

**General Synod Council
Reformed Church in America
Minutes of March 21-22, 2023 Meeting
Zoom Videoconference**

Welcome and Prayer

Philip Assink, moderator of the General Synod Council (GSC), called the March 21-22, 2023 meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. (eastern) followed by a reflection and prayer by Bruce Deckinga. Having established a quorum, members and staff were welcomed and introduced themselves.

Members Present

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

Pedro Agudelo	Michael Meyer-Veen
Eddy Alemán, <i>ex-officio</i>	Sheila Moses
Philip Assink	Judith Nelson
Carole Barber	Eric Nichols
Calvin Brouwer	Albert Plat
Michelle Chahine	Neale Roller
Linda Cline	Jidong Shan
Susan Davis	Kjersten Sullivan (ELCA)
Bruce Deckinga	Kimberly Van Es
Brian Engel	Leigh Van Kempen
Dwayne Jackson	Harris Van Oort
Randy Karcher	Patricia Varga
Bradley Kautz	Maudelin Willock
Yong Bok Kim	

Members Absent

The following member of the GSC was unable to attend the meeting:

Devonna Cousins

Staff

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*

Opening Business

The moderator appointed Michelle Chahine and Kimberly Van Es as governance monitors for the current meeting.

GSC 23-01

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To adopt the agenda and schedule of the March 21-22, 2023 GSC meeting.

GSC 23-02

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To approve the minutes of the October 21-22, 2022 GSC meeting.

Ad Interim Appointment

The moderator explained that the Commission on Nominations currently has a vacancy for a Regional Synod of Canada (RSC) representative. The RSC has requested the *ad interim* appointment of Albert Plat.

GSC 23-03

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To appoint *ad interim* Al Plat (Regional Synod of Canada) to the Commission on Nominations.

GSC Appointments

Philip Assink currently serves on the Board of Benefits Services (BOBS) board as the GSC representative in a term that will conclude on June 30, 2023. The GSC needs to appoint a replacement from among its members who will be serving on July 1, 2023 and who have an interest and/or experience in the work of BOBS. The term of office on BOBS will be limited to the term of service of the GSC member and ideally would be an individual who has more than one year remaining to serve on GSC. Anyone interested in serving in this role was asked to contact the moderator.

Moderator Election

Albert Plat, chair of the GSC's nominations committee, introduced the following candidates who have agreed to be considered for service as GSC moderator for the term beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

- Dwayne Jackson
- Kimberly Van Es

Each candidate addressed the GSC.

Assessment Relief

A request was received from the Classis of Muskegon for assessment relief for 2023 for the amount billed to the classis for the membership of First

Reformed Church in Ravenna, Michigan, whose building was destroyed by fire in April 2022.

GSC 23-04

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To approve \$4,779.88 in relief from 2023 General Synod assessments for Muskegon Classis.

Linda Cline offered a prayer for the congregation. The moderator will send a note of encouragement to the church.

Permanent Committees (GP 10.1 and 10.2)

Randy Karcher presented the report of the Investment Advisory Committee.

Brian Engel presented the report of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Covenant Shares

Jillisa Teitsma reported that the percentage to be recommended for Covenant Shares in 2024 that the 2023 General Synod will be asked to approve will be presented to GSC after the data from the Consistorial Report Forms has been finalized on April 15, 2023.

The GSC was asked to name a Covenant Shares Review Committee to evaluate any specific significant issues relating to the new method during the first three years under the new covenant shares method, and report and make recommendations to the GSC (EC 19-10, *MGS 2019*, pp. 52-53). The committee will begin meeting this summer after General Synod or before, if necessary.

GSC 23-05

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To appoint Adam Kinder, Don Hoover, Kayla Fik, Grace Slot, Grace Rim, and Brian Engel to the Covenant Shares Review Committee.

Ends Monitoring Reports

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on E-2 Transformed and Transforming and reported compliance.

GSC 23-06

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on E-2; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on E-3 Church Multiplication and reported compliance.

GSC 23-07

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on E-3; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on E-5 Multicultural and Multiracial Future Freed from Racism and reported compliance.

GSC 23-08

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on E-5; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on E-4 Global Mission and reported compliance.

