

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

CLEVELAND, OHIO - FEBRUARY 28, 1993

The Annual Assembly was called to order at 1:20 P.M. by Parish Council Chairman, Florence Karoghlanian. The acting president of the meeting was Deacon Norman Odabashian. Deacon Norman opened the meeting with a prayer. He then addressed the assembly with words of appreciation. He encouraged the parishioners to attend services every Sunday and emphasized the importance of worship.

Diratzoo reported that we have a child in Cleveland from Armenia, Lucina Haroutyounian, who will have open heart surgery this week. She is in Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. Aida Davidian is acting as translator and hopes that the Armenian community will visit and encourage the 13 year old girl. Diratzoo asked the parishioners for their comments and suggestions, etc. which will help him do his job better.

Florence Karoghlanian addressed the Assembly with words of appreciation and encouragement for our future as a parish. She then presented Diratzoo with a gift of appreciation from Parish Council.

Jack Hacherian, Treasurer, read the roll call of dues paying members. There were 51 members present which did not constitute a quorum of a possible 104. Motion was made by Thelma Bagdasarian and seconded by Kevork Arslanian that the members present constitute a quorum. The motion was passed.

The meeting was turned over to the Nominating Committee, Louise Demirjian, Anita Arpajian and Arek Torosian, who conducted the election of officers for the day. The nominations and results follow:

Chairman
*Richard Aurslanian - 40
Arek Torosian - 8

Secretary
Jeanne Arslanian - 7
*Sandra Aurslanian - 42

There were no corrections or additions to last year's minutes and Jeanne Arslanian was commended by Mona Karoghlanian on the excellent job she did as Secretary of the Day last year. A motion was made by David Andonian and seconded by Alice Hacherian to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

At this point, the Chairman, Richard Aurslanian, presided over the meeting. The Nominating Committee continued with the election of 3 Parish Council members who will serve a two-year term. The slate was as follows:

Anton Yeranossian
Mona Karoghlanian
David Andonian

Arek Torosian
Dr. Seboh Setrakian
Debbie Venditti

The Diocesan Delegate slate was as follows:

*Jack Hacherian - 35
Ara Bagdasarian - 12

OLD BUSINESS:

Archie Andonian reported on the Social Services Committee's activities. He reported that 1992 was a very busy year for this committee. We sponsored three refugee families from Baku. Archie asked for community understanding and support toward these people. He thanked those that have helped him with this program. As to the financial aspect, Archie feels we did very well with the support of Interfaith Refugee Services, which contributed \$2,950 in 1992. Our parishioners donated \$1,575.00. He reported that two basic principles are involved with these people and they are love and service.

Chairman, Richard Aurslanian, thanked Archie for his work and service to our community, as did many others in the Assembly.

Ara Bagdasarian reported on the Operation Winter Rescue Program. Through the Operation Winter Rescue Program we were able to contribute \$12,700 from our church; \$5,000 from the Oriental Rug Sale proceeds; \$700 left over from the Earthquake Fund; and, \$7,000 was raised from the community. Ara feels that we as a community should feel very proud of this accomplishment.

Ara Bagdasarian also reported on the sewer and culvert project. He said that the Northeast Ohio Sewer District started on the construction of the Interceptor Sewer Program which begins in August, 1993 and should be finished in 1996. Parish Council is trying to get the City of Richmond Heights to help with the maintenance of the culvert. He reported that Parish Council will pay attention to progress and we plan to tie into the sewer. Anyone wanting details on this project should see Ara.

NEW BUSINESS:

Russell Arslanian reported that membership dues have been \$104 per person for many years. Diocesan assessment amounts to approximately \$70 per member, which leaves us with \$34 per person to take care of our business. If dues are raised it would be the first time in 8 or 9 years. Parish Council's proposal is that (1) dues be raised to \$150.00 per year per person, effective immediately. This rate would be cut 50% for senior citizens, sick and hardship cases, or (2) an increase in 2 stages which would include \$120.00 for the 1st year and \$150 for each year thereafter.

After much discussion, Louise Ohanian made a motion to increase the church dues from \$104 to \$120 with the second increase to be reviewed next year. Jack Hatchadorian seconded the motion. This motion was defeated.

Motion was made by Thelma Bagdasarian to raise the church dues to \$150 per year. Jack Hatchadorian seconded. It was said again that senior citizens, sick, and hardship cases (to be decided by Diratzoo and Parish Council) would be reduced by 50%. Diratzoo reported that in case of hardship situations people should come to him and certainly things could be worked out. Parish Council assured that all considerations would be made if this motion passed. Motion passed.

