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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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Recommended Citation

Van Raalte, A. C.; Buursma, William; and Buursma, Althea, "Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church" (1855). *Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859*. 297.
https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1850s/297

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2 August 1855

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, several items of business were about building matters of the new church. Several members were received by transfer of membership such as Ploeg, Boot, de Koster, Smits and Bakker.

Membership received on 5 August were Zwaluwenberg, van Duin, de Koster, Littooi as well as those listed above.

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

Original in the collection of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, volume II, pages 3 and 4.

Meeting held on July 10, 1855

Present were Elders Broek, Labots, Jonker, Krabshuis, Keppel, Apeldoorn, and Hekhuis; Deacons P. de Vries and D. te Roller; as well as Rev. van Raalte.

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

ARTICLE 2 – Brother te Roller makes the following proposal: To leave the pillars of the church, currently not yet completed, in that condition, and to use the monies designated for the pillars directly for finishing the interior of the church, via hourly wages. This is to be done under the direction of Schrader.

However, it is understood that the contractors for the pillars will finish their work for the same amount of money within a period of 18 months. This proposal was unanimously accepted, and Brothers te Roller, de Vries, Krabshuis, and Jonker are appointed to inform the contractors of this decision.

ARTICLE 3 – Information was received that Mr. Knol very likely is willing to advance \$200.00 in money and \$100.00 worth of floor planking at 7%, in order that the church building may be completed. This offer was also given to the above-mentioned committee for consideration.

ARTICLE 4 – The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Broek.

A. C. van Raalte, Clerk

Meeting of August 2, 1855 ✓

Present were Elders Hekhuis, Broek, Labots; Deacons G. W. Wilterdink, P. de Vries; and Rev. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. van Raalte, and the minutes of the three previous meetings were read and approved. The only comment made was that in the previous meeting mention was made that in the further review of the accounts of the deacons an error of \$24.00 was discovered and corrected.

ARTICLE 2 – It was decided that at the next meeting the graves which have been purchased will be noted in the minute book.

ARTICLE 3 – The committee dealing with the proposal concerning the pillars reports that the documents are in the hands of the contractors. They will do \$125.00 worth of labor inside the church and for the same amount of money will complete the work on the pillars within 18 months. They were promised \$50.00 in advance for work during the winter.

ARTICLE 4 – Mr. Knol has declined the request to advance money and planks. He is, however, willing to deliver the wood upon payment.

ARTICLE 5 – Hoogesteger urgently requests payment for the painting work. His needs and justifiable claim are acknowledged, and it was decided to set the matter straight by paying him out of receipts as soon as possible.

ARTICLE 6 – Membership transfers were received for Benjamin Hermanus Ploeg and his wife, Huibertje Ploeg, nee Littooi, from Klundert, the Netherlands; Sijke Ploeg, Hendrika Ploeg, Pieter Boot, and Willemina Boot, nee Schaap, from Klundert, North Brabant, the Netherlands; Cornelies de Koster from Baarland, in Zeeland; Jacob Smits and wife, _____ van Rij, Zuid Beijerland; and Fokke Bakker and wife.

ARTICLE 7 – The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother P. de Vries.

A. C. van Raalte

Memberships received on August 5: Hendrikje Zwaluwenberg, Kalamazoo; Anthony van Duin and Cornelia de Koster (spouse) from Baarland, Netherlands; Fokke Bakker and wife, Zeeland, Michigan; Jacob Smits and wife, Zuid Beijerland, from the Netherlands; Cornelies de Koster from Baarland, Netherlands; Pieter Boot and Willemina Boot, nee Schaap, from Zevenbergen, Netherlands; Benjamin Heronimus Ploeg and his wife, Huibertje Littooi, from de Klundert, Netherlands; Hendrika Ploeg and Sijke Ploeg from de Klundert, Netherlands.

Marinus Hoogesteger and Dirk Broek were admitted to the table of the Lord by way of profession of faith.

Membership transfer to Grand Haven was given for Annigjen Sisling and to Jurjen Dijkhuis and wife.

Meeting held August 27, 1855

Present were Elders Broek, Jonker, Krabshuis, Keppel, and Labots; and Deacons P. de Vries, D. te Roller; and Rev. A. C. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. van Raalte, and the minutes were read and approved.