

**ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT
ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MINUTES
FRIDAY, February 25, 1994**

I. INVOCATION AND CALL TO ORDER

The Parish Assembly ("Assembly") was called to order by Parish Council Chairman, Edward H. Korkoian, at 8:35 p.m. The Very Rev. Fr. Baret Yeretjian, Pastor, offered the invocation.

II. VERIFICATION OF THE ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERS AND QUORUM

Mr. Edward H. Korkoian reviewed the rules and regulations governing the Assembly and cited the definition of a quorum from the Diocesan By-laws. He then reported that the members present had been verified and constituted a quorum with 105 members present.

A **MOTION** was made to legalize the Parish Assembly. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

III. ELECTIONS

Mr. Korkoian identified the positions to be filled. He thanked the Nominating Committee for their efforts in preparing the slate of nominees and introduced its chairman, Mr. Souren Keoleian. Mr. Keoleian introduced the Nominating Committee and thanked them and the volunteers, who assisted the Committee. He identified the positions for election and explained the candidate selection process and voting procedures.

ELECTION OF PARISH ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN OF THE DAY

Mr. Keoleian explained that Mrs. Mary Bedikian could not attend and had withdrawn her name. He asked The Hon. John Jamian to come forward for introduction. Mr. Korkoian asked for nominations from the floor. There were none.

A **MOTION** was made to close nominations for Chairman of the Day. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

SECRETARY OF THE DAY

The nominee, Gloria Korkoian, was asked to come forward for introduction. Mr. Korkoian asked for nominations from the floor. There were none.

A **MOTION** was made to close the nominations. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

Mr. Keoleian presented the candidates for Parish Assembly Officers.

Chairman of the Day:	The Hon. John Jamian
Secretary of the Day:	Gloria Korkoian

A **MOTION** was made to dispense with the reading of the biographical sketches for all candidates. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

A **MOTION** was made to elect the Officers of the Day by a vote of acclamation. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

PARTIAL ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS (6)

Mr. Keoleian presented the slate of 12 candidates for six (6) Parish Council positions. Mr. Korkoian asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. The candidates were then introduced.

Howard Atesian	Mary Keoleian	Lucille Noraian*
Dr. Vincent Baylerian	Corrine Khederian	Shawn Sarkisian*
Alex Chavdarian*	George Laktzian*	John Semizian
Jane Hovsepian	Martin Manoogian	Rosemary Vartanian*

* Not present.

A **MOTION** was made to close nominations. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (5)

Mr. Keoleian presented the slate of 10 candidates for five (5) Nominating Committee positions. Mr. Korkoian asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. The candidates were then introduced.

Marilyn Boladian	Paul Jingoian*	Nancy Mouradian*	Mark Torigian*
Alice Derderian	Virginia Keoleian*	Mary Mugerian*	* Not present.
Jackie El Chemmas*	Mickey Mardirosian*	Armen Safilian*	

A **MOTION** was made to close nominations. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

AUDITING COMMITTEE (1)

Mr. Keoleian presented the slate of 3 candidates for one (1) Auditing Committee position. Mr. Korkoian asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. The candidates were then introduced.

John Bahadurian Souren Keoleian Janice Torosian*
* Not present.

A **MOTION** was made to close nominations. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

Ballots were passed out for electing members to the above mentioned positions.

Mr. Arthur Apkarian made a **MOTION** to extend the balloting time to 10 p.m. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **DEFEATED**.

Mr. James Stamboulian asked that the balloting time be extended to 9:30 p.m. The Chairman explained that a motion would not be necessary because the time in the Annual Report, 9 pm, was a misprint and should have read "By ruling of the 1986 Parish Assembly the balloting will be closed at 9:30 pm."

IV. ELECTION RESULTS - PARISH ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

Mr. Korkoian asked the elected Parish Assembly Officers to take their places. On behalf of the Assembly, he thanked them for their willingness to serve. The Hon. John Jamian expressed words of appreciation to the Assembly and to the Nominating Committee. He then reviewed the rules and procedures that would be followed during the meeting.

V. MINUTES OF THE 1993 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Chairman stated that proper notice has been sent to Parishioners announcing that the 1993 Minutes were available upon request at the Church Office. He then asked for a motion to ratify the 1993 Minutes.

