

## **Special Meeting of the Congregation**

**October 14, 2018**

A special meeting of the congregation was held at the request of our LGBTQ Interest Group to vote on the following statement and action: The Unitarian Universalist Society of Wellesley Hills declares its support for a “Yes” vote on Ballot Question #3 and approves placing signs in favor of that vote in front of the church.

The meeting was called to order by the Clerk, Nancy Fenstermacher, and it was determined that a quorum (20% of the voting members of the congregation) was present. We presently have a count of 152 voting members of the congregation; 31 voting members were needed for a quorum and 42 voting members were present.

Frank McGrath was elected Moderator and he called upon Kathy Kaufmann, Chair of the LGBTQ Interest Group, to make the motion to approve the aforementioned statement and action. After doing so, Kathy explained that we as a religious organization are permitted to advocate for issues that reflect and uphold our values. Since 2001, we have been an official Welcoming Congregation, affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all persons, regardless of sexual orientation and/or gender identity/expression, within our congregation, our community, and beyond. A “Yes” vote on Question #3 will protect the rights of transgender people in Massachusetts by reaffirming a 2016 law. That law provides legal protections against discrimination in public accommodations, including restaurants, hospitals, and stores.

The vote was called by the Moderator and the motion was approved unanimously by a show of hands.

With no further business to conduct the meeting was promptly adjourned.