

Minutes of Classis Grand Rapids South

Held at Moline Christian Reformed Church

March 10, 2022

6.30 p.m.

I- WE GATHER TOGETHER-

1. Arrival- Delegates put on name tags, presented their credentials and enjoyed refreshments. First-time delegates eagerly signed their agreement with the *Covenant for Officebearers*.

2. Opening Prayer- Moline's Interim Pastor, Rev. Nieuwsma, led in opening devotions.

3. Roll Call- The Stated Clerk called the role as indicated on the submitted credentials:

Church	Minister	Elder(s)	Deacon
Alger Park	Stephen De Wit	Jamie Reynolds	Alex Kontras
Community	David Struyk	Kim Howe	Tom Claussen
Covenant	Henry Schenkel	Nelson Haan	Jamie Ballast
Cutlerville East	Ed Visser	Don Cok	
Discovery	Jeff Gorter	Dan Ziegler	Richard Gerndt
Ist Cutlerville	Josh Van Drunen	Dan Buist	
Hillside Community	Ron Kool	Phil Broekhuizen	
Ideal Park	Chris Bouma	Andy Geelhoed/David Seif	
inSpirit	Randy Ledebouer	Lauren Huisma/Ryan Phan	
Kelloggsville	Martin Benckhuysen	Merridith Snyder	Sara Vander Bie
LaGrave	Peter Jonker	Steve DeHaan	Julie Molenbeek
Moline		Donald Westhouse/Ken Ryskamp	Mike DeVries
Monroe Community	Jim Boer		
Providence	Bob Boersma	Carl Franken	Nick Buiters
The PIER	Wayne Ondersma	Bob Boverhof	
Wayland		Glen Davies/John Oetman	

*The Chair welcomed Comunidad Cristiana International CRC and their Pastor Robert Kennedy.

4. Minutes- A motion passed to approve the Oct. 10th & Oct. 28th Minutes as distributed

5. Committee Appointments-

- Pastor Ryan Phan and elder delegates from Moline and Wayland to serve to count ballots etc.
- Credentials- Stephen De Witt to review the submitted credentials .

II-OLD BUSINESS-

Oversight Committee for Raymond Blacketer-Henry Schenkel read a written report reflecting their meeting with Rev. Blacketer requesting further time to consider options. Granted.

III- NEW BUSINESS-

1. Monroe Community CRC's Article 17 Request- The request and information previously shared requesting the release of Rev. Daniel Joo was reviewed. A motion was made to grant the request. Upon discussion, classis voted to approve the request. Classis noted that Rev. Joo would not be eligible to consider calls until the Oversight Committee of David Struyk and Stephen De Witt and his mentor presented their recommendations to Classis GRSouth to do so.

-The **Synodical Deputies** present concurred with the decision of classis, noting that the financial arrangements made for Daniel Joo should not serve as “precedent.” Deputies present were:

Ron Goudzwaard- Thornapple, Al Gelder-Grand Rapids East, & Jeffery Scripps-Georgetown

2. Synod 2022 Delegates- The names presented on the credentials were listed and opportunity was given to add nominations from the floor. None were added. Classis voted to have a pastor as the “Other Office-bearer.” Information on each nominee was presented. Classis voted several times by ballot. Due to close voting results, the final selection for pastor and other office-bearer was done by lot after prayer. The following are Classis’ Synod delegates for 2022:

Pastor-	Mike Hoogenboom	Alternate-	David Struyk
Elder-	Don Dekker	Alternate-	Dan Netz
Deacon-	Scott Hekstra	Alternate-	Richard Gerndt
Other Pastor-	Josh Van Drunen	Alternate-	Bob Boersma

3. Moline Communication & La Grave Overture-The Chair, Ron Kool, asked delegates to consider these two related and gave opportunity for their presenters to expand and explain. After considerable discussion, the following decisions were made:

a. LaGrave’s Overture to “...not adopt recommendation D of the Human Sexuality Report” was defeated by a ballot vote of 21-20. It was noted that LaGrave was free to send it directly.

b. Moline’s Communication for a “vote of affirmation” was voted by voice vote to be forwarded to Synod with a designation of “without prejudice.”

4. MCCRC’s Overture to “establish a task force on unity” was overwhelmingly approved to be forwarded to Synod 2022 as submitted. No revisions, amendments or wording changes made.

IV- REPORTS- Ministry Committees, Teams, and Individuals

1. Classical Interim Committee Report was approved as previously distributed.

2. Treasurer’s Report- Approved as previously distributed.

3. Credentials- No issues for presentation. Churches to be reminded to sign as requested.

4. New Church Development (NCD)-Dave Struyk-Randy Ledeboer gave updates and challenges.

5. Established Church Development (ECD)-Mike Hoogeboom-Written(attached) was updated it.

6. Spiritual Growth and Prayer-Bob Boersma-Written report previously distributed was noted.

7. Diaconal Ministries-Chris Bouma-Written report submitted. CH Chris Bouma gave an update.

8. Ministry Leadership Team (MLT)- Emily Vanden Heuvel – Presented update on several candidates and led the assembly in prayer those being supported.

9. Church Counselors-Mike Hoogenboom serves for Moline CRC. Their elder Ryskamp shared that Rev. Wim De Vries has accepted their call and is working through immigration hurdles.

10. Regional Pastor-George Vink -Chair Ron Kool expressed appreciation for the RP’s work.

V-REPORTS FROM DENOMINATIONAL AGENCIES

1. Delegate to the COD-Dave Struyk noted that Jessica Maddox will serve as our representative.
2. World Renew-Delegate still needed. Churches were urged to make it a priority.

VI- WE DEPART

Chairman Kool expressed Classis' gratitude to the Moline CRC, our host church.

Delegates stood as he led in a prayer of thanks and dismissal.

The next meeting was confirmed as:

October 13, 2022 at Wayland CRC Agenda Due: Sept. 7, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

George G. Vink, Stated Clerk