



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: February 10, 2026

### Call to Order

Meeting convened at: 4:05 PST/7:05 EST/6:05 CT

### Attendance

In Attendance	Absent
Chloe Alexander Kati Bell Sharece Bunn Cassie Brooks Cairns Myroslava Fisun Adrienne Johnson Taylor Reynolds Rebecca Wegscheid Graham Salinger	Natasha Wanchek Sandra Jacobs Madison Jansen Julianne Dunn

### E-Vote Records

No e-votes have been initiated or recorded since the last board meeting.

### Approve Prior Minutes

#### January 2026 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve: Kati Bell
- Second: Sharece
- Yay: 8
- Nay: 0
- Abstain: 0
- Absent: 5

### Announcements

- **Committee Roster:** reviewed responsibilities for committee leads to complete

committee roster. Sharece and Taylor will work on making sure we have confidentiality agreements on file and appropriate access for committee members. Roster to be completed by leads by **February 28, 2026**

- **Open Board Meeting:** Scheduled during the April board meeting. Intention will be for anyone interested in joining the board to attend and learn more about AUA

## Kudos

- Becky, Adrienne, Sandy, Taylor, Chloe, and Graham attended the Strategic Planning meeting on Saturday!
- Kati continues to do awesome work for finances!
- Sandy for continuing work with the bridging of the AUA board and BK team!
- Impossible to continue financial planning and bookkeeping without Chloe!
- Sharece and Sandy for their efforts with Cooking for a Cause!

## Committee Business

### Pre-Submitted Committee Updates

#### February 2026 Committee Updates

- **Committee Leads:** Updates are due the Friday before the meeting. This document is for those updates that board members should know but that do not have to be shared aloud in the meeting.

## Advocacy

- Push in newsletter and on socials for Op-Ed, CFA before anniversary of full scale invasion (Feb. 24, 2026)
- Repurposing posts of other organizations. Contact Becky if you know of an org that we should connect with.
- Interested in joining? A (30-min) meeting may be scheduled in March

## Communications

- Push on socials for Peremoha grants, auction will be next focus
- Newsletter Deadlines: 15th of every month for content, will go out every third Wednesday of the month

- A question was asked to clarify the deadline to post on social media. We can send social media updates ad-hoc. A social media calendar will be followed more rigidly in the future.
- Send updates to Becky by email or DM on Instagram

## Equity & Social Justice

- Myroslava attended a discussion with Graham about gaps in this area and to discuss applicable trainings and ideas for growth in this area
- Engagement events and targeted outreach that focus on diversifying perspectives was also discussed
- Sharece: mentioned non-profit training from last year referencing the trainings discussed

## Finance & Fundraising

- Chloe gave the Finance Update: As of Jan. 30th, almost 32k to start the year
- In January: Revenues of a little over five thousand dollars with standard expenses noted
- Received three large donations from General Funds
- Kati gave the Fundraising update.
- Question: Do we do social media shoutouts to donors? Kati: Past donor management has been minimal. Mentioned FRUA's history of donating grants, supported Becky's idea to shout out donors. Kati and Becky to continue conversation about this idea and include Natasha
- Highlighted the art auction coming up: Cortney needs help coordinating with artists participating in the event , needs 3-4 volunteers to help! Taylor offered to help.
- Babusya's Cookbook has been main driver of revenue: shift from individual purchases to bookstore sales
- An idea for fundraising was raised to have RCPV groups compete in effort to raise funds
- If you have ideas for new merch, contact Kati.
- Artists focusing on ukrainian art can email Cortney at [auction@allianceforukraine.org](mailto:auction@allianceforukraine.org)
- Sharece asked to invite Cortney to the upcoming March board meeting to give a short presentation about the auction.

## BK

- Sandy's updates on the BK team were given by Sharece since Sandy is in DC representing the board at an event, discussed goals for 2026
- Pushing to sale BK books wholesale at independent bookstores
- Looking at events that have a large appetite for the book: making academic

connections via gastrodiploamacy for example.