GSC 23-09

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on E-4; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The moderator experienced brief connectivity issues. Kimberly Van Es, vice moderator, assumed the chair.

Executive Limitations Monitoring Reports

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-3 Financial Planning/Budgeting and reported compliance.

The moderator resumed the chair.

GSC 23-10

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-3; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-4 Financial Condition and Activities and reported compliance.

GSC 23-11 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-4; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-6 Emergency CEO Succession and reported compliance.

GSC 23-12 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-6; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-7 Asset Protection and reported compliance.

GSC 23-13 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-7; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-9 Communication and Support to the Board and reported compliance.

GSC 23-14 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-9; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

Recess

The moderator recessed the morning session of the March 21, 2023 GSC meeting at 1:58 p.m. (eastern).

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Call to Order

The moderator called the afternoon session of the March 21, 2023 GSC meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. (eastern).

Executive Limitations Monitoring Reports, continued

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-10 Maintenance of Confidentiality and reported compliance.

GSC 23-15 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-10; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-11 Relationship with Subsidiary Organizations and reported compliance.

GSC 23-16 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-11; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

The general secretary presented a monitoring report on EL-13 Racial Diversity in Staff Team and reported compliance.

GSC 23-17 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To accept the general secretary's monitoring report on EL-13; GSC finds the interpretation reasonable and the data sufficient.

Commission Review Reports

At its October 21-22, 2022 meeting, the GSC adopted an updated commission review process (GSC 22-65) that consists of five-year and annual reviews that are accomplished by requesting permission to send a representative to one meeting of each commission (with the exception of the Commission on Judicial Business) per year and surveying the commission.

Eric Nichols and Linda Cline reported on the Commission on Christian Worship as part of the five-year commission review process.

GSC 23-18 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To recommend to General Synod 2023 that the Commission on Christian Worship be continued; and further,

To request that the GSC review team follow up with the Commission on Christian Worship to share GSC's feedback with them.

It was reported that the five-year review of the Commission on Race and Ethnicity report is delayed due to the resignation of one of the GSC members on the review team.

GSC members who conducted an annual review of the remainder of the commissions reported on the meeting they attended, as follows:

- Carole Barber - Commission on Nominations
- Kimberly Van Es - Commission for Women
- Michael Meyer-Veen - Commission on Christian Action
- Albert Plat - Commission on Theology
- Linda Cline - Commission on Church Order
- Neale Roller - Commission on Christian Unity
- Eric Nichols - Commission on History

The annual review of the Commission on Christian Discipleship and Education had not yet been completed.

GSC 23-19

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To establish a link on the resource page of the GSC members' private site that contains the Commission updates and reviews.

General Synod 2023

The GSC heard updates from Dwayne Jackson and Elizabeth Brand regarding worship plans and the schedule for the 2023 General Synod.

GSC 23-20

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To have recommendations to General Synod 2023 from commissions processed through special advisory committees before coming to the floor of General Synod.

Racial/Ethnic Councils

A report was heard from the African American Black Council (AABC). The GSC discussed the first recommendation directed to the GSC within the AABC report.

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to amend the recommendation as follows (additions are underlined, deletions are stricken):

To invite~~direct~~ GSC's racial and ethnic councils to, individually, review the *BCO* and develop specific ideas to alter, eliminate, or replace any article or section that would result in making those portions of the *BCO* more antiracist and culturally inviting for their groups; ~~and further,~~

~~To assign to the restructuring committee or some similarly empowered ministry team to meet with the councils to receive from and negotiate with the councils on their recommendations for~~

~~altering the *BCO*, and to convey those recommendations to the GSC and the restructuring team; and further,~~

~~To involve the Commission on Church Order and other entities to fashion recommendations for change to the *BCO*, and recommend agreed-upon changes to the General Synod for its discussion and action.~~

The amended recommendation was before the body.

GSC 23-21

The first recommendation was adopted as amended. It read as follows:

To invite GSC's racial and ethnic councils to, individually, review the *BCO* and develop specific ideas to alter, eliminate, or replace any article or section that would result in making those portions of the *BCO* more antiracist and culturally inviting for their groups, and to convey those recommendations to the GSC and the restructuring team.

