

# Proposed Bylaw Amendments

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship Annual Meeting May 15 2022

The Board of Trustees is proposing the following amendments to the Bylaws of the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship. The current Bylaws are available on our website at <https://wp.buf.org/administration-overview/our-governance/bylaws/>

## Amendment 1: ARTICLE III.

This Article indicates that our fellowship is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Pacific Northwest District (PNWD). The PNWD no longer exists. While the PNWD has merged with other districts to form the Pacific Western Region, the legally important relationship is with the UUA.

### **Proposed Text**

This Fellowship shall be a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association ~~and the Pacific Northwest District.~~

## Amendment 2: ARTICLE XIII

This article identifies our membership in our national association, the Unitarian Universalist Association. This change changes the name of the national association to its correct name.

### **Proposed Text**

Upon its dissolution or final liquidation, the net assets of the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship shall be distributed to the Unitarian Universalist Association ~~of Churches and Fellowships in North America~~, a not-for-profit organization which is tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

## Amendment 3: ARTICLE V, Section 7, Minutes, last sentence.

This change is to use the proper terminology for changes to a previous meeting minutes during a subsequent meeting. To “amend” implies changing what happened at the meeting. To “correct” implies that there was an error in recording or documenting what happened that should be corrected.

Proposed Text

At the next congregational meeting they will be approved or ~~amended~~ **corrected**.

## Amendment 4: ARTICLE VII, Section 3, Board Meetings, first sentence.

This change corrects an impossible requirement. Effectively, the Board meets at least monthly through out the year.

**Proposed Text**

The Board shall hold ~~at least eight regular~~ monthly meetings ~~each year~~.

## Amendment 5: ARTICLE IX, Section 3, the section title.

This change corrects terminology used during the ministerial selection process. A congregation **elects** its Board of Trustees. A congregation **calls** its minister.

Proposed Text

Article IX; Section 3: ~~Election~~ **Call** of a Minister: ...

## Amendment 6: ARTICLE VI, Section 1, second sentence.

This section deals with the make up of the Board and limits a Trustee to one three-year term. This limitation has contributed to a lack of year-to-year continuity on the board. This change would establish a limitation of two three-year terms for a Trustee.

### Proposed Text

Term of office shall be three years ~~and a Trustee who has served a complete term is not eligible to serve a succeeding term~~ **but no trustee may serve more than two consecutive complete terms.**