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

G. Wakker

William Buursma

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20 November 1865

Holland, Michigan

Elder de Bruin was chosen chairman of the meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte was not present. A committee had called on the pastor about the membership book and requested him to attend the consistory meetings. Rev. Pieter Oggel will be asked to conduct Bible readings on Sunday evening and every other month hold a prayer service. He would be paid \$3.00 for each event.

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

Original in the records of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, vol. II, pp. 247-248.

to take a collection in church Sunday over eight days.

ARTICLE 9 – As delegates to the coming special session of classis on October 25, the same delegates were appointed as those for the previous classis, namely, Keppel and Wakker, with Broek and Kamper as alternates.

The meeting was closed by Brother Kamper.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of November 20, 1865

Absent: Brother Kamper.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Brother Vork.

ARTICLE 2 – De Bruin was chosen as chairman.

ARTICLE 3 – The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

ARTICLE 4 – The committee, via Keppel, reports that they had asked the pastor concerning the membership book and requested him, from now on, to attend the consistory meetings. They had been unable to come to a conclusion, and left the meeting with their task incomplete.

ARTICLE 5 – Brother Keppel reports that the wife of J. Hogesteger, recently married and now living here, desires to become a member of the congregation. However, a statement of membership from the Christian Secessionist congregation in the Netherlands had not been taken along, and she was somewhat hesitant to repeat her profession of faith. In her time here in America, she has not lived in any place where it was possible to join a Dutch congregation.

It was decided to place this matter in the hands of a committee, consisting of de Bruin and Labots. They have been given power to act, as circumstances require.

ARTICLE 6 – A gift for the poor was received by a transfer of a note owed by P. Winters to the widow H. Knol, in the sum of \$61.24. When the interest is included at 7%, \$34.24 is added, for a total of \$95.48. The gift comes with the stipulation that \$10.00 must be given to E. Havegate and \$2.00 to Mrs. Meulenbelt. This matter was placed in the hands of the deacons.

ARTICLE 7 – Statements of membership were requested and granted to R. Schelleman and wife, and Agata Wagenaar, nee Schelleman and Elisa Theibout, nee van den Berg.

ARTICLE 8 – It was decided to request the Rev. Oggel to conduct Bible readings on Sunday evenings, and every other month to hold a prayer service. The Rev., as a token of our gratitude for his concern for this congregation, will be given \$3.00 for each service. Wakker and Keppel were appointed as a committee to speak with the Rev.

ARTICLE 9 – Due to the late hour, it was decided that the discussion of the remaining subject, which concerns the organization of this congregation in harmony with the new law of the state, will be postponed until the following meeting, which will be held on Friday over eight days.

ARTICLE 10 – According to custom, all of the brothers declared that they are able to celebrate the Lord's Supper together.

The meeting was closed by Brother de Bruin.

The membership of Elisa Theibout, nee van den Berg, must still be announced.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of December 1, 1865

Absent: Brothers de Bruin and Naber.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Brother Geerlings.

ARTICLE 2 – Brother Keppel was chosen as chairman.

ARTICLE 3 – The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

ARTICLE 4 – The committee for the wife of J. Hogesteger reports that they have received a satisfactory testimony from her and, therefore, have acknowledged her as a member. They have informed the clerk and last Sunday this was already announced. Received for information.

ARTICLE 5 – The committee for Rev. Oggel reports that the Rev. is favorably inclined to honor the request, but that, at the moment, it is difficult for him to accept this task. He will consider it and as quickly as possible will begin the assignment. If Rev. Veenhuizen were here, these Sunday evening meetings could regularly take place. Received for information.

ARTICLE 6 – Because Pessink and daughter and Rademaker participated in communion last Sunday, Labots and Keppel were appointed to speak about this with these members.

ARTICLE 7 – Since there were renewed complaints about B. Taeke, based on