

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING
OF The
NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL**

**Wyndham Airport Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA
November 11-12, 2003**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council was called to order at the Wyndham Airport Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA on Tuesday November 11th, 2003 at 1:31 PM by the Rev. Jack Peterson, Chairman. Rev. Peterson began the proceedings by reading Isaiah 62 and appointing the Rev. Maynard Koerner to open with prayer.

In preliminary matters, with the consent of the Council delegates, the Rev. Ron Potter was appointed Secretary pro tem by the Chairman; a delegate sign up sheet announced and circulated; refreshment times were set for the 11th at 3:00 PM and the 12th at 10:30 AM and the Chair gave permission for the observers from the Canadian Reformed Churches to display some of their books.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll call of member churches was taken as follows:

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC): Rev. John W. Dawson; Rev. Jack Whytock; Rev. Marty Taylor; Rev. Wayne Frazier.

Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC): Rev. Duck Young Won; Rev. James Kim.

Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC): Rev. Tom Tyson; Rev. George Knight, Mr. Mark T. Bube; Rev. Jack Peterson.

Presbyterian Church in America (PCA): Rev. Roy Taylor; Rev. Irfon Hughes; Dr. William Barker; Rev. Paul Gilchrist.

Reformed Church in the United States (RCUS): Rev. George Syms; Rev. Maynard Koerner; Rev. Ron Morris; Rev. Ron Potter.

Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (RPCNA): Rev. R. Bruce Parnell; Mr. Drew Gordon; Mr. Douglas Carson; Rev. Stanley Copeland.

A quorum declared to be present.

Invited Observer Churches present:

Canadian Reformed Churches: Rev. Klaas Jonker; Mr. Art Poppe.

Evangelical Presbyterian Church: Rev. Michael Glodo

Free Reformed Churches of North America: Rev. Eric Moerdyke; Rev. Lawrence Roth

Eglise reformee du Quebec: Rev. Bernard Westerveld; Mr. Philippe DeBlois.

Presbyterian Reformed Church: Rev. Steven Mouring.

United Reformed Churches of North America: Rev. Ralph Pontier; Rev. Todd Joling; Rev. Peter Vellenga; Rev. John Bouwers; Rev. Richard Steinstra; Rev. Harry Zekveld; Mr. Robert Clausing; Mr. Chuck Dykstra.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Interim Committee placed the following nominations for officers before the Council

Chairman:	Rev. John Dawson (ARPC)
Vice Chairman:	Rev. Steve Park (KAPC)
Secretary:	Rev. Ron Potter (RCUS)
Treasurer:	Rev. Maynard Koerner (RCUS)

There were no nominations from the floor. The Council consented to receive the proposed slate of officers as its officers for the year 2003-2004.

IV. REPORTS FROM MEMBER CHURCHES

The following member churches reported to the Council followed by prayer for that church by a Chairman appointed representative from another church.

Denomination	Reporter	Who Prayed	Paper
ARPC	John Dawson	Irfon Hughes (PCA)	A
KAPC	James Kim	Doug Carson (RPCNA)	B
OPC	Tom Tyson	Jack Whytock (ARPC)	C
PCA	Roy Taylor	Ron Morris (RCUS)	D
RCUS	Ron Morris	James Kim (KAPC)	E
RPCNA	Bruce Parnell	George Knight (OPC)	F

The Chairman, with the consent of the Council, amended the Order of the Day as it appeared in the Docket, as follows: Adjournment time for the 11th (Tuesday) at 5:00 PM.

The Chairman gave opportunity for questions to be directed to the member churches that reported. The delegates present directed questions to various member churches who responded.

V. REPORTS FROM OBSERVER CHURCHES

The following observer churches reported and prayer was offered by a Chairman appointed representative from a member church.

