

Minutes
Thirty Seventh Meeting
North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council
Presbyterian Church in America, Lawrenceville, GA
November 15th, 2011, 1:30 PM. – November 16th, 2011, 3:00 PM

I. Call to Order

The 37th meeting of NAPARC convened in the Mission to The Word headquarters in Lawrenceville, GA. The Chairman, Rev. Bart Elshout, called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM November 15th, 2011. Rev. Elshout led in the singing of *The Church's One Foundation*, read Ephesians 2:11-22, offered a meditation on these verses and led the body in prayer.

II. Roll Call

The Chairman called the roll of the member churches. The delegates from each church were introduced.

A. Member Churches (together with a listing of delegates present)

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC): Dr. R.J. Gore; Rev. Robert Patrick III; Rev. Andy Putman; Rev. Tom Shoger.

Canadian Reformed Churches (CANRC): Rev. Eric Kampen; Rev. Doug Vandeburgt; Rev. Peter Holtvluwer; Mr. Henry VanDelden.

Eglise Reformee du Quebec (ERQ): Rev. Bernard Westerveld.

Free Reformed Churches of North America (FRCNA): Rev. Jack Schoeman; Rev. Jerrold Lewis.

Heritage Reformed Congregations (HRC): Rev. Bartel Elshout; Dr. Joel R. Beeke; Rev. Michael Fintelman.

Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC): Dr. Steve Park; Rev. James Kim.

Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC): Dr. L. Anthony Curto; Dr. George W. Knight III; Mr. Mark T Bube; Rev. George Cottenden (Stated Clerk).

Presbyterian Church in America (PCA): Dr. L. Roy Taylor; Rev. R. Irfon Hughes; Mr. James C. Richardson.

Presbyterian Reformed Church (PRC): Rev. Tim Worrell; Rev. Michael Ives.

Reformed Church in the United States RCUS): Rev. Ron Potter; Rev. Wes Brice; Rev. Maynard Koerner; Rev. Michael McGee.

Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (RPCNA): Rev. Bruce Martin; Mr. Drew Gordon; Rev. David Reese; Rev. Bruce Parnell.

United Reformed Churches of North America (URCNA): Rev. John A. Bouwers; Rev. Ralph Pontier; Rev. Bill Boekestein; Rev. William Pols.

B. Invited Observer Churches

The Chairman called the roll of the observer churches. The delegates were introduced.

Bible Presbyterian Church: Rev. Kevin Backus; Mr. Morris McDonald; Rev. Leonard Pike

Korean Presbyterian Church in America (Kosin): Rev. James Alderman; Rev. Henry Park.

Protestant Reformed Churches: Rev. Garry Eriks; Rev. Ken Koole.

C. Invited Guests: (None)

D. Reception of New Churches (None)

The Chairman announced the following break times: Tuesday 3:15 PM to 3:30 PM. Wednesday 10:00 AM to 10:15 AM. The Council will recess Tuesday between 5:00 PM and 6:00 PM. A Dinner and speech will be held at 6:00PM in the present facility. Wednesday the Council will convene at 8:30 AM, recess for lunch between 12:00 noon and 1:00 PM and adjourn at 3:00 PM. Dr. Robert Godfrey will address the Council at 8:30 AM on Wednesday the 16th, 2011

III. Election of Officers

(Nominations from Interim Committee)

The Interim Committee (Recommendation #8) nominated the following slate of officers:

Chairman: Rev. John Bouwers (URCNA)

Vice Chairman: Robert Patrick III (ARPC)

Secretary: Ron Potter (RCUS)

Treasurer: Maynard Koerner (RCUS)

The body seconded this recommendation from the Interim Committee. Carried.

The Rev. John Bouwers succeeded the Rev. Bartel Elshout as Chairman. The body expressed its appreciation to Rev. Elshout for his faithful service.

IV. Reports from Member Churches

Recommendation #1 From the Interim Committee Report: That the report of the FRCNA be approved for presentation to the plenary session of NAPARC (cf. Bylaws III.2.c.). Seconded. Carried.

A delegate from each member church presented their report and the Chairman appointed a delegate from another church to pray for the reporting church.

Church	Reporter	Who Prayed
ARPC	Andy Putman	Peter Holtvluwer (CanRC)
CanRC	Peter Holtvluwer	Ben Westerveld (ERQ)
ERQ	Ben Westerveld	Jerrold Lewis (FRCNA)
FRCNA	Jack Shoeman	Joel Beeke (HRC)
HRC	Joel Beeke	James Kim (KAPC)
KAPC	Steve Park	George Knight III (OPC)
OPC	Tony Curto	Irfon Hughes (PCA)
PCA	Roy Taylor	Michael Ives (PRC)
PRC	Michael Ives	Mike McGee (RCUS)
RCUS	Mike McGee	Brue Martin (RPCNA)
RPCNA	Bruce Parnell	Bill Pols (URCNA)
URCNA	Ralph Pontier	Robert Patrick (ARPC)

V. Reports from Observer Churches

Church	Reporter	Who Prayed
BPC	Kevin Backus	Mark Bube (OPC)

Order of the day was called at 5:02 PM by the chairman. The Council sang *How Sweet and Awesome is The Place*

The Council assembled at 6:00 PM for dinner and a presentation by Dr. Roy Taylor of the host church, the PCA, entitled: *A Reformed Perspective on the Catholicity of the Church*. Discussion and questions followed.

