

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING
OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL**
Bonclarken Conference Center, Flat Rock, North Carolina
November 16-17, 1999

I. CALL TO ORDER

The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council met on November 16, 1999, at the Bonclarken Conference Center, Flat Rock, North Carolina. The Chairman, the Rev. Ronald L. Potter, called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. EST. He read Psalm 45 and led in prayer.

II. ROLL CALL

Denomination	Delegates
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. (ARPC)	Robert J. Cara William B. Evans Dwight L. Pearson Jack C. Whytock
Christian Reformed Church in North America* (CRCNA)	Peter W. Brouwer David H. Engelhard David K. Watson
Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC)	Bruce S. Lee Duck Young Won
The Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC)	Donald J. Duff John P. Galbraith Jack J. Peterson Christopher H. Wisdom
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)	Irfon R. Hughes L. Roy Taylor
Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS)	Maynard A. Koerner Ronald L. Potter George J. Symms
Reformed Presbyterian Church North America (RPCNA)	Bruce R. Backensto Douglas Carson Bruce C. Stewart

*The Christian Reformed Church in North America is a suspended member.

A quorum was declared to be present.

The following observer churches were represented:

L'Église Réformée du Québec	Jean-Guy deBlois
Presbyterian Reformed Church	Timothy Worrell
United Reformed Churches in NA	Richard Stienstra
	Calvin J. Tuininga

Others present were:

Charles H. Carlisle (former Treasurer)	Darrell Todd Maurina (Christian Renewal)
Frank Smith (Presbyterian and Reformed News)	

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Interim Committee placed the following nominations before the Council:

Chairman	L. Roy Taylor (PCA)
Vice chairman	Jack J. Peterson (OPC)
Secretary	Donald J. Duff (OPC)
Treasurer	Maynard A. Koerner (RCUS)

The name of Mark T. Bube (OPC) was substituted for that of Jack J. Peterson and all were elected.

IV. APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO THE INTERIM COMMITTEE

The Interim Committee will be as follows:

ARPC	Robert J. Cara
KAPC	Duck Young Won
OPC	Donald J. Duff (Secretary)
	Mark T. Bube (Vice Chairman)
PCA	L. Roy Taylor (Chairman)
RCUS	Ronald L. Potter
	Maynard A. Koerner (Treasurer)
RPCNA	Bruce C. Stewart

Adopted

V. ASSUMPTION OF THE CHAIR

A five-minute recess was held after which Dr. L. Roy Taylor assumed the chair as the new chairman.

VI. REPORTS FROM MEMBER CHURCHES

Each of the member churches reported as follows with each report followed by prayer for the church which had reported.

Denomination	Reporter	Who Prayed	Report Paper
ARPC	Robert Cara	Ronald Potter	Paper A
CRCNA	David Engelhard	William Evans	Paper B
KAPC	Bruce Lee	Irfon Hughes	Paper C
OPC	Jack Peterson	Bruce Stewart	Paper D
PCA	L. Roy Taylor	John Galbraith	Paper E
RCUS	Ronald Potter	Bruce Lee	Paper F
RPCNA	Bruce Stewart	David Engelhard	Paper G

Note: Ronald Potter was in the chair during the report of Dr. Taylor.

VII. RECESS

During item VI the Council recessed from 3:36 p.m. until 3:56 p.m.

VIII. REPORTS OF OBSERVER CHURCHES

The following observer churches reported as follows with each report followed by prayer for the church which had reported.

Denomination	Reporter	Who Prayed	Report Paper
L'Église Réformée du Québec	Jean-Guy deBlois	Robert Cara	
Presbyterian Reformed Church	Timothy J. Worrell	Maynard Koerner	Paper H
United Reformed Churches in NA	Richard Stienstra	Donald Duff	

IX. RECESS

The Council recessed at 5:11 p.m. with prayer led by Mr. Galbraith. That evening a banquet was held at Bonclarken followed by an assembly with Dr. William B. Evans as the speaker on the topic "The NAPARC Community and the Peculiar Challenges of Our Time."

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

X. RECONVENE

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 8:33 a.m. with the reading of Psalm 100. The Council sang Psalm 100 and was led in prayer by Mr. Wisdom.