A **MOTION** was made to dispense with the reading of the 1993 Annual Parish Assembly Minutes and to ratify them. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

VI. 1993 ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman asked if there were any questions on the Annual Report. There being none, the Chairman moved to the next item on the Agenda.

VII. REVIEW OF 1993 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Chairman introduced Martin Manoogian, Auditor, and Richard Vahratian, Parish Council Treasurer, to review and answer questions on the Financial Reports.

Frank Pulice asked if there was a computer list of the items that make up the Accounts Payable liability and if there is, that he would like a copy. Richard Vahratian answered in the affirmative and said he could get a copy. A discussion took place on the methodology used for the accounts payable allocations.

Arthur Apkarian asked when the \$10,000 for the mosaics from the Women's Guild was given. Richard Vahratian didn't know the exact date, but thought about three years ago.

Kathy Mekjian questioned the transfer of In Lieu of Flowers funds (M. Bahadurian & E. Mardigian) to the Endowment Funds. Martin Manoogian addressed the question and stated that all the money had not been transferred as of December 31, 1993 and that the amounts transferred in 1994 do not appear on the 1993 Statement.

Kathy Mekjian asked about the Armenian Relief Fund. Martin Manoogian stated that there are three components: Children's Hospital Fund, Food for Armenia and Heat for Armenia.

Kathy Mekjian (comparing 1992 to 1993) asked if any money was spent in 1992 on the Maintenance Fund. Martin Manoogian responded that \$400 was spent.

Kathy Mekjian (comparing 1992 to 1993) pointed out that \$90,000 was borrowed for the kitchen renovation and wanted to know if it had been paid back. Martin Manoogian stated that there were no borrowings.

Sara Andonian had questions on Accounts Receivables. Martin Manoogian itemized the receivables that made up the \$103,221.86.

The Chairman asked for other questions on pages 22-23 on the Balance Sheet. There were none.

At 9:30 p.m., the Chairman declared that the balloting was closed and that 121 paid members had registered.

VIII. 1994 BUDGET

The Chairman recognized Mr. Richard Vahratian, who presented the 1994 budget. Mr. Vahratian, Guy Amboian and Dr. Edward Sarkisian responded to questions from the Assembly.

Frank Pulice had questions on Salaries. Guy Amboian explained the components that made up the Salaries. Mr. Amboian pointed out that since 1993 end of year data was not available that 1992 actuals were used for development of the Budget. A discussion followed.

Frank Pulice stated that in 1990-1993 the Parish spent more than it took in. Mr. Amboian responded that the Parish Council recognized the deficit situation and in the 4th Quarter 1993 sent a letter to parishioners explaining the increase in dues because of the deficit.

Marianne Dardarian asked why a General Manager was hired in 1993, when the Parish Assembly had voted against it in 1993. Dr. Sarkisian, Richard Vahratian, and Guy Amboian discussed the Parish Council's rationale for hiring the General Manager.

James Stamboulian stated we instill trust and accountability to the Parish Council. When the Assembly votes against an issue, the Parish Council must respect the Assembly's wishes. A better way would have been a letter. I am for a General Manager, but against the process used.

Roseanne Manoogian Attar, Auditor, supported the Parish Council's decision stating that last year was transitional period with the Parish in turmoil.

Frank Pulice had questions on the Building Maintenance Line Item #28. Martin Manoogian addressed the questions. A discussion followed.

Arthur Apkarian commented that rental income has increased 20% - 25% wondered why the budget only increased \$15,000. A discussion followed.

Deacon Michael Ohanesian asked why the light bills had dropped. Andy Tarpinian responded that it was partially due to the allocation of utilities to the Apostolic Society for the Library and Museum usage.

Harry Amirkanian commented that by comparing the income side (raffle, rug sale, bingo) with the contribution side, it shows that \$43,000 came from the Women's Guild, Women's Auxiliary and ACYOA. He commended the Women's Guild and Women's Auxiliary for raising so much money.

Frank Pulice questioned Line Item #19 - Approp. AGBU School of \$10,000 in light of the In Lieu of Flowers donations that go to the school.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to amend the 1994 Budget and drop the AGBU line item from expenditures. Discussion followed.

Varsenig Apkarian spoke against the motion stating that there is nothing wrong with supporting the AGBU School and pointed out Mr. Manoogian's support the Parish.

