

Minutes
Thirty Second Meeting of the
North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council
Ramada Inn, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
November 14, 2006, 1:30-5:30 P.M.
November 15, 2006, 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 noon.

I. Call To Order:

The Chairman, Rev. Bruce Parnell, called the 32nd meeting of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council to order at 1:35 PM at the Ramada Inn, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Rev. Parnell led in devotions from 2 Corinthians 5:9-21 and then in prayer.

Break times were set for 3:30 PM to 3:45 PM on Tuesday the 14th and for 10:00 AM to 10:15 AM on the 15th. The banquet will be held at 6:00 PM on the 14th.

The Secretary instructed the Council relative to documents available and the gathering of delegate and observer data for the Secretary.

II. Roll Call

A. Member Churches:

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church: Rev. John Dawson; Rev. Charles Clendinen; Dr. John E. Hill; Mr. Michael Evans.

Eglise Reformee du Quebec: Rev. Bernard Westerveld; Rev. Jason Zuidema.

Korean American Presbyterian Church: Rev. James Kim; Rev. David Yuhan; Rev. Young Hee Lee.

Orthodox Presbyterian Church: Dr. George Knight III; Rev. L. Anthony Curto; Dr. Peter J. Wallace; Rev. Jack Peterson.

Presbyterian Church in America: Dr. L. Roy Taylor; Dr. Paul Gilchrist.

Reformed Church in the United States: Rev. Maynard Koerner; Rev. George Syms; Rev. George Horner.

Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America: Mr. Doug Carson; Rev. Ian Wise; Rev. Bruce Parnell.

United Reformed Churches of North America: Rev. Don Hoaglander; Rev. John Bouwers; Rev. Harry Zekveld; Rev. Dick Wyma.

B. Invited Observers:

Canadian Reformed Churches: Mr. John Jonker; Rev. Peter Feenstra; Rev. R. Pot.

Free Reformed Churches of North America: Mr. Connor Keuning; Rev. Gerald Procee; Rev. Neil Pronk.

Heritage Reformed Congregations: Rev. David Lipsy; Rev. Mark Kelderman.

Presbyterian Reformed Church: Rev. Michael Ives; Mr. Vin Gebhart

The following guests were introduced to the Council: By the ERQ: Rev. Meine Veldma, Laval, QC; David Rozenboom, student, Farel Seminary. By the PCA: Rev. Fred Marsh: Associate Coordinator MNA. By The OPC: Rev. Jack Sawyer.

C. Reception of New Churches:

The Secretary reported that 7 of 8 NAPARC member churches have voted in favor of receiving the Free Reformed Churches of North America into NAPARC membership. The URCNA will not be voting until its 2007 Synod. In light of this majority vote the Chairman declared the FRCNA a member church of NAPARC. The delegates of the FRCNA were seated at the Council table.

III. Election of Officers

The Interim Committee nominated the following slate of officers.

Chairman: James Kim (KAPC)

Vice Chairman: George Knight III (OPC)

Secretary: Ron Potter (RCUS)

Treasurer: Maynard Koerner (RCUS)

No nominations were received from the floor. The Chairman declared the nominated slate of officers was by affirmation and called for a 5 Minute break to permit the transition to the new Chairman. Rev. James Kim assumed the chair.

IV. Reports from Member Churches

The following member churches reported to the Council followed by prayer for that church by a Chair appointed representative from another church. After each report the Chairman gave opportunity for questions to be directed to the church reporting and for answers to be given.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Reporter</i>	<i>Who Prayed</i>	<i>Paper</i>
ARPC	John Dawson	George Knight III (OPC)	A
ERQ	Ben Westerveld	Paul Gilchrist (PCA)	B

FRCNA	Neil Pronk	Ian Wise (RPCNA)	C
KAPC	David Yuhan	George Syms (RCUS)	D
OPC	George Knight III	Doug Carson (RPCNA)	E

Order of the Day was called by the Chairman at 3:30 PM.

The Council reconvened at 3:45 PM

PCA	Roy Taylor	John Bouwers (URCNA)	F
RCUS	George Horner	Neil Pronk (FRCNA)	G
RPCNA	Bruce Parnell	John Dawson (ARPC)	H
URCNA	Harry Zekveld	Ben Westerveld (ERQ)	I

Moved and seconded that NAPARC pay for the banquet costs for the observers from the CanRC, the HRC and the PRC. Carried.

Order of the day was called by the Chairman at 5:30 PM. The Chairman read Psalm 99.
Rev. Roy Taylor led in prayer.

