

First Unitarian Church of St. Louis
Special Congregational Meeting
June 9, 2019

Minutes

Business before the congregation was to discuss and vote on the call for Kim Mason as settled minister of the congregation. A quorum of 60% of voting church members is required to hold the vote at this meeting.

Meeting was called to order by President Sue Ashwell at 11:53am.

The meeting took place in the sanctuary as an open meeting. Voting members were certified and given ballots.

Policy Board and Church Council members certified that a quorum of voting members had been reached. 159 of the 249 voting members (64%) were present in person or via a live internet connection.

President Ashwell gave a few informational points

- A negotiating committee from the Board, Personnel, Finance and Search Committees had already finalized the details of Kim Mason's agreement with us, should we call her and should she accept.
- First UU By-Laws require that 90% of the quorum of voting members must be in favor of calling a minister before we can do so.
- If the vote to call Kim Mason is 90% or better, she will then decide whether to accept our call.
- An overview of the candidate was given.

Larry Dusenbery, Chair of the Search Committee made the following motion:

On behalf of the Search Committee, I move that Kimberly Anne Mason be called as the next settled minister of the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis.

The motion was seconded.

The following people spoke to the motion. All comments were favorable.

Ben Rosensweig, RE Coordinator indicated that the children held an unofficial vote. The vote was unanimous to accept Kim Mason as the new minister.

Tony Fathman, a fifty-year member.

Sarah Dashner, Worship Committee

Sue Herzberg, RE Committee and ERDE Committee

Susan Morse, ERDE and Knitting Ministry

No other discussion - The motion was called to a vote at 12:10PM

Ayes have it by voice vote.

Voting members were asked to place their completed ballots in the ballot boxes.

Absentee ballots were checked to certify that absentee members were not present.

179 ballots including absentee, *texted and on-line* ballots, were cast. 176 voted yes. 3 voted no. Kim Mason was called with 98% of the vote.

Present at vote counting – Sue Ashwell, Sarah Francois, Pamela Geppert, Lynn Hunt, Gene Rubin, Karen Siegrist, Steve Smidowicz, Margaret Weck, Kathy Wilke, Steve Wilke. Joel Minor worked with Kathy Wire and Claire Weichselbaum to count on-line and texted votes.

Vice-President Margaret Weck announced the vote to the congregation.

President Ashwell presented the results to Kim Mason, who accepted the call to become the settled minister of First Unitarian Church of St. Louis.

After remarks by Kim Mason. The meeting ended at approximately 12:30PM.

The Search Committee held a reception in the church hall. Cake!!

Minutes submitted by Pamela Geppert, Secretary.