The Council was called to order by the Chairman at 8:30 AM Wednesday November 16th, 2011. The Chairman lead in the singing of Psalm 100: *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*; read Philippians 2:1-11 gave a meditation on the text and led in prayer.

Dr. Robert Godfrey addressed the Council with a speech entitled: *A Reformed Dream*. Discussion and questions followed.

Order of the day was called at 10:00 AM.

Call to order at 10:15 with singing of: *O Lord Most High*.

Questions to, and discussion with, Dr. Godfrey continued.

Reports of the Observer Churches (continued).

Church	Reporter	Who Prayed
KPCA	James Alderman	James Kim (KAPC)
PRCA	Garry Eriks	Bart Elshout (HRC)

VI. Adoption of Docket

Recommendation #10: From the Interim Committee Report: That the agenda for the plenary session be approved as amended. Seconded. Carried.

VII. Election of additional members to the Interim Committee (Bylaws VI)

The following were elected by their delegations to serve on the 2011-2012 Interim Committee: Rev. Robert Patrick III (ARPC); Rev. Peter Holtvluwer (CanRC); Rev. Bernard Westerveld (ERQ); Rev. Jack Schoeman (FRCNA); Rev. Bartel Elshout (HRC); Dr. Steve park (KAPC); Mr. mark Bube (OPC); Dr. L. Roy Taylor (PCA); Rev. Michael Ives (PRC); Rev. Wes Brice (RCUS); Rev. Bruce Parnell (RPCNA); Rev. John Bouwers (URCNA).

VIII. Approval of Minutes (2010)

The 2010 Minutes of the plenary session of NAPARC were declared approved by the Chairman.

IX. Communications:

- A. NAPARC 2011 Delegate and Observer information was received from all churches.
- B. Church Reports for 2011 were received on time (Bylaw III.2.c) from all churches except the FRCNA.
- C. Committee Reports were received on time (Bylaw III.2.c) from all Committees except the Committee of Review.
- D. Correspondence received from Rev. Dave Holmlund and Dr. Bruce Baugus (September 27th, 2011) requesting NAPARC's sponsorship of a U.S. conference on promoting Presbyterianism in China.

Recommendation #3 From the Interim Committee Report: That while expressing sympathy with the purpose of this conference NAPARC recommends that Rev. Dave Holmlund and Dr. Bruce Baugus be encouraged to seek sponsorship from a member church. Seconded. Carried.

- E. Correspondence received from the Canadian Reformed Churches (Sept. 30, 2011) re: bible translation. (Bylaw IV.1)

Recommendation #4: From the Interim Committee Report: That the correspondence received from the Canadian Reformed Churches be placed on the plenary session agenda. Seconded. Carried.

The Council took up this correspondence at this time. The Rev. Peter Holtvluwer of the CanRC spoke to the correspondence and its two queries. Feedback was given by members of the Council.

- F. Correspondence received from the Korean Presbyterian Church in America dated September 21st, 2012 applying for membership in NAPARC.

Recommendation # 5: From the Interim Committee Report: That consideration of the application of the KPCA for membership in NAPARC be postponed to the 2012 meeting of NAPARC so as to give the member churches time to digest the materials and to invite the KPCA to make a presentation to this year's meeting. Seconded.

Moved to divide the question and consider the second part of the recommendation first. Seconded. Carried. Under consideration is the following: " . . .and to invite the KPCA to make a presentation to this year's meeting." Seconded. Carried.

Rev. James Alderman of the KPCA was invited to address the Council on behalf of the KPCA. Rev Alderman answered questions.

The Chair ruled to **extend order of the day** for 10 minutes.

On first part of question: "*That consideration of the application of the KPCA for membership in NAPARC be postponed to the 2012 meeting of NAPARC so as to give the member churches time to digest the materials. . .*" Seconded. Carried.

- G. E-mail correspondence received from the URCNA (October 6, 2011) advising of their desire to host NAPARC 2012 at Mid America Reformed Seminary in Dyer, IN November 13th and 14th. (see below Item XIII)

X. Treasurer's Report/Auditors Report.

The Treasurer, Rev. Maynard Koerner, read his report.

Moved that the Treasurer's Report be adopted. Seconded. Carried.

The Auditors Report was presented by John Bouwers. It was moved and seconded to adopt the auditor's report.

Order of the day was called at 12:10 PM.

The Council reconvened at 1:14 PM with the singing of: *Praise Waits For Thee in Zion*.

XI. Web Site Committee Report

Mr. Mark Bube, Chairman of the Web Site Committee presented the report and its recommendations.

Moved to adopt the Web Site Committee Report together with its recommendation. Seconded. Carried.