Jane Hovsepien spoke against the motion stating the school is part of our complex and that our Parish has a responsibility to the school.

Ohannes Boyajian spoke against the motion stating that the school pays us for its use of the gymnasium.

Harry Amirkanian supported the motion stating it shouldn't be a church expense.

Guy Amboian stated that our gift is real and we benefit from the kids participating in our programs.

Mihran Hoplamazian spoke against the motion stating that the AGBU School gift is a small token of support for the School. The students participate in our Feast Days. We have alter servers from the school. It's value is greater than the gift.

Richard Norsigian spoke against the motion stating that the AGBU School fills a void since the church no longer has an Armenian School.

Fr. Baret stated that it is a small investment for our kids. It is our duty by our By-laws to morally and financially support Armenian schools.

The Chairman called the question and called for a vote.

The **MOTION** to drop the line item for the AGBU School from the 1994 Budget was voted on and **DEFEATED**.

Frank Pulice questioned the need for Line Item #22 - Artifacts. Richard Vahratian stated that it is a reserve fund budgeted yearly. It doesn't mean that it will be spent.

Frank Pulice made a **MOTION** to drop Line Item #22 - Artifacts for \$10,000 from the 1994 Budget. The motion was seconded, discussed and **DEFEATED**.

Frank Pulice questioned Line Item 20 for \$12,500. Guy Amboian responded that it was a 1994 project. Fr. Baret explained that it will be used to honor Mr. Manoogian at a banquet with His Holiness, Catholicos Vasken I in attendance.

Marianne Dardarian questioned Line Item #5 - Diocesan Assessment and asked if membership was on the down swing. A discussion followed. Guy Amboian and Richard Vahratian answered questions on the Assessment methodology. For the Budget, 725 paid members was used and \$74,000 represents dues and \$10,000 is the Youth Ministry fee. Harry Terzian responded that the \$1,000 decrease from 1992 was because the Assessment also reflects the number of pastors in a parish and ours decreased from 2 to 1 in 1993.

Arthur Apkarian asked why there was no increase in money for Social Concerns. Richard Vahratian responded that the figure is net. We have received more money than in years past.

Dr. Harry Kezelian asked why Line Item # 4 - St. Nersess wasn't in the 1994 Budget. Harry Terzian stated that some our Diocesan Assessment goes to St. Nersess and that we now have a Liaison for St. Nersess who hopefully will raise more money for the seminary.

Sara Andonian stated for the record that she is the Liaison for St. Nersess and it is not her responsibility to be a fund raiser. Her position is to disseminate information on St. Nersess.

Dr. Kezelian made a **MOTION** to add Line Item #41 - St. Nersess back into the Budget for \$5,000. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on, and **PASSED**.

Martin Manoogian asked where the \$5,000 was to come from.

Marianne Dardarian suggested that we increase the number of pledges.

There was discussion on raising dues. Marilyn Boladian stated raising dues isn't the solution.

Marianne Dardarian made a **MOTION** to increase Receipts in Line Item #1 - Pledges by \$5,000 to balance the increase of adding Line Item #41 - St. Nersess for \$5,000. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted on and **PASSED**.

Kathy Mekjian questioned the amount on Line Item #24 - Insurance. Guy Amboian explained that it was left at \$50,000 and that it will be reduced because a portion of it will be billed to the Apostolic Society.

Kathy Mekjian had questions on Line Item #31 - Property Security. Richard Vahratian, Guy Amboian and Andy Tarpinian led the discussion.

Harry Kezelian, Sr. added that the Apostolic Society is working on the insurance for the Museum and will pay its share allocated by the Parish.

A MOTION was made to close discussion on the 1994 Budget. The MOTION was seconded, voted and PASSED.

A MOTION was made to amend the proposed 1994 Budget by increasing Receipts in Line Item #1 - Pledges by \$5,000 with a new total for Receipts for \$743,500 and by increasing Expenditures by adding \$5,000 to Line Item #41 - St. Nersess with a new Expenditures total of \$743,500. The MOTION was seconded, voted on and PASSED.

A MOTION was made to accept the 1994 Budget as amended. The MOTION was seconded, voted on and PASSED.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Kazar Terterian presented a proposal, on behalf of the Parish Council, that annual dues be paid no later than December 31st. Members who have not paid their dues by December 31st will not be allowed to vote at the Annual Parish Assembly. This would assist the auditors and Parish Council in compiling a more accurate Annual Report.

