

**THE TENTH MEETING OF THE  
NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL  
Atlanta, Georgia  
October 26, 1984**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Tenth Meeting of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council was called to order by TE John Bratt, Chairman of the Council, at 2:00 p.m., on October 26, 1984, at the Howard Johnsons Airport Inn, Hartsfield International Airport, Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Bratt led the Council in a brief devotional, reading a passage from John 15:1-8, followed by prayer.

**2. ROLL CALL**

The roll was taken. The following delegates and observers were present:

**Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC):**

TE Gregory C. Slater, TE Robert J. Robinson, RE William H. F. Kuykendall

**Christian Reformed Church (CRC):**

RE Albert A. Bel, TE John Bratt, TE Leonard J. Hofman,  
TE Neal Punt  
Alternates: TE Eugene Rubingh, TE John G. VanRyn

**Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC):**

TE Myung Doh Kim

**Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC):**

TE Donald J. Duff, TE Thomas S. Champness, TE John Galbraith,  
TE Bernard J. Stonehouse

**Presbyterian Church in America (PCA):**

TE Bruce M. Ferg, TE John W. Sanderson, TE Henry Lewis  
Smith, Alternate:, TE Morton H. Smith

**Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (RPCNA):**

RE Donald McCrory, TE Jerrold S. Milroy, TE Paul M. Martin

**Observer Churches:**

**Evangelical Presbyterian Church**

TE L. Edward Davis, TE J. Kent Bull

**3. ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET**

The docket as indicated by these Minutes was adopted.

4- Election of officers -

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Chairman: Rev. John P. Galbraith (OPC)  
Vice Chairman: Mr. William Kuykendal (ARP)  
Secretary: Rev. Morton H. Smith (PCA)  
Treasurer: Mr. Charles Carlisle (ARP)

The Secretary and Treasurer were authorized to sign the necessary Bank resolution for the opening a new bank account for the Council.

Adopted

5. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

The following resolution of appreciation for the services of Mr. Albert Bel was adopted:

Whereas, Ruling Elder Albert A. Bel of the Christian Reformed Church has faithfully served as Treasurer of the North American Presbyterian Council since its beginning until now, and  
Whereas, his presence at every meeting of the Council to this date has given the Council the advantage of having the contributions of a wise Ruling Elder from the Christian Reformed Church, and

Whereas, Mr. Bel has requested that we not re-elect him as Treasurer again,

Be it therefore resolved, that the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council does hereby adopt this resolution of thanks and appreciation to Mr. Albert A. Bel for his faithful service both as a member of the Council and as its Treasurer for these first nine years.

Adopted

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Council were approved as mailed out.

Adopted

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Albert A. Bel, Treasurer of the Council, presented the Treasurer's Report (See Appendix C). It was moved and seconded that the report be approved.

Adopted

The following expenditures were authorized by the Council:

\$700 to defray the expenses of the dinner for the members of the Council and of the various consultations meeting concurrently with the Council.

\$250 Secretary salary

\$150 to be paid to the denomination of the Secretary to defray office expenses.

Adopted

8. STUDY COMMITTEE ON RECEIVING OF MEMBERS UNDER DISCIPLINE

That the Council suggest to the member Churches that they consider a joint study of procedures to be followed in cases of applications for membership by persons, including ministers, who are fugitives from the discipline of NAPARC Churches, that each member Church be asked to appoint one member to serve on this study Committee, that the PCA be the convening Church, and that the Committee be asked to report to the 1985 meeting of the Council.

Adopted

**9. HERMENEUTICS REPORT**

On motion from the Interim Committee, it was decided that the observations approved by the Hermeneutic Study Committee be distributed by the Secretary of NAPARC, with the request for response from the member Churches, and that the Hermeneutics Study Committee be kept active in order to receive responses from the member churches to which they may wish to address an answer (See Appendix J).

Adopted

**10. RECOMMENDATION TO CHURCHES REGARDING STUDIES**

On motion from the Interim Committee, it was agreed that the Council strongly urge the member churches that when they plan a study of doctrinal or ethical matters, that they consider asking the other NAPARC churches to join them in the study, it being understood that each participating delegation would make its own recommendations to its church.

Adopted

**11. NEWS OFFICER**

On motion from the Interim Committee, Dr. John Bratt was appointed to serve as the news officer for NAPARC. He is to send news articles to the various church periodicals serving NAPARC people. Each denomination interchurch committee is requested to appoint an agent, who will supply Dr. Bratt with news on a regular basis.

The newsletter mandate of the last meeting (Item 6-3) is to be held in abeyance for the time being.

