

MINUTES OF CLASSIS HURON  
Meeting May 10, 2006  
Vanastra Community Church

**Article 1- Opening**

Henry Boot, delegate from Vanastra, called the meeting to order at 9:00, read from Ephesians 4, led us in prayer and then had us sing together *Make Me A Servant* and *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*.

**Article 2- Delegates**

The Credentials committee reported the presence of the following delegates:

Acton- Pastor Ray Vander Kooi and Elder Calvin Dreise  
Blyth- Pastor John Kuperus and Elder Hans Boonstoppel  
Cambridge- Elder Rick De Graaf and Elder Clarence Louter  
Clinton- Elder John Reinink and Elder Rick Kootstra  
Collingwood- Pastor Chris Pool and Elder Richard Golby  
Drayton- Elder John Deen and Elder Hank Thalen  
Exeter- Elder Ken Boersma and Elder Bert Langendijk  
Goderich- Pastor Stephen Tamming and Deacon Sheila Zondag (a.m.) seated by vote of Classis; Elder Dave Dyxkhoorn (p.m)  
Guelph First- Elder Arnold Franssen and Elder Mary Blydorp  
Guelph (New Life)  
Pastor Henry Lunshof and Elder Judy Vander Zwaag  
Kincardine- Pastor Elzo Tenyenhuis and Elder Bill Luinstra  
Kitchener- Elder Andrew Van Muyen and Elder Rob Wiersma  
Listowel- Pastor Jack De Vries and Elder James Koetsier  
Lucknow- Pastor Peter Janssens and Elder Wayne Burgsma  
Orangeville- Pastor Roger Gelwicks and Elder Keith Oussoren  
Owen Sound- Pastor George Holthof and Elder Richard Van Dyke  
Palmerston- Pastor Chris Schievink and Elder Bill Van Andel  
Stratford- Pastor Bill Hoogland and Elder Stan Puklicz  
Vanastra- Pastor Siemen Speelman and Elder Henry Boot  
Waterloo- Pastor Vicki Cok and Elder Dave De Haan

**Article 3- Welcome**

Henry Boot invites the officers of the day to take their places: Bill Hoogland, chair; Siemen Speelman, vice-chair; and Henry Lunshof, alternate Stated Clerk. The chair welcomes all and notes that Pastor Harry Frielink is missing because his son is having surgery that day. Prayer is offered for Reuben Frielink as well as for Vanastra as the congregation experienced someone dying in the worship service the past Sunday morning. The absence of Pastors John Van Der Stoep

(Cambridge) is noted and of Pastor Gerrit Bomhof (Drayton) both of whom are attending a conference. Graham Morbey represents the Waterloo Campus Ministry. There is no one representing *River City* or *The Journey* or the *Guelph Campus Ministry*.

#### Article 4- **Family of Churches**

Jack De Vries introduces what is to take place in the **Family Of Churches** that will now gather to tell one another what is going well, what their challenges are, and what they desire prayer for. The new thrust is that the contents of the Church Visit Reports found in the Agenda for Classis will be reported on here. Fred Van Der Sterre gives instructions, and then Stephen Tamming, church Visitor for Lucknow, reports that the Church Visitors have met with the congregation of Lucknow to deal with some pain in the congregation and that Rev. Duane Visser has been asked to mediate in the situation. He leads us in prayer for Lucknow.

#### Article 5- **New Life Communication**

The report of the Advisory Committee is heard and since it is contrary to the request of New Life that Classis endorses its communication to Synod, the New Life Communication is discussed. By voice vote the motion to endorse is defeated.

#### Article 6- **Lunch**

Chris Pool reads Proverbs 3:5, 6 and leads in prayer. The chair reminds the committees that they have this time to prepare their reports.

#### Article 7- **Classical Home Missions Committee Report**

Elzo Tenyenhuis reports along with Marguerite Ridder. The report has just been distributed since it came too late to be distributed in the written agenda.

Classis agrees to hear a progress report on the Easter Canada Leadership Development Network (ECLDN). Barb Van Giessen reports.

Classis passes a motion to contribute \$2000 per year to the operating budget of the ECLDN.

Classis hears Marguerite Ridder present the information and request for a Prayer Day sponsored by Classis. Classis like the idea of a Prayer Day but does not endorse the request to pay expenses of up to \$3000. More information regarding when, how, and whether will be forthcoming on the Day of Prayer from the CHMC.

Gary Bomhof is thanked in absentia for his leadership given to the CHMC.

