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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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5 April 1867

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church along with members of the building committee and at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, the name of Isaac Cappon now appeared as a member of the building committee. Mr. Minderhout, the carpenter/architect, was present to show the building plans. The proposed building would be 80 x 50 feet, without a tower due to lack of funds. A furnace would be placed beneath the sanctuary, thus requiring a basement. "The benches are to be the same as in the first church, as well as the platform and pulpit to be made of wood." The church must be ready by September.

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

Original in the records of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, vol. II, pp. 287a and 287b.

Consistory Meeting, with the committee,
on April 5, 1867

Present from the consistory: Rev. A. C. van Raalte, chairman; Keppel, Wakker, Labots, de Bruin, Geerlings, te Roller, Kieft; and from the committee: Trimpe, Capon, Werkman, Vaarwerk, van der Veen.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. A. C. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 2 – The committee reported that they had received a promise that Mr. Minderhout would have the plan ready at this time. However, he arrived shortly thereafter and read the plan and the new blueprints were reviewed.

ARTICLE 3 – It was decided to build a church, 80 x 50 feet, at first without a tower, due to lack of funds, and, because of the need for additional spiritual labors for and in the midst of the people, whose numbers are gradually increasing.

ARTICLE 4 – The following correction was deemed to be necessary in order to complete the plan. A furnace must be placed under the building, requiring a basement. Just as in the first church, the beams will be of wood trimmed and scorched, and the necessary pins for the building will be of dry oak wood. The benches are to be the same as in the first church, as well as the platform and pulpit to be made of wood.

ARTICLE 5 – It was decided to divide the building program into four categories.

- (1) the basement
 - (2) the building
 - (3) interior work
 - (4) benches and pulpit
- and after this, the entire project as one unit.

The church must be ready by September.

The consistory and committee retained the right to choose the contractors.

Payment will take place in four installments. $1/6^{\text{th}}$ at the beginning; $1/6^{\text{th}}$ as the work progresses; $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ when the exterior is complete; and $1/3^{\text{th}}$ when the project is finished and approved.

The posts will be six feet long and will be four feet above the ground.

Keppel was appointed as treasurer.

ARTICLE 6 – It was decided to paint the building upon completion. The time for bidding is set for Friday evening, on April 12, 1867.

ARTICLE 7 – A committee was appointed, consisting of Werkman and Trimpe, to give the necessary information to the carpenters, concerning the time for the bidding. The plans will be available for viewing at the home of Mr. Trimpe.

The meeting was closed by the chairman.

G. Wakker, clerk