The GSC discussed the second recommendation directed to the GSC within the AABC report that read as follows:

To engage a reputable external evaluation organization, develop with them measurable short, intermediate and long term antiracism outcomes consistent with the antiracism policy, and authorize that organization to conduct annual evaluations for five consecutive years making annual evaluation reports to GSC on RCA antiracism progress.

GSC 23-22

A motion was made, supported, and adopted as follows:

To refer this recommendation back to the AABC to ask them to research options and costs for employing a reputable external evaluation organization to evaluate the RCA's movement toward antiracism and help the denomination develop a related strategic plan, and to bring this recommendation and information back to the GSC not later than March 2024.

Recess

The moderator recessed the afternoon session of the March 21, 2023 meeting at 5:32 p.m. (eastern).

WEDNESDAY MORNING

Call to Order

The moderator called the morning session of the March 22, 2023 GSC meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. (eastern), followed by a reflection and prayer by Albert Plat.

Racial/Ethnic Councils, continued

The GSC discussed the third recommendation directed to the GSC within the AABC report that read as follows:

1. To urge GSC members and staff to identify and describe for themselves individually and within their families how their spirit of empathy is exercised when they learn of new acts of gun violence. Urge them individually and within their families to creatively connect their personal faith formation, leadership, and sense of mission to how they react and respond to episodes of gun violence within their congregational spheres, their geographic communities, and beyond.
2. To encourage congregations to do for themselves what is recommended for individuals in #1 above.
3. To stimulate congregations to learn about how gun violence has affected their members and the communities in which their members reside, and to encourage congregations to appreciate the traumas those experiences cause, and, just as importantly, what can happen to the soul and spiritual well-being of a person for whom such traumas are not attended to and healed.
4. To ask congregations to learn about local mental health and pastoral counseling resources that can assist persons with healing traumas.
5. To direct the general secretary to find ways to creatively incorporate addressing and healing traumas caused by gun violence into discipleship, leadership, and mission ministry strategies.
6. To direct the general secretary to urge leaders of our seminaries, MFCA, and the RCA colleges to incorporate addressing and healing traumas caused by gun violence in their educational work of faith formation, leadership, and mission.

GSC 23-23

The third recommendation was adopted.

A report was heard from the Council for Hispanic Ministries and the GSC discussed it. The General Secretary also reported that he would be having a meeting with the committee responsible for granting RCA seminary scholarships in order to find ways to make the scholarship application more accessible for students from diverse backgrounds.

GSC 23-24

A motion was made, support, and adopted:

To send a communication to the Restructuring Team asking them to consider the concerns raised by the Hispanic Council relating to challenges around theological education and *BCO* requirements for ordination as they work on a new structure for the RCA, in order that ordination may be more accessible while not lowering standards.

GSC 23-25

A motion was made, support, and adopted:

To direct the general secretary to report back to GSC on his discussion with the scholarship committee.

A report was heard from the Council for Pacific and Asian American Ministries and the GSC discussed it.

Policy Governance Training

The GSC discussed the Policy Governance training provided at its October 21-22, 2022 meeting. Attendees were divided into small groups and met in Zoom breakout rooms for 15 minutes to process the training by answering the following reflection questions.

- What did you find helpful in the training?
- What questions or concerns remain for you following the training?

When all attendees had returned to the full group, one person from each small group shared highlights from their discussion. The GSC then discussed anything that came up that needed further processing in the full group. Notes from the small group discussions were asked to be emailed to Elizabeth Brand.

Policy Exploration and Review Team (GP 12.3)

The GSC discussed the report and recommendations submitted by the Policy Exploration and Review Team. The team consisted of Carole Barber, Cal Brouwer, Randy Karcher, and Maudelin Willock, who met to review the GSC's policy manual.

GSC 23-26

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to amend executive limitations policy EL-2: Treatment of Staff, point one, as follows (additions are underlined, deletions are stricken):

With respect to the treatment of paid and volunteer staff, the General Secretary will not cause or allow conditions that are unfair, undignified, disorganized, or unclear.