The MOTION was made and seconded to add to the Agenda the proposal that annual dues be paid no later than December 31st and that those who have not paid by this date cannot vote at the Annual Parish Assembly.

Discussion was held on the proposal. It was stated that this change was not in conflict with the Diocesan By-Laws. Clarification was also made on the eligibility of new members to vote at Parish Assemblies. According to the By-laws, new members may vote "provided that at least six months have elapsed since the date of their registration as members of the Parish and their dues have been paid."

A MOTION was made to have annual dues paid no later than December 31st and that those who have not paid by this date cannot vote at the Annual Parish Assembly. The MOTION was seconded, voted on, and PASSED.

James Stamboulian made a MOTION to add to the Agenda a proposal that the Church facilities be opened up to 3 caterers. The MOTION was seconded, voted on and DEFEATED.

James Stamboulian made a MOTION to add to the Agenda a proposal that the Church facilities be opened up to 2 caterers. The MOTION was seconded, voted on and DEFEATED.

James Stamboulian asked for clarification (before making a motion) on the policy for the use of the Church Hall versus Recreation Center on Memorial Dinners

(Hokejoshes). Andy Tarpinian explained that the Parish has the following catering policy:

- The Golden Mushroom Catering Service is the exclusive caterer for St. Johns' Armenian Church.
- Golden Touch Catering (Ed Jizmejian) and Uptown Deli (Gary Reizian) may cater affairs at the Recreation Center, but are not to cater Memorial Dinners (Hokejoshes) at the Recreation Center or the Armenian Cultural Hall.

Ohannes Boyajian asked if the Parish would be getting an Assistant Pastor in 1994. Fr. Baret responded not at this time, maybe in the future.

The Chairman asked if there was any other New Business. There being none, a **MOTION** was made to close New Business. The **MOTION** was seconded, voted and **PASSED**.

X. ELECTION RESULTS

The Chairman announced the election results and congratulated the new members of the Parish Council, Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Parish Council: | Howard Atesian
Dr. Vincent Baylerian
Jane Hovsepien | George Laktzian
Martin Manoogian
John Semizian |
| Nominating Committee: | Marilyn Boladian
Alice Derderian
Jackie El-Chemmas | Mickey Mardirosian
Nancy Mouradian |
| Auditing Committee: | John Bahadurian | |

XI: PASTOR'S CLOSING MESSAGE, PRAYER FOR THE DECEASED AND BENEDICTION

Very Rev. Baret Yeretzian praised the Assembly and thanked all who came today. He stated that he made the decision that the Assembly would take place and not be postponed due to inclement weather because those in attendance had made the effort to be present. He stated that it was his privilege and honor to serve St. John's Parish and expressed his appreciation to the Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian for his service to St. John's and to the former Associate and Interim Pastors who had served prior to Fr. Baret coming to the Parish. He also expressed his appreciation to the Parish Council Chairmen and members, the Apostolic Society, Church Auxiliary

organizations and Church Standing Committees.

Fr. Baret announced that he will be forming Pastor's Advisory Committee made up of parishioners to help and advice him.

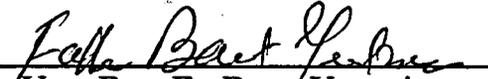
Fr. Baret announced that St. John's Armenian Church would be hosting a Banquet on June 12, 1994 to celebrate Mr. Alex Manoogian's 80 years of service to the Armenian Church. His Holiness, Catholicos Vasken I, will be the guest of St. John's and will attend this celebration.

Fr. Baret congratulated the new Parish Council, Nominating and Auditing Committee members and thanked the outgoing Parish Council Members. He thanked everyone for their views, advice and dedication to the Parish. He concluded with the Benediction.

Prayer for the Deceased: Prayers for those members of the Parish who died will be made on Sunday, February 27th. A list of Deceased members is attached.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

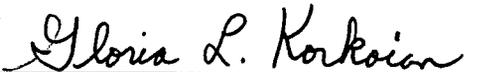
The Parish Assembly adjourned at 11:35 p.m.



Very Rev. Fr. Baret Yeretian
President



The Hon. John Jamian
Chairman, Parish Assembly



Gloria L. Korkoian
Secretary, Parish Assembly

(Date)