

Classis of North Grand Rapids Meeting Minutes

Stated Session
Orchard Hill
January 16, 2018

Opening:

Jen Petersen opened with prayer. The discussions will use scripture as a guide and the Executive Committee has directed that the discussions will serve as the Classis devotional service.

Business Meeting Called to Order by Jen Petersen, President at 6:30 PM

Roll Call (completed by signature)

A – Excused Absence U – Unexcused Absence

Church	Clergy	Elder	Elder
Aberdeen Reformed	Ryan Landt	(U)	
Central Reformed	Steven Pierce (A)	Marla Lunderberg	Jeff DeVree
			Helen Phillips (Exec Com)
Faith Harvest	David Mayer	Scott Rose	
The Community - Ada	William Norden	Bob Engelsman	
	Mara Joy Norden		
Fourth Reformed	Eric Schalk	Steve Wammack	
Knapp Street Reformed	Les Wiseman	David Decker	
Oakview Community Church	Gerald Vander Velde (MUC) (U)	(U)	
Orchard Hill Reformed	Bob Karel	(U)	(U)
	Kathy Bartels (MUC)		
	Laura Claus (MUC)		
Remembrance Reformed	Eric Cook	Steve Chanter	Ed DeGroot
	Todd Schmidt	John Jacobitz	
Resurrection Reformed	Doug Kiel (U)	Bruce Holleboom (U)	
	Kristi Kiel (U)		
Richmond Reformed	Christopher Westerbeek	Ray Van Portfliet	
Rockford Reformed	Vacant	Jim Scholten	(U)
Servant's Community	Mark Veldt	Josh Gress	
Standale	Jessica Shults	Lin Cline	
Third Reformed	Jeff Petersen	Jim Noordyke	Tam Schollaart (VP)
Trinity Reformed	Ben Bruins	Kerri Vryhof	
	Sarah Bruins		
Specialized Ministers/Ministers Without Charge/Inactive			
Nancy Boote (A)	Eric Branch (U)	Nancy Claus (A)	John Delger
Lisa Henderson (U)	Susan Huizenga	Kate Kooyman	Steve Luchies
Diane Maodush-Pitzer (U)	Tim Meendering (U)	Cheryl Molhoek	Adam Navis
Branson Parler	Rebecca Stegeman Riekse	Robyn Saylor (U)	David Veldt
Steve Wolters	Paul Bradford		
Rachel Bush	Brad Olson (U)	Jennifer Petersen	Jonathan Tice (A)
Susan VanderWall (U)	Bill VanderWerp	Aaron Wetzel	Andre Daley (U)
Retired Ministers/Guests			
Lee Ausema	Bill Fennema (A)	Ralph Robrahn (A)	Jason Vermeulen
Mary Bos (A)	Tom Bos (A)		

Associates In Ministry, Commissioned Pastor			
Willa Brown (A)	George VanderHyde (U)		
Joel Bengelink (A)	George Werkema		

Welcome

Jen welcomed first time delegates.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion made, supported, and passed to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2017, September 24, 2017, October 8, 2017, October 22, 2017, and November 11, 2017.

Appoint Tellers

Elders from Third, Trinity, and Aberdeen were appointed Tellers.

Committee and Council Reports

Executive Committee

Motion made, supported, and passed to pass the following under a consent agenda:

Approve the 2018 Minimum Salary Guidelines for clergy.

Grant the retirement request of Rev. Lee Ausema effective January 2, 2018.

Approve the nominations of:

Sarah Bruins and Branson Parler to the Overtures and Judicial Business Committee as extra positions.

Jody Horton to an Elder position on the Pastoral Care Committee with a term ending September 22, 2020.

Steve Luchies to an extra position on the Specialized Ministry Committee.

Ralph Robrahn to an unexpired term on the Executive Committee.

Approved the appointment of Ben Bruins as chairperson of the Overtures and Judicial Business Committee.

Authorize Faith Harvest Church to sell a portion of its property.

Received the Rev. Rebecca Stegeman Riekse by transfer from the Classis of Cascades.

Reception of the Rev. Rebecca Stegeman Riekse

The Rev. Riekse introduced herself to the Classis.

Motion made, supported, and passed to receive the Rev. Riekse by transfer. She read and signed the declaration.

Jen highlighted the Memorandum of Understanding draft between Remembrance, The Other Way, and the Classis. The final document should be available soon. Copies will be sent to the Classis prior to any action by the Executive Committee.

Conversation Required by General Synod

Members and delegates participated in the discussion required by the action of the 2017 General Synod. Responses and data were uploaded via General Synod-provided internet forms.

Miscellaneous

Announcements/Reminders

The Clerk reminded churches that Consistorial Reports are due to be completed by February 28, 2017 and Constitutional Inquiries by January 31, 2018.

Particularia

Jen thanked Orchard Hill for hosting the meeting.

Jen announced that Ralph Robrahn had open heart surgery on January 12 and remains in ICU. As of today, he feels that he's seeing signs of improvement. Jeff Petersen offered a prayer of thanksgiving for his 50 years of ministry and petition for continued healing.

Resolutions

Motion made, supported, and passed to excuse the absences of Katherine Baker, Nancy Boote, Tom and Mary Bos, Willa Brown, Nancy Claus, Bill Fennema, Steve Pierce, and Ralph Robrahn.

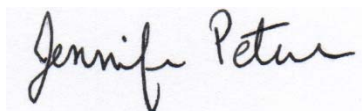
Closing

Motion made, supported, and passed to close the meeting with prayer by each discussion table as they conclude their work.

Closing Prayer offered by each of the small discussion groups.

Next Classis Meetings

Stated Session – March 20, 2018, Oakview Reformed; September 18, 2018, Remembrance; Dinner 5:45 PM; session 6:45 PM



Jennifer Petersen, President



Robert J. Teitsma, Stated Clerk