

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH

CLEVELAND, OHIO
February 28, 1988

The Annual Assembly of St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Helen Atkian, Parish Council Chairman.

Helen Atkian thanked Florence Karoghlanian and the ladies who prepared the luncheon. Helen also gave her thanks and appreciation to Mona Karoghlanian who helped with the Annual Report; Sam Mirakian who has helped her over the past two years; Thelma Bagdasarian for her dedication to the choir; Anita Arpajian for playing the organ every Sunday; and Dr. Krikor Krikorian and Simone Ghazarian for Sunday Services and work around the Parish House. The Church has been fortunate to have Deacons Michael Ohanesian and Serop Demirjian, as well as Fr. Donikian performing Badarak monthly.

Ralph Chakerian, Parish Council Treasurer, conducted roll call which established a total of 57 dues-paying members in good standing out of an eligible membership of 111. This number constituted a quorum.

The meeting was turned over to George Sakian, Nominating Committee, who asked for nominations for Officers of the Day. Jack Hatchadorian was added to the ballot for Chairperson joining Richard Aurslianian who had already been written on the ballot. Leslie Bagdasarian and Debra Venditti were written on the ballots for Secretary of the Day. George Sakian pointed out that only vote for one person for each office. Results of the closed ballot were:

| | | | |
|----------------------|----|--------------------|----|
| <u>Chairman</u> | | <u>Secretary</u> | |
| *Richard Aurslianian | 46 | *Debra Venditti | 28 |
| Jack Hatchadorian | 7 | Leslie Bagdasarian | 24 |

Martha Hacherian moved to approve as published the minutes from the 1987 Parish Assembly.

The next item on the agenda was the election of four Parish Council members to replace Helen Atkian, Dr. Krikor Ghazarian, Armen Arslanian and Harry Kananian. Nominations for Parish Council, Nominating and Auditing Committee were taken at this time. Sam Mirakian motioned to close the nominations for Parish Council and seconded by Grace Arslanian. Balloting for the Nominating and Auditing Committees were not taken at this time since a motion was made to have it separated from the Parish Council balloting. The motion was made because it would be conflicting to vote if the same name appeared on two separate ballots. The motion to have Parish Council's ballot separate from the Nominating and Auditing Committee 's ballot was seconded. Results of the closed ballot for Parish Council is as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|-----------------------|----|
| <u>Parish Council</u> | | | |
| *Ara Bagdasarian | 43 | Dr. Abraham Arslanian | 28 |
| *Harold Zahigian | 43 | Janis Nazarian | 18 |
| *David Andonian | 35 | Margaret Zahigian | 14 |
| **Florence Karoghlanian | 28 | Lucille Andonian | 7 |

*Elected

**The tie between Florence Karoghlanian and Dr. Abraham Arslanian was broken when Dr. Arslanian conceded the election to Mrs. Karoghlanian. Dr. Arslanian will be the first alternate should there a vacancy on Parish Council.

Richard Arslanian, Chairman of the Day, resumed the program. Thelma Bagdasarian pointed out that the 1988 Parish Assembly Agenda didn't follow the motion that was made during the 1987 Assembly. The motion which passed stated that Old Business and New Business be placed on the agenda immediately after the election of Parish Council members and Nominating and Auditing Committees to ensure presence of a greater number of voting members and adequate time to act on important issues. Richard recognized the error and changed the agenda.

Old Business included Aluminum Siding on the Parish House, doors and restoration, altar curtains, hall expansion, and a canopy over the Church doors. Helen Atkian explained that the pulley and wire were fixed on the curtain and that a new system would run around \$18,000 to \$20,000. The repairs on the ceiling leak of the Cultural Hall and the chimneys in the Parish House were two emergencies, everything else got pushed back. Helen went on to say that the price quote for the restoration on the doors was ridiculous and that she was working on another quote. Naz Yessayan updated the aluminum siding business with estimates from contractors of \$7,000 and \$10,000. He also stated that the hall expansion was on hold.

Richard Arslanian went on to the next item, New Business. At this time Harold Zahigian explained his concern over the Sunday School situation. He said that we are letting the youth down since there is a shortage of Sunday School teachers. At this time he asked for suggestions.

Kevoik Arslanian recommended that we have a farewell affair for Dr. Krikor Krikorian.

Carol Ghazarian volunteered to teach Sunday School after a motion was made by Janis Nazarian to hire a Sunday School teacher. Jim Nazarian said that it is difficult to have one on one with a teacher and a child. Parents who have the children are not bringing the kids and are not coming themselves.

The election of the three members to the Nominating Committee and the three members to the Auditing Committee was done at this time. Results of the closed ballots are as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| <u>Nominating Committee</u> | | | |
| *Jack Hatchadorian | 38 | Dr. Krikor Ghazarian | 30 |
| *Jack Hacherian | 31 | Janis Nazarian | 19 |
| *Sue Mirakian | 31 | Alice Bagdasarian | 15 |
| <u>Auditing Committee</u> | | | |
| *John Benneian | 42 | Nazar Mirakian | 16 |
| *Grace Arslanian | 39 | Ann Karayan | 12 |
| *Jeanne Arslanian | 38 | George Sakian | 1 |

Discussion continued on a Sunday School teacher. Dr. Abraham Arslanian explained that money is needed for the function of the church. We should appreciate the volunteers. He went on to say we need to open our eyes to world events and take more responsibility for Armenians around the world. David Andonian said that maybe parents don't think their qualified to teach. Harold Zahigian explained that anyone could teach. The curriculum is complete and easy to understand. At this time a motion was made to hire a Sunday School teacher and did not pass.

