

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR  
Worcester, Massachusetts

MINUTES - ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

The Annual Parish Assembly of the Armenian Church of Our Saviour was called to order at 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, January 26, 1977 by Parish Council Chairman, Nerses John Kabian. Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian, Pastor, presided over the meeting and gave the opening prayer. Also present at the dais was Rev. Garabed Kochakian, Assistant Pastor.

The 53 members present, constituted a quorum. Chairman Kabian asked for nominations for officers of the Assembly. Nominated and elected were Van Aroian, Chairman and John Toromanian, Secretary.

Since the minutes of the previous meeting had been accepted and approved, it was read by the secretary for informational purposes. Before proceeding to the agenda items, it was stated by the Parish Council that the Annual Reports were prepared and made available to all members on the Sunday prior to the Assembly.

Chairman Aroian asked the Assembly their wish in regard to the reading of all the reports. It was voted and approved that only the Pastor's and Parish Council's reports would be read, and comments could be made on organizational reports.

Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian invited Rev. Garabed Kochakian to read the Pastor's Report which was accepted with gratitude and appreciation. The Parish Council Report was read by Council Secretary, Charles Garabedian. It was noted that Parish Council member L. Jerry Stepanian's name was omitted as an Advisor of the Council.

Correction was made on page 9, paragraph 6 of the Council Report "proposed and underworte" instead of "proposed to underwrite" partial cost of St. Nersess Summer Studies.

Page 10 - paragraph 6: Mr. Bart Bagdasarian requested that his name be preceded by the word, treasurer. It was also recommended that monetary donations be omitted in future reports of the Council.

A question was raised in regard to the transfer of \$31,000. to a certificate of deposit instead of reducing the Cultural Center mortgage. It was explained that the interest on the mortgage is 6½% versus 7½% on the certificate.

Treasurer, Francis Najarian explained that the financial record keeping of Church business was revamped with the assistance of Bart Bagdasarian to simplify budgeting, auditing and achievement measurement.

It was suggested to the Parish Council to enter the budget figures of the completed year next to the actual income and disbursement figures for comparison.

Page 11 - "Net receipts from church functions" should read \$6,991.00 and not an addition as shown.

Page 12 - Clergy Stipends should read \$5,224.00.

After reviewing the Statements of Income & Disbursement of the Parish Council, all questions were answered satisfactorily and the Assembly voted and approved the reports of the Parish Council, Statements of Finances and the Cultural Center Building Fund with gratitude and appreciation.

The Auditing Committee Report was presented as a supplement sheet to the Annual Report Booklet. The Parish Council had requested the Auditors to review and audit the records and accounts of all church organizations along with the income and expense of the Church and Cultural Center Fund. Having found minor discrepancies, the Auditing Committee made recommendations that a standard procedure be established for each organization's financial reporting to improve record keeping.

After some discussion, a motion was made and approved by Zarvin Kasparian that the Parish Council Report be endorsed to show that the Auditing Committee finds its financial records to be a fair and reasonable representation of the financial position of the Church.

#### Organization Reports

The Chairman asked the Assembly to review the reports individually for questions or clarifications.

In the Diocesan Assembly Report, it was requested to add that the church organizations also held meetings at the Diocesan Assembly.

The Church Choir Report was reviewed and its financial status was reported by Harry Sogigian to be \$138.01. The Organ Fund has a balance of \$7,593.41. It was voted and accepted that the Organ Fund be reported separately.

It was requested by Margaret Hagopian that the report read "organist, George Sogigian, assisted by Marie Shamgochian, Irene Shooshan and Grace Kheboian.

Armenian School financial report to be corrected to read "Balance on hand for 12/31/76 not 12/31/72.

Library Committee Report was amended to show \$850. in its treasury. It was suggested that the Librarys existence be made known to local schools and libraries.

Sunday School, Senior Ladies, and Cultural Committee Reports were reviewed with questions being answered satisfactorily.

Young Women's Guild report was reviewed with commendations for their Volunteer Social Service efforts.

Men's Club report was reviewed and amended to read "served at Der Garabed's Ordination Banquet".

ACYOS Seniors Report was discussed and voted to be corrected by deleting the sentence "The Seniors sold mezza plates at a private Veteran's Day Dance sponsored by Charles Markarian" due to it being a non-church function.

