

Consistory Minutes Highlights

January 2025

Ongoing and Special Business

Rahma Center Use of Space for Ramadan – Consistory agreed to grant the request for the use of Fellowship Hall during Ramadan (February 28 – March 23 inclusive) at a flat fee of \$1500.

New Business

Dissolution of Call – Prior to the signing of the Covenant of Separation Classis Minister Dawn Alpaugh and Mark Smith led a discussion about the cessation of Jeff’s pastoral services. Following that discussion, the Covenant of Separation between Rev. Jeffrey Knol and the Blawenburg Reformed Church was signed by Jeff, Mark, and Dawn.

Vice President’s Report

- A recommendation was made to hire Nancy Curtis to preach on Sundays and possibly other services (i.e. Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday) at the current pulpit supply rate of \$250 until a plan is in place for future pastoral ministry. The recommendation was approved (M/S/C).
- Mark informed Consistory that with Jeff’s departure, we are eligible to send a second Elder delegate to Classis. Mark is our current Elder delegate. With no current Elders able to accept the position, Mark will write a letter to the Greater Elders, asking for a volunteer.
- Mark informed Consistory of the need for a leader of the Properties Team. Lee accepted the position.
- A letter will go out to the congregation explaining the Covenant of Separation and the cessation of Jeff’s pastoral services. Mark will write the letter and Barb Reid will send it out electronically. In addition, Mark and Nancy will read the letter during the service on January 26.

Team Reports

Finance

- The Jotham and Gracie Johnson memorial money, which has been earmarked to fund improvement projects to our properties, is in the Capitol Account, along with other funds that have not been earmarked. For this reason, the Johnson money will be tracked separately.

Properties

- This spring the stairs on the west side of Cook Hall will be replaced. The money will come from the Johnson memorial money.

- The team recommends that we hire a part-time sexton to address day-to-day needs, make phone calls to vendors/contractors, etc. Consistory discussed the recommendation but a vote was not taken at the meeting. The matter was referred back to the Properties Team to provide more information on the position (responsibilities, pay rate, expected hours, etc.).

Missions

- Sonya Hunt will be the team's liaison to Consistory.

BVS

- Barb Reid will be the board's liaison to Consistory.

Technology

- Mark reported that Bob Lewis plans to donate a mixer to the church.

Hospitality

- Barb VanLiew will be the team's liaison to Consistory.