Adopted

**12. CONCURRENT ASSEMBLIES/SYNODS**

On motion from the Interim Committee, it was determined that the 1987 concurrent meeting of the Assemblies/Synods be set for Grand Rapids, the time to conform to the regular schedule of the CRC, and that each Church be asked to set its dates at its next Assembly/Synod meeting. The Arrangements Committee is asked to give a higher priority to the joint meetings than in the past. The member churches, in preparation for the Concurrent Assembly/Synods, appoint two representatives to serve on the Arrangements Committee, reporting the same to the next meeting of the Council.

Adopted

**13. REPORTS FROM THE CHURCHES**

Each delegation gave a report of the significant action taken at the recent meetings of the Assemblies/Synods of their respective churches. Representatives for the Evangelical Presbyterian Church also reported. (See Appendices D - I).

**14. REPORTS FROM THE VARIOUS CONSULTATIONS**

Reports from the various delegations were made. (See Appendices)

## 15. COMITY MATTERS

It was moved that the Council send a copy of the following "golden rule comity agreement" from the NAPARC Mission Consultation to each of the interchurch committees of the member churches, and ask them to seek the approval of it by their denomination, and that if approved, they communicate it to the consistories/sessions, classes/presbyteries and the mission agencies of their respective Churches.      **Adopted**

### "Golden Rule" Comity Agreement

Comity has meant different things to different people. We representatives of the home missions agencies and committees or boards of our denominations resist territorial statements on comity in light of the social and cultural complexity of North American society and the great spiritual need of our many country men who are apart from Jesus Christ. Out of a concern to build the Church of Jesus Christ rather than our own denominations and to avoid the appearance of competition, we affirm the following courteous code of behavior to guide our church planting ministries in North America:

1. We will be sensitive to the presence of existing churches and missions ministries of other NAPARC churches and will refrain from enlisting members of these existing ministries.
2. We will communicate with the equivalent or appropriate agency (denominational missions committee or board, presbytery missions or church extension committee, or session) before initiating church planting activities in a community where NAPARC churches or missions ministries exist.
3. We will provide information on at least an annual basis describing progress in our ministries and future plans.
4. We will encourage our regional home missions leadership to develop good working relationships.

## 16. INSURANCE

It was moved that the Council recommend to the member churches that their Business Administrators/Financial Coordinators be encouraged to share with the other NAPARC churches information relative to hospitalization insurance programs, noting whether or not their insurance carriers pay benefits for abortion and furthermore, review each denomination's casualty and liability insurance coverage with a view to considering the possibility of a cooperative or joint effort in this area.      **Adopted**

## 17. INTERIM COMMITTEE

The members of the Interim Committee were elected by the respective delegations to fill out the Committee with a representative from each

denomination. The Committee is as follows:

ARP Mr. William Kuykendall  
CRC Rev. John Primus  
KAPC Rev. Myung Doh Kim  
OPC Rev. John Galbraith  
PCA Rev. Morton Smith  
RPCNA Rev. Jerry Milroy

## 18. MEMORIAL

Long ago a wise sage observed that "every great institution is finally the lengthened shadow of a single committed individual."

Meeting today as the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council we are profoundly grateful for the vision that our Sovereign God gave to George Aiken Taylor (1920-1984).

Aiken saw Presbyterians and Reformed people faithful to the Scriptures and the historic Confessional standards, scattered among as many as twelve denominations, often unaware of and isolated from each other, with a witness weakened by fragmentation.

Impelled by the imperative of Scripture, particularly the High Priestly Prayer of our Beloved Saviour in John 17, and the vision God gave him, Aiken used every avenue available to him, particularly his post as editor of The Presbyterian Journal, to forward the movements that led to the founding of NAPARC, an affiliation of denominations, and the National Presbyterian and Reformed Fellowship for individuals in denominations not a part of NAPARC.

We thank God for the life, ministry and gifts He gave His Church through Aiken Taylor.

We esteemed him as a leader, loved him as a brother, and rejoice in the continuing fruitfulness of this organization of which he can be termed founder.

The members of NAPARC would convey our affection and sympathy to his family, and affirm our conviction that by the Saving Grace of the Triune God he now serves in the presence of our risen, reigning Lord.  
Adopted

## 19. MEETINGS OF THE NEXT ASSEMBLIES/SYNODS

ARP June 10-13, 1985, Bonclarken, Flat Rock, NC  
CRC June 11-21, 1985, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI  
KAPC Between June 1 - 10, Philadelphia  
OPC May 30 - June 6, 1985, Eastern College, St. Davids, (Phila)  
PCA June 17-21m 1875, Henry VIII Motel, St. Louis, MO  
RPCNA June 15-21, 1985, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA

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**20. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

The next meeting of the Council is set to be held on November 20, 1985, in Atlanta, Georgia, with the ARP acting as the Host Church. Consultations of the agency groups are to be held on November 19, 1985, in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Adopted**

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m., with the Rev. Jack Peterson leading in the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Morton H. Smith".

Morton H. Smith, Secretary