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Meeting Minutes of the Congregation of the First Reformed Church

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23 January 1865

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the congregation of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, it was decided to form a slate of six ministers. The slate consisted of E. Winters, R. Pieters, [?] Donner, [Peter] de Pree, [Pieter] Oggel, [Anthony] Brummelkamp, [?] van der Werp, and [?] Bruikelaar. After a vote was cast the last two names were dropped. After another vote, the trio would consist of E. Winters with 35 votes, Peter de Pree with 13, and J. H. Donner with 6. At the next meeting, one person would be chosen from this trio.

In Dutch; translation by Rev. William and Althea Buursma, 2000.

Original in the records of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church in the Joint Archives of Holland, vol. II, p. 229.

It was decided that people in general should help to pay for this service, via a subsidy from the general tax, and that it should be subsidized through communal taxation.

ARTICLE 7 – All of the brothers testified that they can in fellowship celebrate the Lord's Supper.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Beeuwkes.
Membership transfer was received for Pieter van den Berg, from Grand Haven, dated December 19, 1864. Membership transfer was received for Leentje van den Berge and Janneke van den Berge, both from Grand Rapids, dated September 20, 1864.

G. Wakker, clerk

Congregational Meeting of January 23, 1865

Psalm 25: 3 was sung. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. A. C. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 1 – The minutes of the previous congregational meeting were read and approved.

ARTICLE 2 – The report of the committee assigned to seek financial pledges was approved, and the committee was dismissed.

ARTICLE 3 – It was decided to revisit the decision of the previous meeting.

ARTICLE 4 – It was decided to change the previous trio.

ARTICLE 5 – It was decided to form a slate of six ministers, and to vote by free ballots.

ARTICLE 6 – Opening of the ballots revealed that E. Winters received 22 votes; R. Pieters 16; Donner 6; de Pree 6; Oggel 3; Brummelkamp 3; van der Werp 1; Bruikelaar 1. The first six mentioned became the slate of 6.

ARTICLE 7 – From this slate of six, a trio was selected, consisting of E. Winters, with 35 votes; P. de Pree, with 13; J. H. Donner with 6.

ARTICLE 8 – A proposal was made to immediately move to the election of a pastor. After some information had been given, the individual proposing this withdrew the motion.

ARTICLE 9 – It was decided to meet again in three weeks, on Monday, February 13, at 1:30 in the afternoon, to select a pastor from the trio. The meeting was closed with prayer by the president, Rev A. C. van Raalte

G. Wakker, clerk