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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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William Buursma

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Recommended Citation

Wakker, G.; Buursma, William; and Buursma, Althea, "Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church" (1867). *Van Raalte Papers: 1860-1869*. 451.
https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1860s/451

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23 December 1867

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church, Elder Labots opened the meeting with prayer but Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte took the chair. Some persons present were from the consistory of the Third Reformed Church including Isaac Cappon in order to discuss the manner in which "each church will handle its separate financial business" from now on.

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, p. 302.

Consistory Meeting of December 23, 1867

Present: Labots, Wakker, de Bruin, Kamper, Pijster, Schrader, Kerkhof, Beeuwkes, Kieft, te Roller, Capon, J. te Vree, Sprietsma, de Jong, Vaupel.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened by Brother Labots.

ARTICLE 2 – The Rev. A. C. van Raalte entered the meeting and assumed the chair.

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

ARTICLE 4 – The consistories of both congregation discussed the manner in which, from now on, each church will handle its separate financial business. The discussion involved what is the best possible way of apportioning the debts which have been incurred because of the building of a new church for the Third Church. Also discussed was the division of the existing properties of both congregations.

After all of the aspects had been discussed, and the strength of the congregations as they now exist, was taken into consideration, it was decided that the First Church will maintain responsibility for the debts incurred to the Schenk funds, in the sum of \$330.47. The extremely necessary repairs to the church building will remain the responsibility of First Church. The stones placed on the church ground will also remain the property of First Church, as well as the three building lots and the one house lot in block 3.

The Third Church will receive the two house lots located in the second ward block, and all of the still to be collected pledges for Third Church, which is plus-minus \$1,200.00. This sum will cover their debts. All unpaid debts, resulting from the building of Third Church, will remain the responsibility of that congregation. This concluded the division of the church properties, with the agreement of both parties. The note and the minutes of September 18 are hereby null and void.

The ongoing disbursements and receipts for the worship services and for the poor will be regulated later, at which time there will be separate meetings in both churches.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. van Raalte.
Communion

G. Wakker, clerk