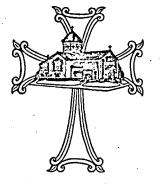
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ARMENIAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR 87 SALISBURY STREET WORCESTER, MASS. 01609 TEL. 756-2931

MINUTES - ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

First Session

The Annual Parish Assembly of the Armenian Church of Our Saviour was held on Thursday, January 24, 1974 in the Church Hall with 34 members present.

The meeting was called to order by the Parish Council chairman, Mr. Charles Garabedian at 8:15 P.M. The Very Rev. Shnork Kasparian presided. Fr. Shnork opened the meeting with a prayer and the assembled members then turned to the election of the assembly officers. Elected were Bartev. Bagdasarian, Assembly Chairman, and Van Aroian, Secretary.

AGENDA

- 1. Election of officers of the Assembly
- 2. Reading of the minutes of previous Assembly
- 3. Report of the Pastor
- 4. Report of the Parish Council
- 5. Report of the Auditing Committee
- 6. Report of all organizations
- 7. Approval of proposed 1974 budget
- 8. Election of Parish Council members, Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee
- 9. New Business

Available to each assembly member were the detailed and completed reports of all parish committees and organizations, together with the financial accounts and statements, which are found in the 1974 Annual Report.

The Assembly voted to dispanse with the reading of the minutes of the previous Assembly which have been previously certified.

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Pastor's Report

The pastor then read in Armenian his annual report which highlighted in detail the great number of activities relative to the religious life of this parish as provided by the pastor. The pastor's report was accepted as submitted with commendation by the Assembly.

Parish Council Report

The Council report was read by Council Secretary, Haroutune Kasparian. A brief discussion followed focusing on the need of assistance to the pastor. The Assembly was notified that the diocese has been requested to provide an assistant and that this will be further pursued by the Council. The report was accepted as presented.

Auditing Committee Report

Committee member, Henry Shooshan, reported that the records and accounts of both the Cultural Center Building Fund and the Armenian Church of Our Saviour were found to be "fair and reasonably representative" of the financial position of the church. (Report attached). The chairman then turned the meeting over to Mr. Peter Nalbandian for a discussion of the church financial reports. Opening discussion involved the Olga Avenue property. The Council, because of the complicated status of the bequest of this property, was unable at this time to provide a complete financial status report of the property.

Further discussion from the Assembly also indicated a desire that a more complete financial report be made available on the major fund raising efforts of the church: for example, the annual picnic, bazaar and New Year's Eve affair. It was agreed that a supplemental report showing a gross income for these affairs be prepared for the Assembly. The consensus of the Assembly was also expressed asking the Council to make known by a special means, the need of our parish members to meet Cultural Center assessments now in effect.

Discussion continued with a question as to the availability of the Cultural Center at allegedly high fees. It was explained that the fees of the Center were based on cost and for comparable facilities were lower than prevailing rates.

Further, it was explained that the Center was available for members of the parish for one half these established rates. The Assembly urged that the Council should make this fact more widely known to the parish members.

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The increases in the maintenance budget were questioned and satisfactorily explained by the fact of extraordinary repairs and refurbishings due to the impending visit of His Holiness Catholicos Vasken I. The Assembly, also, moved to express its gratitude to Messrs. Zarvin Kasparian and John Toromonian for their remodeling of the parish house kitchen into a board-library room.

A motion was made to accept the Auditor's report encompassing the receipt and disbursement analysis presented by the Council for 1973, as well as the report of the Cultural Center Building Fund both as presented and discussed. The Assembly accepted and approved the motion unanimously.

REPORTS OF ORGANIZATIONS

A motion was made to dispense with the readings of the separate organization reports since they were available and presented in the Annual Report. The motion was accepted.

1974 Proposed Budget

There was a brief discussion of the effects of the energy crisis on the projected costs of fuel and lighting. There was a long involved discussion of the diocesan assessment. The proposed high apparently extraordinary increase from the \$7,932 of 1973 to the \$13,000 in 1974 evoked much concern. The explanation pointed out that diocesan expenses were not identical to local parish expenses and that there was a need for additional funds to meet the requirements of central leadership which only the diocese could provide. We had no choice but to support the diocese.

In further explanation, Gilbert Markarian explained that the diocese was developing a more rational method of assessing each parish and that major gains had been made in the past four years in rationalizing parish assessments.

A motion was made that the budget for 1974 as proposed Le accepted. The motion was seconded and approved. (Copy attached)

A suggestion from the floor was made that the Assembly members consider under new business on Sunday, January 27th, the following: that a portion of funds now held in saving accounts be put into bonds or saving certificates in order to increase interest yields. A second request was made that the Assembly members consider for the Sunday, January 27th meeting, the development of guide lines for the parish council relative to the disposition of the Olga Avenue property.