- Sandy is interested in assisting those interested in hosting Cooking for a Cause in other locations

## Impact/Grants

- Sarah Friedman has been working on stories for the Peremoha grantee stories in the past. She is in Minnesota and has little capacity for writing the stories moving forward. This could be a great place for Adrienne to step in and get involved with grants in an area where we need support.
- Natasha has mentioned reaching out to RCPVs to encourage involvement in sponsoring grants
- Adrienne mentioned an approach to legal due diligence in partner's non-profit. Should we consider a similar approach as grants expand?
- Chloe mentioned due diligence in her former role and plans to help evaluate grants, would like to know more about what sort of questions we need to ask, specifically regarding what risks we should consider.
- Kati added that we do have a process for a due diligence check that Natasha and Cortney have in place
- We mentioned that the board should be prepared to respond to information about the grants. We should receive information from the grants committee about their recommendations for the grants around March 3. We have from March 3 - 10, 2026, to review the information and ask the grant committee questions. Note: Please check email to review grants committee questions that we will vote on during the March BOD meeting)
- Graham joined the meeting during the presentation and was added to the list of attendees

## Membership Engagement

- No updates were provided and Julianne was absent.

## General Discussion Items

### Topic #1: BK Shift from Individual, Web Based Sales to Wholesaling and Bookstores

- BK team clarified 2026 goals during Fundraising meeting
- Kati asked for thoughts or comments on the planned shift from individual, web based sales to wholesaling to bookstores.
- Mentioned [bookshop.org](https://www.bookshop.org) as a place to sale books in bulk, but BK team wanted people to people connection to honor PC values (3rd goal)
- Chloe mentioned revenue from wholesale sales—would result in less cash flow for grants, we would need to counteract that loss

- Kati asked, "do we need to offer a wholesale rate?"
- Adrienne: suggested we connect with Dan Ginsburg (29) regarding publishing norms
- Sharece mentioned that a member of the BK team works in publishing as well and explained the pricing model that was created.
- There might be an ask to the BK team to have the cookbook in 15 more stores this year

## Topic #2: Ukraine Action Summit

- Ukraine Action Summit is coming up
- Amplify opportunity to engage on social media
- Request from Ukrainian asking for payment to attend (conflict of interest/volunteer issue)
- There was general interest in budgeting to sponsoring a grant for someone to go in 2027
- Myroslava will attend the upcoming Summit
- Would they be willing to give us a discount to attend if we sponsor in the future?
- Myroslava will ask about funding with ACU
- Becky will DM them to ask about membership updates

## Topic #3: Strategic Planning Discussion Questions

- Sharece: Suggested we chat about three questions following our meeting on Saturday
- If we want to continue grants for 3-5 years, what do we envision this looking like?
- How do we build membership engagement with those interested, but inactive?
- What projects should we focus on now and what projects should be focused on in the future?
- Kati suggested we focus on membership engagement this year to grow potential for grants in later years.
- Julianne shifted membership engagement from focus on town halls to fun events, but less people engaged
- Adrienne suggested that a balance between fun and serious events is necessary, including focus on 3rd goal values, suggested creating a framework to accomplish specific goals that we identify
- Chloe suggested bringing the calendar back, voting on pictures that would appear in the calendar, using it as a fundraising opportunity

- Graham: each month could have a QR code that connects to further engagement (activities, videos, newsletter, events), every month donates to a different region in Ukraine
- Sharece: we could add sponsorships to the calendar, logos from sponsors
- Adrienne mentioned ideas for crowdfunding page with deadlines, capitalizing on trends

### Action Items

- Everyone: After receiving the grant committee recommendations for round 9, please send questions to Grants committee before next board meeting

### Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at: 5:25 PT, 8:25 EST, 7:25 CT

### Next Meeting

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on: **Mar 10, 2026 4pm PST/ 7pm EST**

Hot ticket item: Grants

### Approval of Minutes

Board members: please add your initials and the date when you have read the minutes:

Board Member	Initials	Date Read
Natasha Wanchek	NW	2/12/2026
Taylor Reynolds	TR	2/14/2026
Julianne Dunn	JD	2/16/2026
Kati Bell	KB	2/17/2026
Sandy Jacobs	SJ	2/18/2026
Becky Wegscheid	RLW	2/18/2026
Chloe Alexander	CBA	3/5/2026

Cassie Brooks Cairns	CBC	10 March 2026
Sharece Bunn	SMB	22 February 2026
Myroslava Fisun	MF	2/24/2026
Madison Jansen	MJ	10 March 2026
Adrienne Johnson	AJ	10 March 2026
Graham Salinger	GS	February 23 26