Russell Arslanian reported that we do not have an exclusive contract with Pasquale Caterers and that we are trying to have another caterer come in with some bookings. Exquisite Caterers was contacted by Parish Council, but has very few bookings. The caterer from Normandy Party Center will be booking our hall to help defray expenses. This caterer has recommended some that some improvements be made. It is hoped that the changes will be made in 1993.

The Chairman called upon the Nominating Committee to report the election results for the 1993 Parish Council which is as follows:

*Anton Yerosian - 39	*Arek Torosian - 29
Mona Karoghlanian - 24	Dr. Sebouh Setrakian - 23
*David Andonian - 26	Debbie Venditti - 7

After the election took place, Arek Torosian expressed an interest in resigning. At this time, the Chairman called for a brief break to review the By-Laws. It was decided that after election was ratified by the Primate, Arek could then decide if he wanted to resign.

The Nominating Committee reported the election results for the 1993 Auditing and Nominating Committees. Three members were to be elected for each committee with the following results:

Nominating Committee

*Russell Arslanian - 33	*Lucille Andonian - 18
Robert Bagdasarian - 15	Louise Demirjian - 13
*Anita Arpajian - 24	Murad Demirjian - 8

Auditing Committee

*Archie Andonian - 35	Leslie Bagdasarian - 8
*Cheryl Arslanian - 26	Wanda Ryan - 8
*Jay Bagdasarian - 34	Grace Arslanian - 6

Under New Business, Diratzoo reported on the efforts being made to purchase a new organ for the church. About 6 months ago the organ was serviced and it is in working condition. Parts for the existing organ are not available and might not again be serviceable. The Choir has approximately \$7,000 which is earmarked for a new organ. Diratzoo's friend, Berj Zamgochian, has offered to help in the selection of a new organ. The selected organ by Mr. Zamgochian will cost approximately \$27,000. Diratzoo stressed the fact that it is not the Choir's intention to burden the community with this cost so he has contacted foundations for help. No decision has been made to date.

Parish Council Chairperson, Florence Karoghlanian, expressed her gratitude to the outgoing Parish Council Members (Russell Arslanian, Jack Hacherian and Archie Andonian) for their hard work and the friendship that has developed through their work.

Kevoork Arslanian expressed his gratitude and thanks to Parish Council, Diratzoo, Chairman of the Day and Secretary of the Day and congratulated all the newly elected people.

Thelma Bagdasarian made a motion that a tape recorder be made available for the Annual Assembly in future years so that it would make it easier for the Secretary. Seconded by Alice Bagdasarian. Motion passed.

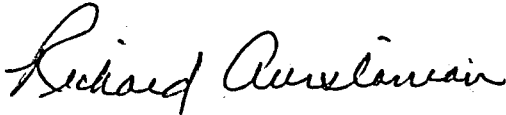
Alice Hacherian asked about the qualifications to be made a Benefactor. Diratzoo answered that it is explained on Page 6 of the March, 1993, issue of Paros. The amount of money to qualify as a benefactor is \$750 payable over a three (3) year period. Alice Hacherian and Lucine Mirakian questioned this guideline because the question of service doesn't enter this program. It was reported by Jack Hacherian that in lieu of flowers donations are not included. Diratzoo explained the importance of service. However, the meaning of a Benefactor, "one who does good" has been reduced to the common understanding of one who donates money. Jack Hacherian explained that equating personal service puts Parish Council in a very difficult position. After much discussion, Mona Karoghlanian made a motion that the existing Memorial Committee and Parish Council meet and examine the Benefactors' Program of St. Gregory of Narek Church and endorse what is currently in place or make changes. The motion was seconded by Grace Arslanian. Motion passed.

Chairman, Dick Aurslanian, thanked the Nominating Committee for their hard work and a job well done.

Motion was made by David Andonian and seconded by Mona Karoghlanian that the proposed budget for 1993 be approved. Motion passed.

Alice Hacherian made a motion, seconded by David Andonian to accept all organizational reports as published. Motion passed.

Diratzoo thanked the Chairman and Secretary and asked that we have patience and hoped for spiritual growth for all of the community in the coming year. Mona Karoghlanian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mae Hatchadorian. Motion passed. Diratzoo offered a closing prayer to conclude the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.



Richard Aurslanian
Assembly Chairman

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Aurslanian
Acting Secretary