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### Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

A. C. Van Raalte

William Buursma

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1 February 1855

Holland, Michigan

At this Consistory meeting of the First Reformed Church, the members prepared a double slate for nomination to Consistory. The names of T. Keppel, A. Krabshuis, Kroes, and J. van de Lijster would be presented to the congregation for the two elders who were to be elected. Since three deacons were to be elected, all nominees of the congregation would be presented: D. te Roller, R. Schilleman, P. de Vries, Kroes, van de Lijster, and J. van Dijk. A third deacon would be voted in if Keppel were elected to the position of elder and vacate his deacon's position. Other matters also came before the Consistory. Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided at the meeting and wrote up the minutes.

In Dutch; translation by Rev. William Buursma.

Original in the collection of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, Hope College, volume I, pp. 117-119.

and more similar questions. Although there are various viewpoints expressed, all agree that education must be stressed, and that we must require of our members profession of their faith.

ARTICLE 8 – After various discussions concerning different persons and matters, the meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Wilterdink.

A. C. van Raalte

Meeting of February 1; 1855

Present were Elders Jonker, Broek, Labots, Wilterdink, Apeldoorn, and Hekhuis; Deacons Plugger and Keppel; and Rev. A. C. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 1 – The minutes of the previous session were read and approved, after opening with prayer.

ARTICLE 2 – The purpose of this meeting is to formulate a double nomination for the election of elders and deacons. The ballots of the members of the congregation were opened and read, giving some guidance concerning the desires of the congregation in this matter.

Ballot results indicate that the following votes were cast: T. Keppel – 19, A. Krabshuis – 18, Kroes – 15, and J. van de Luijster – 13. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided by a majority vote to present this double nomination to the congregation for the selection of two elders.

For the office of deacons, the following persons gathered a majority of votes: D. te Roller – 18, R. Schilleman – 17, P. de Vries – 15, Kroes – 12, van de Luijster – 9, and J. van Dijk – 8. The consistory decided to present these names to the congregation for the selection of three deacons, from which the two who receive the most votes will be selected. The third will serve in case Deacon Keppel is chosen as elder.

It was decided to have a worship service Thursday morning at 8:30 for preaching and prayer, after which the election shall take place. In addition, the names of those elected will be announced to the congregation for their approbation for two Sundays before the installation.

ARTICLE 3 – In harmony with a previous decision, it was decided to note the following minutes of the meetings of the consistory and congregational committees.

The consistory and committees of the congregation of Holland, appointed by the congregation, added to the consistory the following people: R. Plugger, T. Keppel, G. J. Hekhuis, Wilterdink and Jonker, consistory members; de Vries, Berghuis, Schilleman, Klein, Reitsma, Hoffman, Schaddelee, and Grootenhuis, congregational committee, to review the requirements of the contractors for the building of the church and for the paint work.

They report as follows: Plugger was chosen as president, and Grootenhuis as clerk.

1. After inspection of the accounts of the carpenters, it was decided to give them \$183.75 subsidy, with the understanding that all work currently stipulated must be completed for the original price of \$1,790.00.
2. It was decided not to approve the paint work and the installation of glass because it has not been satisfactory. The contractor will be required to improve this work to avoid the consistory making arrangements to do so at the expense of the contractor.

R. Plugger, president  
A. Grootenhuis, clerk

ARTICLE 4 – The meeting was closed with prayer by Elder Keppel.

A. C. van Raalte, clerk

MINUTES OF THE NINTH STREET CRC.,

OF

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN

November 5, 1850 – May 24. 1855

Volume I

*Rev. William Beversma,  
Translator*