A banquet was held at 6:00 PM. Rev. Jason Zuideman brought a presentation on the *Historical Marginalization and the raison d'être of the French Reformed Christian in Quebec*.

Call to order on Wednesday the 14th of November.

The Chairman, Rev. Kim called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM . The Chair read Judges 2:11-16 and led in devotions and prayer.

V. Reports from Observer Churches.

The following observer churches reported and prayer was offered by a Chair appointed representative from a member church. After each report the Chairman gave opportunity for questions to be directed to the church reporting and for answers to be given.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Reporter</i>	<i>Paper</i>
Presbyterian Reformed Church	Rev. Michael Ives	J
Heritage Reformed Congregations	Mark Kelderman	-
Canadian Reformed Churches	John Jonker	K

The Rev. George Knight III prayed for the observer churches.

VI. Adoption of Docket

Moved and seconded that the docket as amended by the Interim Committee be approved.
Carried.

VII. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the 2005 meeting of NAPARC were reviewed and declared approved by the Chairman.

VIII. Communications

The Secretary presented the following communications to the plenary session and reviewed their contents.

- A. From the Synod of the OPC, GA: (Paper L)**
 - 1. Outcome of vote on FRCNA membership application.
 - 2. Response to NAPARC action re: women in the military together with a suggestion.
- B. From the PCA, GA: (July 26th, Sept 28th, 2006) (Paper M)**
 - 1. Outcome of vote on FRCNA membership application.
 - 2. Response to NAPARC action re: women in the military.
- C. From the Synod of RCUS. (Paper N)**
 - 1. Outcome of vote on FRCNA membership application.
 - 2. Response to NAPARC action re: women in the military
- D. From the ERQ: (Paper O)**
 - 1. Outcome of vote on URCNA membership application.
 - 2. Response to NAPARC action re: women in the military.
 - 3. Outcome of vote on FRCNA membership application
- E. From the FRCNA: Advising of observers to be present at the 2006 Meeting of NAPARC. (Paper P)**
- F. From the RPCNA: (Paper Q)**
 - 1. Advising of delegates to be present at the 2006 Meeting of NAPARC.
 - 2. Response to NAPARC action re: women in the military
 - 3. Outcome of vote on FRCNA membership application
- G. From the Heritage Reformed Congregations: Application for membership in NAPARC together with a brief introduction to the HRC. (Paper R)**

These communications were declared received by the Chairman.

IX. Treasurer's Report/Auditors Report (Paper S)

Rev. Maynard Koerner read the Treasurer's Report. The Chair declared the report received.

An audit of the Treasurer's report was conducted by Rev. Parnell and Rev. Kim according to By-law III.2.D. Rev. Parnell reported on the audit of the Treasurer's report as follows: *James Kim and Bruce Parnell reviewed the financial records of NAPARC. We found the records to be in order. We thank Maynard Koerner for his faithful service.*

The Chairman declared the auditors report to be received.

Moved to grant a \$500.00 annual honorarium to the Secretary. Seconded. Carried.

X. Interim Committee Report.

The Secretary reported on behalf of the Interim Committee that the work of the Interim Committee is reflected in the amended and approved docket for the plenary session together with the recommendations contained therein.

XI. Old Business:

A. Report from Coordination Committee on Women in the Military. (Paper T)

Rev. Potter presented the report.

On recommendation from the Interim Committee it was moved that the Coordination Committee on Women in the Military be dissolved with thanks. Seconded. Carried.

B. Report from NAPARC Web Site Committee. (Paper U)

Rev. Parnell presented the Web Site Committee report together with its three recommendations.

Recommendation #1 was, on recommendation of the Interim Committee, amended to read as follows: *That NAPARC budget up to \$500 to redesign the look of the page.* The amended recommendation was moved, seconded and carried.

Recommendation # 2 was discussed and amended by motion from the floor to read: *That NAPARC add to the Web site a clear statement of our commitment to the Reformed faith and include the self definition of each church.* Seconded.

A motion to refer this amended recommendation to the Web site Committee was seconded and carried.

C. Report of the Committee to Plan the Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of Birth of John Calvin in 2009.

Upon recommendation of the Interim Committee and after discussion this Committee to Plan Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Birth of John Calvin was declared dissolved.

D. Report on result of ERQ vote re: membership of the URCNA. (Paper O)

The ERQ, the final church to vote on the reception of the URCNA into NAPARC reported in its communication to NAPARC that it voted in favor of reception. This makes for a 100% affirmation

of the member churches of NAPARC to receive the URCNA into NAPARC, which action was taken in 2006 after a majority of the member churches reported.

E. Report on results of members churches voting re: membership of FRCNA.

See under II.C & VIII. above.