The General Secretary will not:

1. Operate without written personnel rules which: a) clarify rules for staff, b) provide for effective handling of grievances, c) protect against wrongful conditions, such as nepotism and grossly preferential treatment for personal reasons, and d) ~~avoid unlawful~~ prevent all discrimination.

...

GSC 23-27

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to amend executive limitations policy EL-7: Asset Protection, point eight, as follows (additions are underlined):

The General Secretary will not cause or allow corporate assets to be unprotected, inadequately maintained, or unnecessarily risked.

The General Secretary will not:

...

8. Allow intellectual property or important information to be lost or misused, or fail to implement appropriate safeguards against data breaches.

The GSC discussed the absence of an executive limitation regarding gender diversity on the GSC staff team in addition to EL-13: Racial Diversity in Staff Team.

GSC 23-28

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To ask the GSC moderator to form a GSC task force to consider the creation of an End and/or Executive Limitation relating to gender diversity.

Members who were interested in being a part of that task force were asked to be in touch with the moderator.

GSC 23-29

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to amend management delegations policy MD-5: Monitoring of General Secretary Performance, point five, as follows (additions are underlined, deletions are stricken):

Systematic and rigorous monitoring of General Secretary job performance will be based solely on expected General Secretary job ~~outputs~~outcomes: organizational accomplishments of GSC policies on Ends and organizational operation within boundaries established in GSC policies on Executive Limitations.

Accordingly:

...

5. Ends Policies: A written report by the General Secretary is provided to the GSC annually at the spring meeting to coincide with the approval of the report from the GSC to the annual meeting of the General Synod. Updates and/or interim reporting are provided upon request.

Executive Limitations Policies: GSC members will receive EL monitoring reports on the 10th of each month (or the first business day following the 10th in the event that the 10th falls on a weekend or holiday), according to the schedule below. GSC members will also be sent an electronic form for evaluation of the report. Individual responses will be compiled and included in the agenda packet for board discussion and assessment of each monitoring report according to the following schedule: EL-1 through EL-5 will be considered at the spring meeting of the GSC; EL-6 through EL-13 will be considered at the fall meeting of the GSC.

~~EL 1 Fall Global Executive Constraint~~
~~EL 2 Fall Treatment of Staff~~
~~EL 3 Spring Financial Planning/Budgeting~~
~~EL 4 Spring Financial Condition and Activities~~
~~EL 5 Fall Financial Recording and Reporting~~
~~EL 6 Spring Emergency CEO Succession~~
~~EL 7 Spring Asset Protection~~
~~EL 8 Fall Compensation and Benefits~~
~~EL 9 Spring Communication and Support to the Board~~
~~EL 10 Spring Maintenance of Confidentiality~~
~~EL 11 Spring Relationship with Subsidiary Organizations~~
~~EL 12 Fall Ecumenical Responsibilities~~

EL-13 — Spring — Racial Diversity in Staff Teams

<u>January - EL-3</u>	<u>Financial Planning/Budgeting</u>
<u>February - EL-4</u>	<u>Financial Condition and Activities</u>
<u>March - EL-5</u>	<u>Financial Recording and Reporting</u>
<u>April - EL-6</u>	<u>Emergency CEO Succession; EL-8</u>
	<u>Compensation and Benefits</u>
<u>May - EL-7</u>	<u>Asset Protection</u>
<u>June - EL-9</u>	<u>Communication and Support to the</u>
	<u>Board</u>
<u>July - EL-10</u>	<u>Maintenance of Confidentiality</u>
<u>August - EL-11</u>	<u>Relationship with Subsidiary</u>
	<u>Organizations</u>
<u>September - EL-12</u>	<u>Ecumenical Responsibilities</u>
<u>October - EL-13</u>	<u>Racial Diversity in Staff Teams</u>
<u>November - EL-1</u>	<u>Global Executive Constraint</u>
<u>December - EL-2</u>	<u>Treatment of Staff</u>

...

GSC 23-30

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to amend governance process policy GP-12: Annual Committees, point three, as follows (additions are underlined, deletions are stricken):

...

