PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

So the parliamentarian, speakers who have received official invitations from the General Synod Council, and General Synod Council executive staff may respond to questions for clarification and participate as requested by the General Synod president in presentations to the General Synod and in other activities that appear on the agenda, the General Synod:

VOTED: To grant privilege of the floor to the parliamentarian, speakers who have received official invitations from the General Synod Council, and General Synod Council executive staff.

SEATING OF DELEGATES/DECLARATION REGARDING QUORUM

The general secretary informed the synod that there were no irregularities and all delegates could be seated. The possible membership of General Synod was 235, with enrolled membership at 229; therefore, a quorum was declared present.

MINUTES AND JOURNAL/TELLERS

The Acts and Proceedings of the 210th regular session of the General Synod were read by title.

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the meeting of June 9-14, 2016, the procedure for approving the journal of actions, and the membership of the advisory committees.

The Rules of Order were read by title, and copies were placed on the secretary’s table.

Sharon Palms and Willie Si (Committee of Reference members), Carl Boersma (corresponding delegate from the Commission on Nominations), and all Seminarian Seminar participants were appointed as tellers.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE


In addition to the prescribed agenda, the schedule provided for the following presentations, forums, programs, or activities:

- On the evening of Friday, June 9, the General Synod heard a presentation by Rev. Dr. Richard Mouw entitled “Can Reformed Christians Be Civil—with Each Other?”
- On the evening of Saturday, June 11, the General Synod heard a presentation regarding Transformed and Transforming, the denomination’s fifteen-year goal. Leaders, presenters, and musicians included Ben Aguilera, Bruce Benedict, Sarah Carpenter, Stacy Duensing, Lane Ellens, Jack Miller, Courtney Myers, Ken Neevel, Jon Sherril, Krystal Sherril, Lauren Sweers, Liz Testa, and Bianca Williams.
- On the evening of Sunday, June 12, the General Synod participated in a commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Leaders in the commemoration included James Brumm (Commission on History), Kathryn Lohre
(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), Carlos Malavé (Christian Churches Together), Sue Rozeboom (Christian Reformed Church in North America), and Lisa Vander Wal (Commission on Christian Unity).

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The following delegates were designated by the president to serve on advisory committees that considered specific business on church order and governance and overtures and new business.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH ORDER AND GOVERNANCE**

**Moderator**: James Poit (Southwest)

**Vice Moderator**: Mara Joy Norden (North Grand Rapids)

**Ministers**:
- Carol Bechtel (General Synod Professor)
- Abram Blaak (Ontario)
- Nate Bull (Southwest Michigan)
- Lindsey De Kruijf (Schenectady)

**Elders**:
- Paul Jones (Central Iowa)
- James Nakakihara (California)
- Wallace Walcher (Central Plains)

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON OVERTURES AND NEW BUSINESS**

**Moderator**: Kevin Korver (Central Iowa)

**Vice Moderator**: Gerri Yoshida (New York)

**Ministers**:
- Bradley Kautz (Rocky Mountains)
- Edith Lenz (Illinois)
- Gregg Mast (General Synod Professor)
- Mark Schwarz (California)
- Matthew Waite (Cascade)

**Elders**:
- Gordon Kempkers (Zeeland)
- Irma Williams (New York)

**MODERATORS OF THE ALL-SYNOD ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Katherine Baker
Amy Jo Hawley
David Izenbart
Laurel Kempkers
Muryl Korver
Shirley Lin
Kent McHeard
George Montanari
Ina Montoya
Laura Osborne
Christopher Poest
Karyn Ratcliffe
Philip Rose
Marla Rotman
Patricia Singletary
Lauralyn Vasquez
Karsten Voskuil
Eugene Voss