F. Report on the vote of NAPARC member churches re: the proposed 2006 statement.

The Secretary reported on those votes received to date and informed the meeting that some votes were still to be received and of the three year window provided in the NAPARC By-laws for the reception of votes. (see VII)above)

²⁸
Order of the Day was called by the Chairman at 10:00 AM.

Call to Order at 10:16 AM.

The Vice Chairman, Rev. Knight, at the request of the Chairman, took the Chair at 10:16 AM for the remainder of the meeting.

The following motion was made from the floor relative to XI. F above: *That NAPARC might respond to inquiries regarding NAPARC's position on the matter by listing the relevant adopted statements of member churches including their grounds.* Seconded.

Moved to table for one year and to place on the NAPARC docket for the 2007 meeting. Carried.

XII. Reports on Foreign and Home Missions Consultations.

Moved to permit Mr. Mark Bube of the OPC the privilege of the floor to report on the Foreign Missions Consultation held in Philadelphia in 2005. Seconded. Carried.

Mr. Bube gave a report and advised NAPARC of the 2006 Foreign Missions consultation pending November 20-21, 2007 in Pittsburgh. Mr. Bube also reported on the persecuted church in Eritrea and East Timor.

Rev. Ian Wise reported on the Home Missions Consultation held in conjunction with this NAPARC meeting.

XIII. New Business:

A. Communication from the OPC regarding proposed changes to the NAPARC Bylaws. (from 2005 Minutes, XIII. C. p. 5).

Moved to vote on these proposed changes as a package. Seconded. Vote on the package carried. (Paper V)

(Sec. note: These changes will be reflected in a new printing of the NAPARC Bylaws and are appended to these Minutes).

B. Application of Heritage Reformed Congregations (HRC) for NAPARC Membership. (Paper R)

The Secretary read the letter of application from the HRC. This letter was discussed and questions were asked of the HRC representatives.

Moved to permit a visitor from the ERQ to ask the HRC representatives a question concerning church polity. Seconded. Carried. The question was asked.

Moved to place the application of the HRC for membership in NAPARC on the NAPARC docket for 2007. Seconded. Defeated.

Moved to accept the application of the HRC for NAPARC membership and that the HRC submit additional information as requested, and that this be sent to the member churches. Seconded.

The delegates were given 5 minutes to caucus preparatory to voting as member churches. The result of the vote was as follows:

ARPC – YES;	ERQ – YES;	KAPC – YES;	OPC – YES
PCA – YES	RCUS – YES	RPCNA – YES	URCNA – YES
FRCNA – YES.			

The motion carried.

The Secretary will communicate this NAPARC action to the Stated Clerks of the member churches for their action.

C. Invitations to other denominations to send observers.

The Secretary read the recommendation of the Interim Committee to invite the following Observers to the 2007 meeting of NAPARC:

Canadian Reformed Churches
Heritage Reformed Congregations
Korean Presbyterian Church (Kosin)
Presbyterian Reformed Church
Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The Vice Chairman requested that Rev. Roy Taylor take the Chair. Rev. Taylor assumed the Chair at 11:40 AM.

A motion was made to eliminate the Evangelical Presbyterian Church from the list of invitees. Seconded.

A point of order was raised in light of the adopted changes to the By-laws (see XIV.A above; Bylaws VII.1.2.). The Chair responded that the point of order was not well taken. The Chair was challenged. Chairman: "Shall the chair be sustained?" The Chair was not sustained. The Chair declared that "the point of order was well taken and that the EPC will not be invited."

Moved to invite the EPC to send observers as "other guests". (see *Bylaws Article VII. 2.: All persons present for the meeting who are neither delegates nor official observers (as defined in 1*

above) shall be considered as "other guests". A two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present shall be required to grant the privilege of the floor to other guests, which may subsequently be revoked at any time by a majority vote of the delegates present.) Seconded. Carried

Dr. Knight resumed the Chair at 12:02 PM.

Moved to extend the order of the day to complete the business before NAPARC. Seconded. Carried.

XIV. Arrangements for next (2007) meeting

Host: Korean American Presbyterian Church

Place: New York Presbyterian Church of Queens; 4323 37th Ave., Long Island, New York City, NY. 11101. (Phone 718-706-0100)

Time: November 13-14, 2007.

Moved to number the pages of the agenda for 2007 and subsequent years. Seconded. Carried.

XV. Adjournment.

Moved adjournment at 12:05. Seconded. Carried.

The Chairman read Psalm 133 and closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Potter", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the bottom right.

Rev. Ron Potter
Secretary.