Denomination	Reporter	Who Prayed	Paper
Canadian Reformed Churches	Klaas Jonker	Tom Tyson (OPC)	G
Evangelical Presbyterian Church	Michael Glodo	Wayne Frazier (ARPC)	
Free Reformed Churches of NA	Eric Moerdyke	Drew Gordon (RPCNA)	
Eglise reformee du Quebec	Bernard Westerveld	Duck Young Won (KAPC)	H
Presbyterian Reformed Church	Steven Mouring	William Barker (PCA)	
United Reformed Churches of NA	Ralph Pontier	George Syms (RCUS)	

VI. ADOPTION OF DOCKET

Changes were made to the Docket proposed by the Secretary. It was moved, seconded and carried to adopt the docket as amended. The amended Docket is reflected in these Minutes.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon recommendation of the Interim Committee it was moved, seconded and carried that the Minutes of the 28th Annual Meeting of NAPARC be approved.

VIII. APPROVAL OF THE EGLISE REFORMEE DU QUEBEC (ERQ) FOR MEMBERSHIP IN NAPARC

The Chairman, by authorisation of the Interim Committee, declared the Eglise reformee du Quebec received, as a member church of NAPARC, by the unanimous action of the NAPARC Churches approving the ERQ for membership in NAPARC.

Rev. Roy Taylor (PCA) offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the inclusion of the ERQ in NAPARC and for the ERQ.

The actions of the various churches appear in the Minutes as follows:

Denomination	Paper
ARPC	I
KAPC	J
OPC	K
PCA	L
RCUS	M
RPCNA	N

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

A letter from the Christian Reformed Church in North America was read to the Council for information. (Paper O)

X. TREASURER'S REPORT (Paper P)

The Treasurer of NAPARC, the Rev. Maynard Koerner read the Treasurer's Report for 2002-2003.

Rev. Jack Whytock brought the Auditors report (Auditors: Whytock and Dawson) for the year 2002-2003 as follows: *We have audited the Treasurer's Reports from 11/3002 through to 10/29/03 and found them to be in order. We recommend that NAPARC thank Rev. Koerner for his faithful work.*

It was moved, seconded and carried to adopt both the Treasurer's Report and the Auditors Report.

The Council, according to the Order of the Day, adjourned at 5:00 PM.

The evening program, hosted by the RPCNA, was held at Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA and consisted of dinner for the delegates, observers and guests in the President's dining room plus a musical program held in a school auditorium entitled, *Christ in the Psalms*.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH, 2003

The Council was called to order by the Chairman at 8:38 AM. The Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of the Council to the RPCNA delegates for the evening program of the 11th. The Chairman read Psalm 24 and led in prayer.

XI. INTERIM COMMITTEE REPORT

The Secretary presented the Interim Committee Report as follows: *The Interim Committee work is reflected in the changes to the docket and will be presented at appropriate places in the docket.*

XII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Report on Women in the Military (Paper Q)

The Council Chairman read the Report to the Council. The following action was taken:

Recommendation #1 of the Report was moved, seconded and carried.

Recommendation #2 of the Report was moved and seconded.

In response to the objections of a delegate, that the motion was out of order, the Chair ruled that the motion was in order. The Chair was challenged. "Shall the Chair be sustained?" A hand vote revealed: Yes 14. No 6. The motion was declared to be in order.

Am amendment to remove the word "That" and the words "of the member of churches of" from recommendation #2 was moved, seconded and carried. The amended motion now reads: *It is the conviction of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council that the Word of God*

gives no warrant expressed or implied that women are to be conscripted into or employed for military combat roles but rather they are to be defended by men and kept from harms way that they might fulfil their biblical callings and duties under God.

It was moved seconded and carried that the vote be by delegations. Three minutes were given by the Chair for delegations to caucus.

The vote on the main motion was as follows:

ARPC Abstain;	KAPC: Abstain;	ERQ: Abstain;	OPC: No	RCUS: Yes
PCA: Yes	RPCNA: Yes.			

The Chair declared that the main motion, as amended, was defeated.

It was moved, seconded and defeated that the Committee be dismissed.

B. Report of the Collation and Organic Union Committee (Paper R)

The Council Chairman read the Report to the Council. The following action was taken.