*Elected

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This ensures transparency and allows for easy verification of the data.

Furthermore, it is crucial to review the records regularly to identify any discrepancies or errors. This proactive approach helps in catching mistakes early and prevents them from escalating into larger issues. Consistent auditing is a key component of a robust financial control system.

In addition, the document highlights the need for clear communication between all parties involved. Regular meetings and reports should be used to keep everyone informed about the current status and any changes in the financial landscape. This fosters a collaborative environment where everyone is working towards the same goals.

Finally, it is essential to stay updated with the latest regulations and industry standards. The financial environment is constantly evolving, and organizations must adapt accordingly to remain compliant and competitive. Investing in professional training and consulting services can be highly beneficial in this regard.

The second part of the document provides a detailed overview of the current financial performance. It includes a comprehensive analysis of the revenue streams, expenses, and overall profit margins. This data is presented in a clear and concise manner, making it easy to understand and interpret.

Key findings from the analysis include a steady increase in revenue over the past quarter, which is primarily driven by the launch of new products and services. However, there has been a corresponding increase in operating expenses, which has slightly impacted the overall profit margin. This suggests that while sales are growing, the cost of doing business is also rising.

Looking ahead, the document outlines several strategic initiatives aimed at further improving financial performance. These include optimizing the supply chain to reduce costs, expanding into new markets, and investing in research and development to create innovative products. The organization remains confident in its ability to achieve its long-term financial goals through these strategic efforts.

Other New Business brought up by Thelma Bagdasarian was what was going on with finding a new Priest. Helen Atkian said that Parish Council is up on the situation. That there were "none to be had". She had spoken to Surpazan Hayr and he said that we were not on the bottom of the list. He did say that there are five churches ahead of us and he commends the church on what we are doing in Cleveland. He also stated that Cleveland is doing more than the other five churches are doing. Helen Atkian concluded that the current situation has kept alot of people away. God Bless who ever can get a Priest.

Jim Nazarian went on to say that he is not critizing anyone but that we are not doing enough. Jim made a motion to form a "Pastoral Search Committee".

Discussion went on and the motion to form a Pastoral Search Committee was seconded and passed. Motions also authorized Parish Council the authority to appoint the Search Committee. Richard Aurslanian asked the floor if anyone would volunteer now at the meeting so Parish Council would have an idea on who to ask to serve on this Committee. Jim Nazarian, Florence Karoghlanian, Russ Arslanian and Thelma Bagdasarian volunteered.

Paul Arslanian brought up church membership. He said we need to get people to join and pay. Grace Arslanian suggested that the reason we do not have more members was because the dues are too high. To get membership up, Harold Zahigian made a motion to have wedding people and Sunday School graduates, have their first year free as members to the Parish. After the year was up, they would have to start paying for their membership. The motion did not pass.

The Annual Reports of the Parish Council and Auditing Committee were both approved as presented to the membership.

For the Parish Council Financial Report, Florence Karoghlanian motioned to propose \$25,000 for an incoming Pastor's stipend. After discussion, the motion to add \$25,000 in the 1988 Proposed Budget was seconded as passed.

Florence Karoghlanian brought up the Church Directory on why the income did not appear in the 1987 Parish Council Financial Report and where was the income from the Directory. Harold Zahigian explained that the purpose of the Directory was: 1) for communication 2) for a major fund raiser in which the profits would be the seed money. Harold went on to say that Parish Council was not interested in the Directory and that the Committee was formed by the Pastor. Ara Bagdasarian complimented the Directory Committee when he said the Directory was outstanding. The discussion closed when Sam Mirakian asked when the job will be complete and the books and money be turned over to the Parish Council. Harold Zahigian concluded that the Directory should be an on-going project.

Florence Goekjian brought up the subject of rent. She questioned why the church was not charging rent for non-church organizations when they use the Parish House. Ralph Chakerian said that there are no rules on charging rent for use of the Parish House. Further discussion of the pros and conc of charging a rental fee lead to a motion that any Armenian or non-Armenian organization that does not have an agreement with the church make a donation for use of the facilities. This motion was seconded and passed.

Florence Karoghlanian made a motion that \$10,000 be allocated for capitol improvements on the Cultural Hall. Such improvements as: wall paper, painting, carpeting, etc. The motion allocated \$10,000 for capitol improvements was seconded and passed.

Harold Zahigian commented why the pay phone disbursements are so high. Ara Bagdasarian said he would look into an alternative since his job relates to this subject.

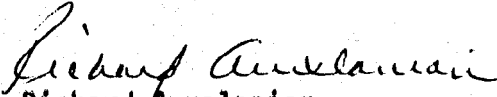
Jim Nazarian questioned the savings account balance. He wondered why the accounts are not broken down. Naz Yessayan said that the checking accounts are combined into one, and Certificates of Deposits (CD's) were combined into one.

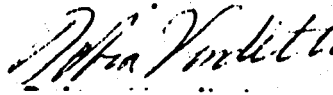
Ralph Chakerian pointed out that from the motions passed for the 1988 Proposed Disbursements and Income Budget, we would be approving a \$27,000 deficit. This figure comes from \$108,000 in Disbursements and \$81,000 in Income. The motion to approve the Proposed Budget for 1988, as amended, was seconded and passed.

The motion was made to approve all organizational budget reports was passed.

Closing remarks were given by Richard Aurslianian. He adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Richard Aurslianian
Assembly Chairman


Debra Venditti
Assembly Secretary