

**MINUTES OF THE
SIXTEENTH MEETING
NORTH AMERICAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL**

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA
NOVEMBER 8, 1990**

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CONSTITUTION

BYLAWS

LIST OF NAPARC MEETINGS SHOWING PLACE, HOST CHURCH AND CHAIRMAN

<i>YEAR</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>HOST</i>	<i>CHAIRMAN</i>
1. 1975,	Beaver Falls, PA,	RPCNA	John P. Galbraith, OPC
2. 1976,	Grand Rapids, MI,	CRC	John B. White, RPCNA
3. 1977,	St. Louis, MO,	RPCES	William P. Brink, CRC
4. 1978,	Philadelphia, PA,	OPC	Donald J. MacNair, RPCES
5. 1979,	Philadelphia, PA,	OPC	LeRoy B. Oliver, OPC
6. 1980,	Philadelphia, PA,	OPC	Jack B. White, RPCNA
7. 1981,	Philadelphia, PA,	OPC	John P. Clarck, RPCES
8. 1982,	Pittsburgh, PA,	RPCNA	Kenneth Ryskamp, PCA
9. 1983,	Pittsburgh, PA,	RPCNA	John H. Bratt, CRC
10. 1984,	Atlanta, GA,	PCA	John P. Galbraith, OPC
11. 1985,	Atlanta, GA,	ARP	William Kuyendall, ARP
12. 1986,	greenville, SC,	ARP	Bruce Stewart, RPCNA
13. 1987,	Grand Rapids, MI,	CRC	Leon Wardell, PCA
14. 1988,	Philadelphia, PA,	KAPC	Jack Peterson, OPC
15. 1989,	Philadelphia, PA,	OPC	Leonard J. Hofman CRC
16. 1990,	Atlanta, GA,	PCA	John L. Carson, ARP

**MINUTES OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL
Atlanta, Georgia
November 8, 1990**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council met at the Sheraton Inn at the Atlanta Airport, Atlanta, Georgia, on November 8, 1990, at 8:30 a.m. The Rev. Leonard J. Hofman, Chairman, presided. He opened the meeting with a reading of Psalm 122, and led the Council in prayer.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was called, and the following were present:

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARP)

TE John L. Carson
RE Charles H. Carlisle
RE Reynolds Young
TE James T. Corbitt

Christian Reformed Church (CRC)

TE Leonard J. Hofman
TE Clarence Boomsma
TE Chris DeVos
TE John A. Rozeboom

Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC)

TE Myung Doh Kim
TE In Kee Moon

Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC)

TE John P. Galbraith
TE Thomas E. Tyson
TE William Shishko
TE Robert B. Strimple

Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

TE Henry Lewis Smith
RE Jack D. Merry
TE K. Eric Perrin
RE George H. Gulley, Jr.

TE Paul R. Gilchrist, Alternate
TE Morton H. Smith, non-voting
TE James D. Hatch, visitor

Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (RPCNA)

TE Paul M. Martin
TE John McMillan
TE Randall D. Van Osdal
TE Jerry F. O'Neill

TE Christopher Wright, Alternate
TE Robert H. McFarland, Alternate

A quorum was declared to be present.

The following Observer Churches were represented:

American Presbyterian Church (APC)
TE John W. Morrow

Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC)
TE L. Edward Davis

Presbyterian Reformed Church (PRC)
TE Sherman Isbell

Protestant Reformed Churches in North America (ProtRC)
TE Robert D. Decker

Reformed Presbyterian Church of the Americas (RPCA)
(formerly Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States)
TE Wayne Rogers

III. DOCKET

The proposed docket of for the meeting was adopted, as reflected in these Minutes.

IV. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF PAST COUNCIL

Upon review of the Minutes of the past Council meeting as mailed out were approved with the following corrections: Under the Roll, Tom A. Rogenboom should read John A. Rozeboom; Page 3, Minutes of Called meeting of the Interim Committee convened at 9:05 p.m. not a.m.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

RE Charles Carlisle (ARP). Treasurer. presented the Report of the Treasurer, which was approved, with commendation to Mr. Carlisle for his service as Treasurer. See Appendix B.

