

Borderlands Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Annual Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2026

Opening and Welcome

- Meeting Called to Order — Nancy Murphy
- Welcome and Introductions — Nancy introduced the current Board, heads of Committees, and all volunteers. She emphasized the need to foster leaders.
- Parliamentary Guidelines for Today's Meeting — Jack Webber explained what BUU documents are on our website and how to access them—Bylaws, Minutes, and Budgets. He mentioned the Fifth Principle and that we were using our democratic process today. He calculated the number of members in attendance required to hold the meeting (45 voting members—including proxies + 13 votes by mail = 58, when 29 or 1/3 of total 86 members is required). Nancy declared that we have a quorum. Jack informed attendees about Roberts Rules of Order for voting—motion, discussion, and then vote.
- Chalice Lighting — by Nancy with a reading by Martha House
- Reading of the Covenant — Tanya Leighton

Review of the Past Year & Future Challenges

- Approval of the Annual Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2025 — Susan James explained the Minutes in brief while a PowerPoint slide displayed the full text. Tanya made the motion to approve and Martha seconded. Approved unanimously.
- Highlights of BUU Activities and Achievements — Elaine Webber gave a summary of the Annual Committee Reports for the four Standing Committees: Membership Report to come from Jeanne Macauley; Building & Grounds Committee—Kathy Creten reported that it has been an active year, the Inspection Report has led to many safety and critical projects being undertaken, and the committee needs volunteers; Worship Arts—has hosted a variety of services with guest ministers and BAJA 4, and started new events, such as Connection Sundays; Social Justice—Jan Lathrop reported that with changes at the border, community needs have changed. They are actively serving those needs in various ways.
- President's Report, *Future Challenges* — Nancy reported that her statement was in the Annual Meeting packet that went out to all members. She encouraged members to stay engaged and continue to show up. It requires a shared commitment to becoming sustainable in the future. We invested in each other this year, in our Connections projects, by deepening trust and building skills for

dealing with conflict. She concluded with three big questions: How are we using our financial resources to support our mission and values? Does our current organizational structure help people volunteer in meaningful ways? How does our current location help us thrive, and what are the limitations? Nancy encouraged us to stay connected to each other while doing this work. She thanked everyone and said she was grateful for serving [as interim President of the Board].

New Business — Finances

- Treasurer’s Report and Financial Overview — Jack presented a report for the first 3/4 of the 2025-26 fiscal year, showing our Revenue at 74%, our pledge income short by \$8,294, and nonpayments at \$10-15,000. Expenses are at 65%, with B&G at 83%. The Endowment Fund is at \$1,566,334. Our budget deficit for this year is predicted to be \$24,500; less than was predicted at the last Annual Meeting.
- Proposed 2026-27 Budget, Discussion and Vote — Jack presented the Proposed Budget as prepared by he and Charlie Golec, based on pledge income of \$120,000 and total Revenue of \$145,200. The budget is predicted to be a balanced one. Michael King made a motion to approve the 2026-27 Budget as presented, Lorelei seconded the motion. Approved unanimously by card vote.

New Business — Proposed Bylaws Changes

- Proposed changes, Discussion and Vote — Diane Farone explained the process that she, Mary Arrigoni, and the Board undertook to update the Bylaws. Town Halls in March and April led to further modifications. In brief, many of the changes were housekeeping ones, and there were three suggested substantive changes—Article 4 about the BUU’s contribution to the UUA; Article 5 changing the percentage of the congregation to hold a special meeting and the request to inform the Board; Article 6 changing the nominating process. Jack presented the Ballot vote. Martha made a motion to approved the Bylaws changes and Art LaFrance seconded it. After a question about calling a special meeting, it was explained that it was meant to be a collaborative process to involve the Board. Attendees then used their paper ballots to vote.

Election of Board Members

- Introduction of Nominees and Nominations from the Floor — Nancy introduced the nominees: Mary Arrigoni (President, 2-year term), Beth Dingman (Vice President, 1-year term), Diana King (Secretary, 1-year term), Art LaFrance (Treasurer, 2-year term), Sheila Stewart Glover (Member-at-Large, 2-year term), Denise Lund Smith (Member-at-Large, 1-year term), Jim Lund (Member-at-Large, 1-year term).

- Election Procedure — Jack opened the floor for additional nominees and there were none. He closed the floor. There was a question about how many nominees are full-time residents—2 of the 7 are. Mary explained that the nominees have already discussed this and they will meet using Zoom. A question about the varying term lengths was explained that although all positions are meant to be two years in length, some positions are completing terms that are open due to resignations. Also, it is the intention to have half of the positions filled each year. Discussion was closed and ballots for the Election and Bylaw voting were collected.
- Affirmation of Election Results – After a 40-minute break, Nancy announced the Election Results.

Bylaws Amendments:

59 yes – 5 no Housekeeping Amendments

60 yes – 4 no Amendment to Article 4 concerning contributions to UUA

57 yes – 7 no Amendment to Article 5, Section 2 concerning the process for members to require the Board to call a special meeting of the congregation.

61 yes – 3 no Amendment to Article 6, Section 3 replacing the creation of a Nominating Committee to a Nominating Process

Board of Directors:

54 yes – 10 blank Mary Arrigoni, President

63 yes – 1 blank Beth Dingman, Vice President

64 yes – 0 blank Diana King, Secretary

55 yes – 9 blank Art LaFrance, Treasurer

61 yes – 3 blank Sheila Stewart Glover

61 yes – 3 blank Denise Lund Smith

61 yes – 3 blank Jim Lund

Proposed Budget for 2026-27: adopted by hand vote during the Annual Meeting. There weren't any "NO" votes noted by the Parliamentarian.

Closing

- Closing Words — Nancy Murphy
- Extinguishing the Chalice – David Doyle
- Adjournment at 1:10 p.m. & Singing *Spirit of Life*

Submitted by Susan James, Board Secretary