3. Policy Exploration and Review Committee:

The moderator will appoint annually members to serve on the committee not later than the fall meeting of the General Synod Council. The committee shall be comprised of four GSC members; two ministers and two elders, with encouraged gender balance and racial/ethnic diversity. The committee will self-select a chairperson of the committee to schedule, coordinate, and plan the agenda for meetings with the committee (and with the General Secretary, when appropriate). The committee will be responsible for an ongoing, thorough review of the GSC policy document in light of anticipated and realized changes in Transformed & Transforming implementation. The committee will bring proposed changes to the GSC ~~as needed~~ at its spring meeting.

~~The committee will meet at a minimum of three times per year to provide ongoing evaluation of the policy document, and shall include the General Secretary in at least 1 of said meetings.~~

...

A motion was made and supported to amend the governance process policies, by moving the Relationship and Review Committee from GP-12: Annual Committees to GP-10: Permanent Committees, as follows (additions are underlined, deletions are stricken):

GP-12

~~2. Relationship and Review Committee:~~

~~The moderator will appoint annually members to serve on the committee not later than the fall meeting of the General Synod Council. The committee shall be comprised of four GSC members; two ministers and two elders, with encouraged gender balance and racial/ethnic diversity. The committee will self-select a chairperson of the committee to schedule, coordinate, and plan the agenda for meetings with the committee and the General Secretary. The committee will provide oversight of the General Secretary on behalf of the GSC between sessions including: pastoral care, counsel, and support. The committee will meet with the General Secretary at a minimum of four times per year to provide ongoing evaluation (summer post-synod, fall GSC, winter and spring GSC).~~

~~The committee will conduct an annual performance review based on expected General Secretary job outputs including: organizational accomplishments of GSC policies on Ends; organizational operations within boundaries established in GSC policies on Executive Limitations; and a review of GSC monitoring reports received in the last year. Any proposed adjustments in remuneration will be reported to and must be confirmed by the GSC at the meeting preceding the General Synod meeting. Unless specific action is taken to the contrary, an adjustment in compensation/benefits will occur at the start of the GSC's fiscal year.~~

~~The committee will consult with RCA Human Resources, at least annually, to maintain appropriate alignment with the RCA Practices and Procedures Manual.~~

[Subsequent section 12.3 will be renumbered.]

GP-10

GSC will have ~~two~~three permanent committees, the Relationship and Review Committee, the Investment Advisory Committee, and the Audit and Risk Management Committee. ~~These~~The latter two Committees exist to assist the GSC to accomplish its job (GP-3) as the Executive Committee of the General Synod. They are considered permanent in that their work is ongoing and require expertise in the fields of investment advice, accounting, finance, and risk management. ~~Both~~The latter two committees also include

appointees named by the Board of Benefits Services and the Church Growth Fund.

Accordingly:

1. Relationship and Review Committee:

The committee shall be comprised of four GSC members; two ministers and two elders, with encouraged gender balance and racial/ethnic diversity. Committee members shall serve from the time of their appointment by the GSC moderator until the end of their term on GSC. The moderator shall appoint members to this committee to fill any upcoming openings before outgoing members' terms expire. The committee will self-select a chairperson of the committee to schedule, coordinate, and plan the agenda for meetings with the committee and the General Secretary. The committee will provide oversight of the General Secretary on behalf of the GSC between sessions including: pastoral care, counsel, and support. The committee will meet with the General Secretary either in person or via Zoom at a minimum of four times per year to provide ongoing evaluation (summer post-synod, fall GSC, winter and spring GSC). At least two meetings should be held in person, in tandem with in-person meetings of the GSC.

The committee will conduct an annual performance review based on expected General Secretary job outputs including: organizational accomplishments of GSC policies on Ends; organizational operations within boundaries established in GSC policies on Executive Limitations; and a review of GSC monitoring reports received in the last year. Any proposed adjustments in remuneration will be reported to and must be confirmed by the GSC at the meeting preceding the General Synod meeting. Unless specific action is taken to the contrary, an adjustment in compensation/benefits will occur at the start of the GSC's fiscal year.

The committee will consult with RCA Human Resources, at least annually, to maintain appropriate alignment with the RCA Practices and Procedures Manual.