VI. NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS

The Interim Committee presented the following nominations for offices. The floor was opened for additional nominations for each office. Each of the nominees was elected by the Council as follows:

Chairman	TE John L. Carson (ARP)
Vice chairman	TE Paul M. Martin (RPCNA)
Secretary	TE Morton H. Smith (PCA)
Treasurer	RE Charles H. Carlisle (ARP)

VII. CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letter from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) (Appendix C)

The Interim Committee informed the Council that the EPC has not yet as a General Assembly responded to the request of the Council made in 1988, but the Interim Committee has received a letter from the Chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee, and has had a profitable discussion with the Rev. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk of the EPC. In the interest of further conversations with the EPC, the Interim Committee plans to prepare a pastoral type letter to the EPC through its Fraternal Relations Committee.

Motion was made to receive this report as information from the Interim Committee.

The Rev. Edward Davis of the EPC was granted the privilege of the floor. He acknowledged that the procedural point was properly made, and that no formal motion has been made to the EPC Assembly. He expressed his feeling that the NAPARC churches do not have explicit statements in their standards regarding the points being asked of the EPC.

After a brief recess, a motion to table the motion to receive the report as information was lost.

A question raised by a member of the RPCNA delegation was whether the EPC is constituted as Presbyterian and Reformed body and able to reform itself as a Church on some of the questions asked of it.

The following substitute motion was made, seconded and passed: That the Interim Committee be instructed to continue discussions with the Fraternal Relations Committee of the EPC over the next year in pursuance of their application for membership in NAPARC. This substitution was made, and then adopted as the main motion. **Adopted**

B. Communication from the OPC requesting an action by NAPARC on the CRC position on women officers. (Appendix D)

A communication from the Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Relations of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church requesting the Council to address the CRC regarding its recent action opening the offices of the Church to women was received, and discussed.

After full discussion, the Council adopted the following communication to be sent to the Christian Reformed Church.

In harmony with the stated "purpose and function" of the NAPARC to "exercise mutual concern in the perpetuation, retention, and propagation of the Reformed Faith (Constitution III:3), the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council calls upon The Christian Reformed Church to reverse the action of the 1990 Synod leading to the opening of the offices of minister and ruling elder to women, as contrary to the Scripture and the Reformed standards which insist that "everything [will] be carried on in the church . . . according to the rule prescribed by Saint Paul in his Epistle to Timothy" (*Belgic Confession of Faith* Article XXX), In I Timothy 2 and 3, in giving authoritative instruction regarding proper conduct "in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth" (3:15), the Apostle explicitly disallows to a woman the exercise of teaching or ruling authority over men in the church (2:12), and grounds this command in the divine creation order.

We send this resolution to our brethren in the Christian Reformed Church with profound respect and deep appreciation for the Christian Reformed Church, in an humble spirit and with a heavy heart.

The vote on this matter was taken by roll call of the delegations, as follows:

ARP	yes
CRC	abstain
KAPC	yes
OPC	yes
PCA	yes
RPCNA	yes

IX. INVITATION TO OTHER DENOMINATIONS

The Secretary reported on the list of Presbyterian and Reformed bodies invited to send observers, namely, the following:

American Presbyterian Church
Rev. Allen V. Wagner
Route 1, Gaunt's Bridge Road
Columbus, NJ 08022

Association of Reformation Churches
Rev. Ross Justice, Clerk
620 TWP 2104
Route 1
Londonville, OH 44842

Bible Presbyterian Church
William P. Robinson, Clerk
P. O. Box 190
Collingswood, NJ 08108

Bible Presbyterian Church
Rev. Kevin M. Backus, Clerk
1422 E. Park Road
Grand Island, NY 14072

Canadian and American Reformed Church
Rev. J. Mulder
1225 Highway 5, RR1
Burlington, Ontario, CANADA L7R 3X4

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Rev. Edward Davis, Stated Clerk
26049 Five Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48239

Free Church of Scotland
Rev. David Compton
593 Sheppard Avenue E N York
Willowdale, Ontario, CANADA M2K 184

