

**General Synod Council
Reformed Church in America
Minutes of May 2, 2022 Meeting
Zoom Video Meeting**

Welcome and Prayer

Ned Beadel, moderator of the General Synod Council (“GSC”), called the meeting to order on May 2, 2022, at 12:03 p.m. (eastern) followed by devotions and prayer.

Members Present

The following members of the GSC were present for all or part of the meeting:

Pedro Agudelo	Eric Moreno
Philip Assink	Sheila Moses
Carole Barber	Eric Nichols
Ned Beadel	Albert Plat
Devonna Cousins	Neale Roller
Susan Davis	Jidong Shan
Bruce Deckinga	Glenn Spyksma
Hellen Harvey	Kimberly Van Es
Dwayne Jackson	Leigh Van Kempen
Kathryn Lohre (ELCA)	Patricia Varga
Kent McHeard	Imos Wu
Michael Meyer-Veen	

Members Absent

The following members of the GSC were unable to attend the meeting:

Eddy Alemán, ex-officio	EJ de Waard
Michelle Chahine	Harris Van Oort

Staff and Guests

The following staff members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Terri Boven, *Recorder*
Elizabeth Brand, *Director of General Synod Operations*
Christina Tazelaar, *Chief Communications Officer*
Jillisa Teitsma, *Chief Financial Officer*
Angela Worthley, *Recorder*

General Synod 2022

The General Synod president presented the 2022 General Synod special advisory committee membership as follows:

Overtures and New Business

Moderator: Cora Taitt (minister, Classis of New York)

Vice Moderator: Corinne Ellis (minister, Classis of the Southwest)

Ministers

Sarah Bruins (Classis of North Grand Rapids)

Dirk Gieser (Classis of Albany)

David Hubbartt (Classis de las Naciones)

Marjorie Vander Wagen (Classis of Chicago)

Elders

Elba Arias Lopez (Classis of Orange)

Kenneth Mallory (Classis of West Sioux)

Denis Mugabo (Classis of Canadian Prairies)

Robert Schoales (Classis of California)

General Synod Professor

James Brownson

Church Order and Governance

Moderator: Jonathan Opgenorth (minister, Classis of Zeeland)

Vice Moderator: Timothy Grade (minister, Classis of Rocky Mountains)

Ministers

Kristin Brouwer (Classis of East Sioux)

Kyle Nesbitt (Classis of Cascades)

Ryan Cogswell (Classis of Montgomery)

Brandon Beebe (Classis of Southwest Michigan)

Elders

Sara Donkersloot (Classis of Zeeland)

Savitri Devi Mark (Classis of Columbia-Greene)

Barbara Pimentel (Classis of Brooklyn)

Willie Si (Synod of Canada)

General Synod Professor

Micah McCreary

GSC 22-31 Motion made, supported, and carried:

To approve the 2022 General Synod special advisory committee membership as presented.

If changes to the committee membership are necessary due to changes to the delegate list, GSC will be asked to approve any revisions at a meeting preceding the call to order of General Synod 2022.

Correspondence

The moderator reported that letters were received from the Regional Synod of the Heartland (RSH) Administrative Team and the Regional Synod of the Great Lakes (RSGL) Executive Committee expressing concern regarding the GSC action (GSC 22-27) to propose a 2023 GSC assessment to General Synod that is \$1 more per member than the approved 2022 GSC assessment, and asking GSC to reconsider the proposed assessment amount. Also provided to the GSC was a written response from Jillisa Teitsma that the moderator had asked her to provide to the GSC for consideration alongside the letters.

GSC 22-32 Motion made, supported, and carried:

To reconsider the GSC assessment increase previously approved at GSC's March meeting.

GSC members were given opportunity for discussion.

GSC 22-33 Motion made, supported, and not carried:

To change the GSC assessment amount previously approved in GSC 27-22 from \$47.10 to \$46.10.

The moderator will send letters to the RSH and RSGL indicating that GSC discussed their requests and voted not to change the proposed 2023 GSC assessment amount.

GSC 22-34 Motion made, supported, and carried to adjourn the May 2, 2022 meeting of GSC at 12:41 p.m. (eastern) following prayer by the moderator.

Terri Boven, Recorder
Angela Worthley, Recorder