XI. ADOPTION OF DOCKET

The docket as proposed by the Interim Committee was put before the body as follows:

- I. Call to Order
 - II. Roll Call
 - III. Election of Officers: Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer
Listing of additional Interim Committee members.
 - IV. *Reports from Various Member Churches
 - V. Reports from Observer Churches
 - VI. Adoption of Docket
 - VII. Approval of Minutes
 - VII. Communications:
 - IX. Treasurer's Report
 - X. Interim Committee Report
 - XI. Old Business
 - A. Report of the committee of three to look into the publication of reformed materials. (See *Minutes* 1999, XVII)
 - B. Report from Johannes Verlinde with plans for a web site for NAPARC.
 - C. Report from member churches with concrete proposals regarding how NAPARC can fulfill its "Purpose and Function" (see NAPARC Constitution III)
 - XII. Reports on Conference/Consultation Held
 - XIII. New Business
 - XIV. Arrangements for next meeting (place, time, invitees)
 - XV. Adjournment
- *This is a time when NAPARC delegates assemble to present reports from their churches, to talk about important issues raised, and to pray with and for each other.

Adopted

XII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Interim Committee recommended the approval of the Minutes of the meetings of the Interim Committee on November 17, 1998 and the meeting of NAPARC of November 17-18, 1998 as distributed and corrected.

Adopted

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS

The Secretary reported he had the following communications to report for this meeting:

- 1. September 24, 1999 From the Reformed Church in the United States informing NAPARC of resolutions concerning NAPARC
- 2. No date American Presbyterian Church Greetings
- 3. October 4, 1999 Interchurch Committee of the Synod of the RPCNA with proposals "Regarding how NAPARC can fulfill its 'Purpose and Function' for discuss at the 1999 NAPARC meeting."
- 4. October 26, 1999 Free Reformed Churches of North America Greetings
- 5. June 9, 1999 Committee on Ecumenicity of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church regarding Women in the military.

The Communications are assigned as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. For XI b. of NAPARC docket | 4. For V of NAPARC docket |
| 2. For V of NAPARC docket | 5. For XIII of NAPARC docket |
| 3. For XI b. of NAPARC docket | |

Adopted

XIV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Maynard Koerner, Treasurer, reported as follows (Paper I):

Employer ID Number for accounts in Dacotah Bank, Watertown, SD 35-1940120

Donald J. Duff, Secretary, second signature on accounts.

NAPARC's General Fund

Current Accounts:

Balance: Checking Account as of November 17, 1998 \$7052.59

Receipts

from dues:

KAPC	\$150.00
ARPC	150.00
OPC	300.00
PCA	300.00
RCUS	300.00
RPCNA	300.00
Interest from checking	21.20
Meals	191.50
From CD	<u>186.99</u>

Total receipts \$2049.69 2049.69

Total responsible for \$9102.28

Expenditures:

NAPARC meeting (1998)	\$1186.39
Donald J. Duff, Secretary	200.00
Secretarial help	250.00
Bank Charges	<u>20.00</u>

Total Expenditures \$1656.39 -1656.39

Balance - Checking Account, November 15, 1999 \$744.89

Westminster Assembly Commemoration Conference Fund Account

Balance - CD Account 5217196 November 18, 1997 \$4548.20

(6 month CD at 4.75% interest rate, maturity date -12-09-99)

Total of CD and checking account: Nov. 15, 1999 \$11994.09

The Interim Committee recommended that the Council

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Accept the report (along with the recommendation that the dues from member denominations for 2000 be set at \$300.00). | Adopted |
| 2. That an honorarium of \$100.00 for November 1 st , 1999 be paid to the evening speaker. | Adopted |

XV. AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Potter reported for the auditors as follows: We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of NAPARC for 1998-1999 and found everything to be in order.

XVI. INTERIM COMMITTEE REPORT

The Interim Committee reported the following:

A. The Interim Committee recommends that any invited observer church not responding for three years in a row from this point on be removed from the list of invited observers. (Note: the Secretary will so advise these churches.) **Adopted**

B. The Interim Committee recommends that the Protestant Reformed Church and the Korean Presbyterian Church (Hapdong) be removed from the list of invited observers. **Adopted**

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Report of the Committee to Study the Use of the Westminster Assembly Commemoration Fund

Dr. Evans reported for the committee. (Paper J) the Committee had the following proposal and recommendations.

The Committee's Proposal: The following proposal has been submitted to the den Dulk Christian Foundation, and is now submitted to the Council:

1. That the NAPARC monies in the Westminster Commemoration Fund be utilized to finance the translation of G. I. Williamson's *The Westminster Confession of the Faith for Study Classes* into Spanish and that the remaining monies from the Westminster Commemoration Fund be used toward the publication of the same volume.

2. That the den Dulk Christian Foundation provide additional funds required for the completion of the project, manage the translation and publication efforts required, and arrange for an appropriate method of distribution.