Free Presbyterian Church of NA
Rev. John Greer
209 N. Newton Street
Newton Square, PA 19073

Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland
Rev. Malcolm McInnes
458 Huntingwood Drive
Agincourt, Ontario, CANADA M1W 1G3

Hungarian Reformed Church
Dr. Andrew Harsanyi, Bishop
P.O. Box D
Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Lithuanian Evangelical Reformed Church
Rev. Paul Dilys
3542 West 66th Place
Chicago, IL 60629

Netherlands Reformed Church
Rev. J. R. Beeke
2115 Romence, NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Orthodox Christian Reformed Churches
Rev. D. Van Dyken
720 N. Garl Street
Burlington, WA 98233

Presbyterian Reformed Church
Dr. William Young
Department of Philosophy
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881

Protestant Reformed Churches in North America
Prof. Robert D. Decker
4949 Ivanrest Ave. S.W.
Grandville, MI 49418

Reformed Church in the United States
Rev. Steven Work, Clerk
2350 Leigh Avenue
San Jose, CA 95124

Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States
Rev. Joseph Morecraft
P. O. Box 888022
Dunwoody, GA 30356

Scottish Reformed Church
Wallace F. Crawford
1427 30th Street
Des Moines, IA 5031

X. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS MEMBER AND OBSERVER CHURCHES

Each delegation, including the observer Churches, gave a brief report on significant actions taken at the recent meetings of the Assemblies or Synods of their respective Churches.
(See Appendices E-N for copies of the reports that were presented in writing.)

The following is a listing of the times and places of the 1990 Assemblies/Synods:

ARP	June 10-13, Bonclarken, Flat Rock, NC
CRC	June 11-20, Dort College, Sioux Center, IA
KAPC	June 18-21, Toronto, Ontario
OPC	May 30-June 6, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA
PCA	June 17-20, Briarwood Church, Birmingham, AL
RPCNA	June 1-7, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA
APC	Nov. 17, 1990, Westminster, MD
EPC	June 24-26, Livonia, MI
PresRC	Summer, Chesley, Ontario
ProtRC	

XI. REPORTS FROM THE CONSULTATIONS

Oral reports were made by representatives of the Consultations. Written reports as received are included in Appendices O-Q. The Foreign Missions consultation, which was held November 19-20, and the written report is included here.

XII. MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE

The Bylaws of the Council, as amended, specify that the Interim Committee consists of "the officers of the Council, together with such others, elected by the Council as will provide a representative from each member church. . . . When the Secretary or Treasurer serves for more than one consecutive term, his delegation may elect an additional member to the Interim Committee, if desired. Each denomination NAPARC shall have one vote on the Interim Committee, and each denomination's delegation determines who represents that denomination."

The Interim Committee for the following year is as follows:

ARP	John L. Carson, Chairman
	Charles H. Carlisle, Treasurer
CRC	Leonard J. Hofman
KAPC	Myung Doh Kim
OPC	John P. Galbraith
PCA	Henry Lewis Smith
	Morton H. Smith, Secretary
RPCNA	Paul M. Martin

XIII. CONSIDERATION OF HOLDING MEETINGS OF NAPARC ON A BIENNIAL BASIS (Minutes November 8, 1989, XV)

As instructed by the Council at its last meeting, the Interim Committee considered the possibility of hold the Council meetings on a biennial basis. The Interim Committee recommends that the Council continue to meet annually. **Adopted**

XIV. REGARDING STATISTICAL REPORTS

In response to an oral report by the Rev. Paul Gilchrist, Stated Clerk of the PCA requesting that the NAPARC churches cooperate with a statistical study being made of all American Churches, the Secretary was directed to send the addresses of the NAPARC churches to the agency carrying out this study.

XV. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The Interim Committee recommends that the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America be requested to host the next meeting of the Council, and that the host church take the lead in the plans for the various consultations. The host church is also asked to arrange for a key-note speaker for the dinner. It is recommended that the next meeting be scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, November 6-7, 1991, to be held in the Pittsburgh area. **Adopted**

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned with prayer led by John Galbraith at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Morton H. Smith, Secretary