#### Article 7- **Classical Web Site**

Keith Knight reports for the committee appointed by Classis to investigate the feasibility of Classis having a web site. See the agenda for the Report. Classis adopts the following proposals: 1) to locate a reliable host for the website, securing 20GB/month of band with and 100MB of disk space; 2) hire someone or an IT firm to create the website and design a series of templates that could be used by individual churches, and 3) offer a yearly honorarium for updating and maintaining the site – a task to be done by one individual, not unlike the positions of treasurer and clerk. The grounds and the cost estimates were also adopted. Classis requests the CIC to work out the implementation of a Classical Web Site.

#### Article 8- **Classical Ministry Committee Report**

Peter Janssens reports. Items 1, 2, 3, 4 are received for information. Classis adopts the recommendation to continue having **deacons present at the January** meetings of Classis and that further discussion regarding deacons at all classis meetings be an item for inclusion in the next five year plan.

Classis adopts the recommendation along with the grounds to discontinue Saturday Classis meetings.

#### Article 9- **Exhorter Review Committee**

George Holthof reports.

Classis renews the licensure to exhort of John Den Bok for a period of five years.

Classis adopted the recommendation that sermons submitted by applicants for a licensure to exhort or for a renewal of that licensure be heard by the examiners but left open whether that would mean going to hear the candidate preach the sermon in a church or whether the sermon and service could be heard on tape or seen or video.

#### Article 10- **Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools**

Clarence Louter reports instead of Bruce Dijkstra who was unavoidably detained from coming to the meeting. Clarence asks for prayer and that is given.

#### Article 11- **Student Fund Committee**

Chris Schievink presents the written report.

Recommendation 3 of the SFC pertaining to how much each applicant will receive is adopted by Classis.

Point 4 of the Report, left blank, was filled in by the reporter. Leo Blydorp, whom Classis has supported financially in his studies, has graduated from Waterloo Lutheran Seminary and would like to find employment in Pastoral Chaplaincy or Counseling. He has a licensure to exhort from Classis Huron. Leo is looking to Classis to declare him eligible for ministry within the denomination. The SFC will keep us posted.

#### Article 12- **Credentials Committee Report**

Ray Van Der Kooij reports.

1. Drayton's request for Classical appointments to commence in September is granted.
2. Vanastra suggest that it would be a savings and a more prudent use of resources if the **Ministry Reports to Classes and Councils** were printed in **The Banner** instead of being sent under separate cover, particularly since the latter now goes to every household. This is noted for information.
3. Listowel asks for approval to take the third step of discipline with some members of the congregation. This step involves publishing their names and asking the congregation to pray that they may repent of their sinful life style. Classis granted the approval.

#### Article 13- **The Lucknow Overture**

David De Haan reports.

Classis adopts the overture that outlines a procedure for selecting ministerial delegates to Synod.

Classis also agrees that all ministers with credentials within the congregations of Classis are within the provisions of this procedure.

#### Article 14- **Re Rev. Andrew Van Muyen**

It was noted by the Acting Stated Clerk that the proper procedure for renewal of ministerial credentials was not observed by either classical representatives or by Rev. VanMuyen. Motion to extend Rev. VanMuyen's ministerial credentials for 1 year was passed. In future, the procedure outlined by CIC for processing a request to extend ministerial credentials will be followed.

#### Article 15- **The Orangeville Stakeholders Report**

This is received for information and classis is grateful for the good progress.

#### Article 16- **The Drayton Concern re Budgeting Procedures**

Drayton's concern is noted. Various responses and explanations are given and Drayton is satisfied.

Article 17- The **Report of the Stated Clerk** is accepted and his work approved.

#### Article 18- **Meeting Places of Classis Huron**

Waterloo invited Classis to meet there in September 2006, Listowel in January 2007, and Stratford in May 2007. The invitations are gratefully accepted.

#### Article 19- **Classical Interim Committee Report**

Points 1, 2, and 3 are received for information.

Point 4 re the **Risk Assessment**. Classis adopts this motion: The CIC is granted the authority to hire legal and/or insurance professionals to obtain a risk assessment for Classis Huron as per attached mandate (see the agenda). The grounds are adopted as stated.

#### Article 20- **Nominations and Elections**

Janet Redekop from River City Ministry is elected to the **CHMC**.  
Gus Bus, from the Orangeville Church is elected to the **Classical Abuse Response Team (CART)**.

Nominees for the **Board of Publications** are Pieter Pereboom and Jack Van de Hoef. Pieter receives 35 votes and Jack 15.

Nominees for the **Board of Home Missions** are Al Martens and Michael Talsma. Al receives 15 votes and Michael 20. These names and the number of votes will be passed on to the respective Boards for tallying with the results of the votes in the other Classes.

Henry Feenstra from Owen Sound is elected as our nominee to the Redeemer Board.

#### Article 21- **Closing**

The meeting is closed with words of appreciation expressed to the chair and the delegates and the chair leads us in prayer.

**Appended:** The CHMC asked that the document originally presented to Classis in 2004 be reissued as helpful tool for information and planning.

