

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY OF ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH

PART I

Sunday, January 30, 1983

President	Rev. Arnak Kasparian
Chairman	Ronald Kenderian
Co-Chairman	Arthur Otchy
Secretary	Eileen Barsamian

Mr. Ronald Kenderian, Chairman of the 1983 Parish Assembly, opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Michel Izmirly to change the order of business by deferring the reading of the minutes of the 1982 Parish Assembly to the next session. This was seconded by Dikris Malool and the motion was carried.

Martha Saraydarian was introduced as Chairman of the Nominating Committee, and she presented the slate of officers for nomination to the Parish Council. Nominations were then opened to the floor. There was one nomination made, which was declined. A motion was made by Lucy Nakashian to close nominations, seconded by Grace Hajinlian and the motion was carried.

Frank Stoneson questioned the fact that there were only seven people nominated for six vacancies, when the Diocesan By-Laws require a double slate be submitted by the Nominating Committee. Martha Saraydarian deferred to Father Arnak to explain the reasons for the Nominating Committee's action. He answered that this procedure gives the Parish Assembly a chance to nominate people from the floor. Considerable discussion followed. There were several objections to the lack of a double slate or as close to a double slate of bone-fide candidates as possible for the various offices.

Mr. Edward Bashian suggested that in the future, the Nominating Committee should always try to abide by the Diocesan By-Laws. Mr. Stoneson stated that the Diocese might not verify the election results based on the insufficient number of candidates on the slate.

Henry Hagopian made a motion that nominations for Parish Council be reopened. This was seconded by Jack Hajinlian. This motion was subsequently voted on and it was carried. There were no additional nominations made from the floor.

Puzant Torigian made a motion that the Nominating Committee be instructed to furnish a full slate as the By-Laws require and then reconvene. Ara Martaian seconded the motion. George Mekenian amended this motion by instructing the Nominating Committee to report back next week with its slate. The agenda for next week would include nominations, elections and continuation of the Parish Assembly. Mr. Mekenian noted that if the Nominating Committee is unable to present a full slate, then the Parish Assembly may consider petitioning the Diocese for dispensation. This was seconded by Ara Martaian. The motion which was introduced by Mr. Torigian and amended by Mr. Mekenian was voted upon and carried.

Rose Mekenian suggested that for this year we might follow the procedure of two years ago when the meeting was opened for nominations and then recessed for balloting and lunch, and the meeting resumed thereafter.

Albert Papazian suggested we take Polaroid pictures of the candidates the morning of the election and have the pictures posted at the polls in time for the voting.

Dikris Malool asked for clarification as to who prepared the budget for the Church. Chairman of the Parish Council, Peter Ajemian, stated that the services of the treasurer, bookkeeper and Michel Izmirly are used to compile the figures for the budget. The Parish Council then reviews it, makes additions, subtractions and then approves it.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ara Martaian and seconded by Tish Basmajian. The meeting ended at 1:50 p.m.