos by members of the Church for Spiritual Living. Exhibits have included works from the Amado Youth Center, the one woman show by member Sonia Collins and works by our Members.

Pledge Drive- Kathleen Creten reported that many pledged but there is still more money needed to reach the 2023-2024 goal. The bagel breakfast got good reviews. International Women's Day program was also part of her leadership in Borderlands UU.

Men's Group - Bruce Sillers announced that the Men's Group meets on Tuesday AM twice a month. George Smith is the other organizer of the group.

Worship Arts- Diane Farone said they kept the Sunday services afloat during the summer and fall. Now they work with Rev. Seth planning Worship Services.

Outreach - Barbara Lemmon said several times the committee assembled Peace Kits for children at Casa Alitas. They worked with the committee planning the Chili Cook Off. People were organized to write post cards to people encouraging new voters to register prior to the 2022 election so that they can participate in democracy.

Shade Sail- Ken Lopez reminded us that we can feel the comfort of sitting under the shade sail right now. He said the garden is a work in progress. A charcoal grill will be installed at the east end of the garden.

There was a toast to the accomplishments of the committees.

President Russ Peterson said we have had good and better news. But we have a challenge to increase our pledges by \$15,000 to meet our goal for the next fiscal year. There is carryover revenue from last year but we need to raise pledges for future growth and development. Individuals need to consider raising their pledges.

Pledge Challenge - Member Art LaFrance said that he would increase his personal pledge by 50% if ten others increased their pledges by 50%.

Business:

The slate of officers for open positions was approved. Lorelei Schober was nominated for Vice President for two year term; Member-at-Large Kathleen Creten for one year term and John Kron for two year term. The results will be reported at a later time as there were several members present with paper ballots who had not voted online.

The 2023-2023 proposed budget was approved by the vote of the members present.

Extinguishing the Chalice President Russ Peterson

Meeting was adjourned by President Russ Peterson.

Borderlands UU Annual Meeting minutes for 2022 – 2023 submitted by Marilyn Taylor Board Secretary on April 7, 2023.

Addendum: Results of the voting for Board officers were announced to the congregation via email. All nominees, as stated above, were confirmed to hold their respective Board positions.