After questions and discussions, the ACYOA Junior's Report must be corrected and re-submitted to the second session of the Assembly on Sunday. (Financial Report)

Except for the ACYOA Juniors Report, all church organization reports were voted and approved with gratitude as amended.

#### Proposed 1977 Budget

Even though the budget showed a deficit, it was explained that the budget was a guideline for what the Parish Council felt it needed.

Through an oversight, the Church Choir was not shown on the budget but was explained that the Parish Council was providing financially for all its needs.

The proposed budget for 1977 was voted and approved after some discussion regarding economies and other questions which were answered satisfactorily.

#### Nominating Committee

Mr. George Herosian, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented the names of the candidates for election at the next session of the Assembly. The candidates present at the meeting were asked to rise and be recognized.

It was voted to adjourn the first session of the Assembly and to continue on the following Sunday, January 30, 1977 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting closed at 11:15 p.m. following Der Garabed's final prayer.

#### SECOND SESSION

The Parish Assembly reconvened on Sunday, January 30, 1977 at 10:00 am by Chairman, Van Aroian. Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian, Pastor was present at the sealing of the ballot box. Elections were then opened and closed at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman George Herosian of the Nominating Committee reported that 183 votes were cast and the results were as follows:

#### Parish Council

Leon Kachadorian	108	Elected
Lutwig J. Stepanian	103	Elected
Kazar Kazarian	101	Elected
Francis Najarian	101	Elected
Torkom Boyajian	73	Elected
Andrew Surabian	67	
Hagop Vartanian	58	
Anthony Barsamian	57	
Peter Der Kazarian	46	
Arsene Bajakian	57	

Diocesan Delegate

Bartev Bagdasarian	112	Elected
Zarvin Kasparian	107	Elected
Gilbert Markarian	94	Elected
George Herosian	93	Elected
John Toromanian	87	Elected
Seth Bilazarian	78	Elected
Ramon Hovsepian	71	
Charles Garabedian	70	
Asbed Zakarian	70	
Harry Sahagian	62	
Garry Degermajian	56	
Ara Heroian	32	

Nominating Committee

William Aslanian	119	Elected
Arsen Haroian	113	Elected
George Sogigian	103	Elected
Berjoohe Zakarian	103	Elected
Lucy Kasparian	91	Elected
Anne Demirjian	70	
Yervant Osganian	61	
John Balian	47	
George Panagian	43	
Masis Shahinian	36	

Auditing Committee

Edward Bilzerian	131	Elected
Robert Shooshan	120	Elected
Harry Sogigian	110	Elected
Ruth Kaprelian	87	
Elda Malesky	31	
Marcel Babayan	20	

It was voted to accept the report of the Nominating Committee as submitted.

The ACYOA Juniors re-submitted its financial accounting as requested at the first session of the Assembly, with the following report:

Balance 1-1-76	\$1,733.61
Income 1976	<u>2,127.67</u>
Total	3,861.28
Expenses 12-31-76	<u>2,370.99</u>
Cash on Hand 12-31-76	\$1,490.29

Also in the ACYOA Juniors Report under "Contributions", it was requested that "One World Festival" be changed to read "bus fare to N.Y."

It was voted and approved to accept the ACYOA Juniors report as re-submitted.

New Business

Question was asked whether Choir members are considered voting members,

since in the past there was a period of time when Choir members were eligible to vote.

After various discussions and questions, the Parish Council stated that it had ruled that Choir members must be dues paying in order to vote.

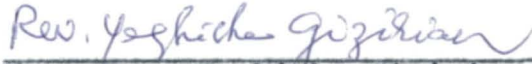
It was also explained by Yeretzgin Roberta Kochakian, an officer of the Choir Association that Choir members must be dues paying.

There being no additional new business, the Chairman thanked and commended all members of the Assembly, The Nominating Committee, the Election Workers, the ladies who prepared lunch and all those who contributed their support.

These minutes as recorded were read and accepted by the Assembly.

Motion was made and accepted to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer by our Pastors, Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian, Rev. Garabed Kochakian and those present at the Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Very Rev. Yeghishe Gizirian  
President

  
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Van Aroian  
Chairman

  
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John Toromanian  
Secretary