

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY  
of the  
HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH OF UNION CITY, N. J.  
January 27, 1980

Following Church Services on January 27, 1980, Mr. Philip Arpiarian, Chairman of the Parish Council, called the meeting to order. Armen Kalbian and Matilde Kalbian were elected Chairman and Secretary of the Annual Meeting, respectively. The meeting was then recessed for lunch.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:50 P. M. by Chairman Armen Kalbian. Thomas Dabakian made a motion that the ballot box be closed at 2:00 P. M. Charles Kuzujian seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mr. Kalbian thanked the members of the Women's Guild for serving a delicious lunch. He then welcomed the parishioners to the 74th Annual Meeting of the Holy Cross Armenian Church of Union City.

The Chairman read the highlights of Last Year's minutes and asked for corrections or additions. It was suggested that the number of ballots cast be included in this year's minutes. The minutes were then accepted as read.

It was decided to dispense with the reading of the organization reports since the Annual Report booklet has been available to parishioners for reading one week previous to the Annual Meeting. Any questions or comments regarding these reports were brought up at this time.

The following points were made.

- It was noted that our Annual Bazaar was an outstanding financial success this year. Garnig Shenloogian was thanked for doing an excellent job of Chairmanship for this event. To insure a successful annual picnic, it was decided to advertise that the picnic would be held rain or shine.
- Philip Arpiarian wanted it recorded that Carol Grossi and Jack Takakjian did an excellent job of researching the Bingo venture. Unfortunately, it was not feasible because of the lack of people wanting to volunteer their time.
- Nubar Dorian gave a vote of thanks to Der Hayr through whose efforts our Parish has grown. The publication of the Sunday Bulletin by Der Hayr is also an asset to our Church.
- The Parish Council with Philip Arpiarian as Chairman were commended on accomplishing many of their goals. We gave them a round of applause.
- Matilde Kalbian noted that the ACYOA should be supported more.
- Vivian Hovsepian wanted to know if Sunday School enrollment could be increased.

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Der Hayr's comments on the two preceeding items were as follows. He had looked into starting a Senior ACYOA but not enough students in the area would be available to join. The Junior ACYOA group is very enthusiastic but needs more parent participation to make it function successfully. A meeting with the parents should be instituted.

Both the Armenian and Sunday School enrollments are down because of the lack of parishioners with children of school age. The new comers are not accustomed to Sunday School because religious education is integrated in every day schooling in Beirut.

Richard Hachadoorian presented the Audit Report on behalf of the Auditing Committee. He thanked all the organizations for submitting their financial reports promptly. A detailed review was made of the Parish Council financial report. It was noted that for the first time two six month money market certificates have been purchased and will increase our interest income. Virginia Shenloogian thanked the Christmas Card committee for the beautiful card as well as it being financially successful.

Mr. Hachadoorian then presented the 1980 proposed Annual Budget and stated that for the first time in many years it is a balanced budget. After a discussion on several of the items under anticipated expenses and income, a motion was made by Thomas Dabakian to accept the budget as submitted. Paul Takakjian seconded the motion and it was so approved.

Michael Megerdichian inquired as to why there was not a basketball report. It was explained that the participation in the basketball league was by all Armenian churches and as such our teams can use the name of the Church but officially is not a part of the Church and therefore cannot be included in the Annual Report. It was pointed out that John Bohajian donated \$250 to help sponsor the basketball team.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Renovation Program: Harold Azmelian reported that work is progressing. The next item to be done is the sidewalk in front of Church. This is to be followed by work on the Annex, Parish House and Church Center in that order.

2. Pledge System: Armen Kalbian reported that \$9,015 was received in pledges from 75 participants. Hopefully the Pledge System will eventually be the main source of income for our Church.

3. Renovation Fund: Philip Arpiarian reported that \$5,900 has been received, to date, from individuals. This should continue to be supported since the work has not been completed.

4. There was no Diocesan Delegate report.

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NEW BUSINESS

A proposal was made to form a Recognition Committee. This proposal is described in its entirety in the Annual Report. The following items were discussed by those present at the meeting.

1. The establishment of two plaques—a founders' plaque and an outstanding members' plaque.
2. The number of votes necessary for an official decision.
3. The manner of selecting a candidate.
4. Who is eligible for candidacy.

The following amendments were made.

1. All members of the Recognition Committee have to be present to vote for a potential candidate.
2. The number of meetings of the Recognition Committee will be left up to the Committee.
3. The use of a guideling prepared by the Diocese in evaluating a candidate.
4. Establishment of two plaques—one for the Founders of the Church and the other for the persons voted on by the Recognition Committee.
5. Each year the number of persons singled out for recognition will be left to the discretion of the Committee.
6. For the year 1980 the goal will be to establish the Founders Plaque.

Paul Takakjian made a motion to accept the Recognition Committee proposal as amended. Charles Sarajian seconded it and it was so approved.

Arpena Sbarbaro of the Nominating Committee recommended a membership drive in order to have more people available to participate in Church affairs. She then gave the results of the election, forty eight ballots were cast.

Parish Council: Harold Azmelian First Alternate:  
Philip Arpiarian Herbert Takakjian  
Charles Kuzujian  
Charles Genjian  
Zaven Hovsepian

Assisting Committee: Ann Hachadoorian First Alternate:  
Richard Hachadoorian Charles Sarajian  
Lud Shabazian

Nominating Committee: Virginia Shenloogian First Alternate:  
Thomas Dabakian Deran Chopoorian  
Satenig Radoian

Carnig Shenloogian made a motion to close the meeting; Thomas Dabakian seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P. M. with a prayer by Der Hayr.

Respectfully submitted,

Matilde Kalbian, Secretary