[Subsequent sections will be renumbered]

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to further amend the introductory paragraph of GP-10, as follows (further additions are double underlined and highlighted):

GP-10

GSC will have ~~two~~three permanent committees, the Relationship and Review Committee, the Investment Advisory Committee, and the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The first committee exists to provide oversight of the General Secretary. ~~These~~ The latter two Committees exist to assist the GSC to accomplish its job (GP-3) as the Executive Committee of the General Synod. They are considered permanent in that their work is ongoing and require expertise in the fields of investment advice, accounting, finance, and risk management. ~~Both~~ The latter two committees also include appointees named by the Board of Benefits Services and the Church Growth Fund.

GS 23-31 A motion was made, supported, and adopted to amend the GP-12: Annual Committees policy and GP-10: Permanent Committees policy as twice amended.

Native American Indigenous Ministries

The moderator reported that in order to reinstate and recognize a fourth racial/ethnic council for Native American Indigenous Ministries (NAIM), as directed by the 2022 General Synod (RE 22-3), initial governing documents (bylaws) must be drafted as a first step and an ad-hoc team made up of NAIM leaders would be best suited to the task.

GSC 23-32 A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

For the purpose of reconstituting the Native American Indigenous Ministries Council (NAIM), GSC appoints the following individuals to draft initial bylaws for NAIM: George Montanari, Vincea Nez, Nancy Gillis, Nathan Gullion, and Jeffrey Botella.

The moderator noted that this was a significant moment because it represented a concrete step toward fully reconstituting the Native American Indigenous Ministries Council.

Vibrant Congregations

Vibrant Congregations, formerly known as Reformed Partnership for Congregational Renewal (RCPR), is a non-profit corporation formed by the RCA and CRCNA in 2019 when a grant was secured to help churches in both denominations assess what they needed to help them move forward in ministry given their particular circumstances, and then connect them with a

relevant ministry, program, or partner organization. The grant funding is ending and neither denomination is in a position to continue to fund it. The RCA positions on the board of directors are all currently vacant.

The recommendation by the general secretaries of both denominations is to legally dissolve the corporation. In order to do that, the vacant RCA board membership positions must be filled and the Vibrant Congregations bylaws require General Synod to appoint them. Therefore, GSC was asked to recommend to the General Synod that it appoint four trustees for the purpose of dissolving the corporation.

GSC 23-33

A motion was made, supported, and adopted:

To recommend to the General Synod that it appoint the following individuals to serve as the RCA's representatives on the board of directors of Vibrant Congregations (Reformed Partnership for Congregational Renewal, RPCR): Edie Lenz, Steve Norman, Sung Kim, and Liz Brand.

Classis Meeting Visits

GSC members reported orally on visits made to classis meetings.

Leadership Reports

The following GSC members addressed the GSC:

- Dwayne Jackson, General Synod president
- Philip Assink, GSC moderator

Judy Nelson, General Synod vice president, was having technological difficulties and was unable to report.

Moderator Election, continued

GSC 23-34

Motion made, supported, and adopted:

To elect Kimberly Van Es to serve as GSC moderator and Dwayne Jackson to serve as GSC vice moderator, for the term of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

The General Synod's vice president serves as GSC's second vice moderator. This person will be elected at General Synod 2023 for the term of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The General Synod's general secretary serves as GSC secretary.

Future Dates and Locations

- Mid- to late April - Zoom meeting to finalize covenant shares and approve special advisory committee membership
- May 11, 2023, 4:00 p.m. eastern – Zoom meeting in executive session to receive Relationship and Review Committee report
- June 8, 2023, 12:00 p.m. central (pre-Synod lunch meeting of Committee of Reference) – Central College; Pella, IA
- June 13, 2023, 12:00 p.m. central (post-Synod GSC meeting) – Central College; Pella, IA
- October 13-14, 2023, Fall stated meeting – Grand Rapids, MI

Adjournment

The moderator asked attendees to each share a take-away from the meeting. A prayer was offered for the health of GSC member Carole Barber.

GSC 23-35

A motion was made, supported, and adopted to adjourn the March 21-22, 2023 meeting of the GSC at 2:34 p.m. (eastern) following prayer by the moderator.

Terri Boven, Recorder
Angela Worthley, Recorder