Recommendation #1 of the Report was moved and seconded.

An amendment to remove the word "approved" and replace it with the words "furnished as information" was moved, seconded and carried.

The vote on the main motion as amended carried.

Recommendation #1 as amended now reads: *That the collation chart be furnished as information and that future additions or deletions be made by the secretary of NAPARC and submitted to the churches for information at the annual NAPARC meeting.*

Recommendation #2 was moved, seconded and carried.

Recommendation #3 was moved, seconded and carried.

Recommendation #4 was moved, seconded and carried.

C. Report on the NAPARC Web Site.

The Interim Committee informed the Council that no report was available.

D. Report of Committee to Plan Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Birth of John Calvin.

The Rev. Roy Taylor (PCA) brought a verbal report which contained the following recommendations approved by the Interim Committee for presentation to the Council.

Recommendation #1 was moved, seconded and carried: That the Committee be authorised to contact NAPARC member and observer churches, Reformed educational institutions, such as but not limited to CTS, WTS, WTS-CA, RTS, MARTS, KTS, GPTS, and reformed ministry organisations such as but not limited to, Banner of Truth Trust, Ligonier, Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals, Philadelphia Conference on Reformational Theology and Founders Conference, to produce a co-ordinated effort.

Recommendation #2 was moved, seconded and carried: That the Committee be authorised to spend up to \$250.00 in NAPARC funds for conference call expenses.

E. Report of the Committee to make G.I. Williamson's *Westminster Confession of Faith for Study Classes* available in the Spanish Language. (Paper S)

The Council Chairman read the report to the Council for information.

XIII. REPORTS ON FOREIGN MISSIONS AND HOME MISSIONS CONSULTATIONS

The Foreign Missions Consultation is to take place the week of November 17th, 2003.

The Rev. Bruce Parnell (RPCNA) brought a verbal report on the Home Missions Consultation held the evening of the 10th of November and the morning of the 11th of November in conjunction with this Council meeting.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Letter from the Eglise reformee du Quebec. (Paper T)

The Interim Committee moved that the ERQ pay their annual dues in Canadian funds. Seconded. Carried.

B. Letter of thanks to Dr. Bruce Stewart.

The following letter to the Rev. Bruce Stewart to be sent via the secretary of NAPARC was moved, seconded and carried: *That NAPARC thank Dr. Bruce Stewart for his years of faithful labor both as a founder, delegate and secretary of this organization. That we sadly accept his resignation, thank him for his conscientious involvement and wise counsel throughout the years and pray for his complete restoration to good health, and many more years of service for his beloved Lord and Church.*

XV. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT (2004) MEETING (TIME, HOST, PLACE, INVITEES)

The Interim Committee recommended the following: *That the date for the 30th annual meeting of NAPARC be set as November 9-10, 2004, that the host church be the Reformed Church in the United States and that the place of meeting be announced at a later date.* This was moved, seconded and carried.

No invitees were added to the list of observer churches (see also below).

It was moved, seconded and carried that there be a time of discussion on church union until the Order of the Day at 10:30 AM.

Upon resumption of business after the 10:30 AM break, it was moved, seconded and carried that each delegation be given five minutes to speak on church union and that the plenary discussion be continued. Each member church spoke on the subject of church union.

It was moved, seconded and carried that observer churches be given the privilege of the floor. The URCNA and the CanRC entered into the discussions.

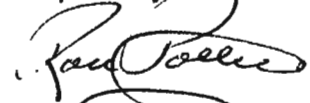
A time of prayer was held in the plenary session following the plenary discussion on church union.

The Heritage Netherlands Reformed Church was proposed by the Chairman and the Secretary of the Council to be a recipient of an invitation to observe NAPARC. There were no objections.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The 29th Meeting of NAPARC was declared adjourned by the Chairman, the Rev. John Dawson, according to the Order of the Day, at 11:58 AM. Rev. Dawson closed the Council Meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted.



Rev. Ron Potter, Secretary