3. That the volume include an introductory essay. Such essay will be written by a person chosen by the Council, and will outline the involvement of NAPARC in the project and provide an explanation of the Westminster Commemoration event.

4. In light of NAPARC's ecumenical character, if it is feasible, we would also like to see the volume include a harmony of the Reformed Confessions. The purpose of this would be to show the essential agreement of the Westminster Confession and the Three Forms of Unity.

Recommendations:

1. That the report and proposal of the Committee be approved.

2. That the proposal listed above be implemented. This will involve the conveyance of the monies in the Westminster Commemoration Fund to the den Dulk Christian Foundation, and the appointment of a person to write a preliminary essay for the book.

3. That the committee be released from its labors.

Actions taken with regard to the report:

1. The four parts of the proposal of the committee were considered together and modified as follows:

That in #3 Dr. Evans be designated as the one to write the introductory essay.

That #4 be amended to read: "include a harmony of the subjects of the Reformed Confessions."

2. Recommendation 2 **Adopted**

3. Recommendation 3 was amended as follows: That the committee be continued to oversee the publication of the project. **Adopted**

Note: The Treasurer should transfer the funds to the den Dulk Christian Fund when the CD matures.

B. Web site

It was moved to ask the officers of NAPARC to look into the setting up of a freestanding web site for NAPARC. **Adopted**

C. The Interim Committee recommended the following:

We are grateful for the bonds of the gospel and the Reformed Faith that unite us. In the light of the "II. Basis of the Council" (*Constitution of NAPARC*) and in order that all NAPARC member churches may be more fully aware of the unique characteristics of each member church, we recommend that each member church discern and enumerate those issues of belief, practice, and government that, to the best of their knowledge, distinguish them from other NAPARC churches, and submit a report to NAPARC, no later than October 3, 2000.

An amendment was carried to add the words "so that NAPARC may evaluate the Biblical and confessional basis for such distinctive positions and the degree to which these issues necessitate continued separation."

Adopted

XVIII. RECESS

The council recessed from 10:03 until 10:20 a.m. When the Council reconvened Dr. Taylor led in prayer.

XIX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Dr. Taylor brought up the matter of the "Godfrey proposal". (See the Report of the PCA, Paper E) No action was taken.

B. The proposal found in Communication #5 was moved as follows:
That NAPARC request the member churches studying the issue of women in the military to include in their study reports a series of propositions to be considered for presentation to, and adoption by, the NAPARC churches, and that NAPARC appoint a committee of two to coordinate and facilitate the interchange.

Adopted

Messrs. Potter and Wisdom were appointed to this committee.

XX. REPORT ON FOREIGN CONSULTATION

Bruce Backensto reported on the Foreign Missions consultation held on November 17-18, 1999.

XXI. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

C. It was moved to ask the Interim Committee to make recommendations to the Council next year as to how best to encourage and facilitate annual consultations particularly with regard to those of Foreign Missions and Home Missions.

Adopted

XXII. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING (PLACE, TIME, INVITEES)

The Interim Committee NAPARC recommended that the Korean American Presbyterian Church be asked to host the Twenty-sixth Meeting of NAPARC to be held at Los Angeles, California, on November 14 & 15, 2000, and to arrange for a keynote speaker for the dinner. The time of adjournment for the meeting was set at 9:00 p.m. on November 15, 2000.

Adopted

The Interim Committee recommended that the following be invited as observers to the next meeting of the Council:

American Presbyterian Church
Associate Reformed Churches of Mexico
Bible Presbyterian Church
Canadian Reformed Churches
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Free Church of Scotland

Free Reformed Churches of North America
Heritage Netherlands Reformed Congregations
Hungarian Reformed Church
Independent Presbyterian Church of Mexico
Korean Presbyterian Church in America
(Koshin)

L'Église Réformée du Québec
Lithuanian Evangelical Reformed Church
National Presbyterian Church of Mexico
Netherlands Reformed Church

Orthodox Christian Reformed Churches
Presbyterian Reformed Church
Reformed Presbyterian Church of Mexico
United Reformed Churches in North America
Adopted

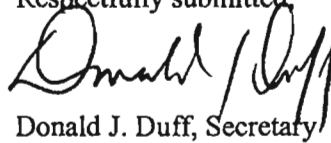
XXIII. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved to adjourn.

Adopted

The meeting was adjourned with prayer led by the Rev. Jean-Guy deBlois at 11:15 a.m. after which Psalm 133 was sung.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald J. Duff".

Donald J. Duff, Secretary