XII. Interim Committee Report.

The Secretary read the Interim Committee Report as follows:

Recommendation #1: That the report of the FRCNA be approved for presentation to the plenary session of the Council. Seconded. Carried.

Recommendation #2: That the Committee of Review Interim Report be approved for presentation to the plenary session of the Council. Seconded. Carried

Recommendation #3: That while expressing sympathy with the purpose of this conference NAPARC recommends that Rev. Dave Holmlund and Dr. Bruce Bagus be encouraged to seek sponsorship from a member church. Seconded. Carried.

Recommendation #4: That the correspondence received from the Canadian Reformed Churches be placed on the plenary session agenda. Seconded. Carried.

Recommendation #5: That consideration of the application of the KPCA for membership in NAPARC be postponed to the 2012 meeting of NAPARC so as to give the member churches time to digest the materials and to invite the KPCA to make a presentation to this year's meeting. Seconded. Carried.

Recommendation #6: It was moved and seconded and carried to invite the following churches to observe the 2012 meeting of NAPARC:

Korean Presbyterian Church in America (Kosin)
Protestant Reformed Church
Bible Presbyterian Church.

Recommendation #7: That Dr. Godfrey's expenses plus an honorarium of \$300 be paid by NAPARC. Seconded. Carried. (see XV.C. below)

Recommendation #8: That the Vice Chairman be appointed alphabetically from the list of churches. Seconded. Carried.

Recommendation #9: That the following slate of officers be presented to the plenary session. Seconded. Carried.

Chairman: Rev. John Bouwers
Vice Chairman: Robert Patrick
Secretary: Ron Potter
Treasurer: Rev. Maynard Koerner

Recommendation #10: That the agenda for the plenary session of NAPARC be approved as amended. Seconded. Carried

Recommendation #11: That the invitation from the URCNA to host the 2012 meeting of NAPARC be approved. Seconded. Carried.

Recommendation #12: That beginning in 2013 the host churches be appointed alphabetically. Seconded. Carried. (cf. Item XVI)

Recommendation #13: That the nomination process for chairman and host churches be submitted to the Committee of review for review. Seconded. Carried. (cf. Item XVI below)

Recommendation #14: That the terminus for the 2012 meeting of NAPARC be set at 3:00 PM on November 14th. Seconded. Carried. (cf. Item XVII below)

It was moved to adopt the report of the Interim Committee. Seconded. Carried.

XIII. Old Business

None

XIV. Reports on Foreign and Home Missions Consultations.

Mark Bube brought a report on Foreign Missions consultations.

Ben Westerveld brought a Home Missions consultation report.

XV. New Business

A. Report of the Committee of Review.

Recommendation #2: From the Interim Committee Report: That the Committee of Review Interim Report be approved for presentation to the plenary session of the Council. Seconded. Carried.

Mr. Mark Bube, Chairman of the Committee of review presented the Committee report together with its recommendation. Discussion took place, providing feedback to the Committee, centered on the following two propositions:

1. That we should continue to hold out before one another the desirability and need for organic union of churches that are of like faith and practice.
2. That this remains a basic objective of NAPARC.

It was moved to adopt the Committee of Review Interim Report. Seconded. Carried.

Moved that the proposal of Dr. Godfrey in his address be referred to the Committee of Review with the instruction that the proposal be considered in preparing their recommendations to the Council in 2012, that Dr. Godfrey be invited to participate and that a budget of \$3,500 be allocated. Seconded.

The Council recessed at 2:06 PM because of a tornado warning and reconvened at 2:15 PM when the warning was lifted.

Motion carried.

B. Invitations to other denominations to send observers to NAPARC 2012

Recommendation #6: From the Interim Committee Report: It was moved and seconded to invite the following churches to observe the 2012 meeting of NAPARC:

Korean Presbyterian Church in America (Kosin)
Protestant Reformed Church
Bible Presbyterian Church.

Seconded. Carried.

C. Honorarium for Dr. Robert Godfrey.

Recommendation #7 From the Interim Committee Report: That Dr. Godfrey's expenses plus an honorarium of \$300 be paid by NAPARC. Seconded. Carried.

XVI. Arrangements for next (2012) meeting

Recommendation #11 From the Interim Committee Report: That the invitation from the URCNA to host the 2012 meeting of NAPARC be approved. Seconded. Carried.

A. Host: URCNA

B. Place: Mid America Reformed Seminary, Dyer, IN

C. Time: Nov. 13-14, 2012

Recommendation #12 From the Interim Committee Report: That beginning in 2013 the host churches be appointed alphabetically. Seconded. Carried.

Recommendation #13 From the Interim Committee Report: That the nomination process for chairman and host churches be submitted to the Committee of Review for review. Seconded. Carried.

XVII. Adjournment.

Recommendation #14 From the Interim Committee Report: That the terminus for the 2012 meeting of NAPARC be set at 3:00 PM on November 14th. Seconded. Carried.

Rev. Robert Patrick led the Council in closing devotions. He read John 17:20-26 gave a meditation on the text and led in prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 2:46 PM with the singing of: *O God to us Show Mercy.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Ron Potter