

**30th PARISH ASSEMBLY  
ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
SESSION I - SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 1995**

Chairman Leon Nigohosian opened the meeting by asking Grace Hagopian, Parish Council Treasurer to establish that a quorum of at least 50 fully paid-up members was present. After establishing that a sufficient number was present, Very Rev. Fr. Papken Dz. V. Anoushian led the opening prayer.

Chairman Nigohosian stated for the record that voting list was available for those wishing to inspect it. He then introduced the Parish Assembly Officers: V. Rev. Fr. Papken Anoushian, President, Leon Nigohosian, Chairman, and Madlen Setian, Secretary. He also thanked last year's Parish Assembly Chairman Andy Ouzoonian and Parish Assembly Secretary Sylva Torosian for their efforts.

Chairman Nigohosian stated that the Parish Assembly would be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws of the Eastern Diocese and guided by Roberts Rules of Order. He then stated that the first item on the agenda were the minutes of last year's Parish Assembly. Seta Izmirly made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes, but allow for their reading at next week's session, if needed. It was seconded by Sylva Torosian. The motion was passed. He then called Aram Setian to read the nominations on behalf of the Nominating Committee.

Chairman Nigohosian stated that the Diocesan By-Laws have been changed and there is now a requirement that the terms of those holding office in the Auditing Committee be staggered terms. The election this year for those running for Auditing Committee will be as follows: there are three persons on the Auditing Committee and the By-Laws call for three year terms; the person from the group receiving the highest number of votes will be elected for a full 3-year term, the person receiving the second-highest number of votes will be elected for a two year term only, and the person receiving the third-highest number of votes will be elected for one year and one year only. After these terms expire, the persons elected to these positions will serve for full three year terms.

Mr. Setian presented the following candidates for Parish Council: Mari Camcikyan, Lusi Ezgilioglu, Zivart Gulian, Ani Hamparsumian, Leon Nigohosian, Richard Saraydarian, Irma Saganda, Madlen Setian, Hagop Torosian, Virginia Victoria, Sirarpi Yildiz and Joseph Zokian. Chairman Nigohosian asked for nominations from the floor. Edward Parseghian nominated the following for Parish Council: Seta Izmirly, Alex Markarian, Paul Kahaumjian and Arthur Azarik. Mr. Setian continued with the candidates for the Nominating Committee: Sylva Asadourian, Ayda Bozian, Manuk Camcikyan, Vicken Ezgilioglu, Ani Kecoglu, Ayda Kilerciyan, Lusi Piligian, Elsie Nigohosian, Mary Zokian. Aram Setian withdrew his name as a candidate for Nominating Committee because he had served for two years consecutively and he no longer qualified according to the By-Laws. The chair called for nominations from the floor for the Nominating Committee. There were none. Mr. Setian announced the

Auditing Committee: candidates Jeanie Amerkanian, Natalie Capan, Sirvart Demirjian, Vicken Ezgilioglu, Talin Kupelian, and Hovsep Taktajian. Leon Nigohosian asked for nominations from the floor for Auditing Committee. There were none. Mr. Setian continued with the candidates for 1996 Parish Assembly Chairman: Leon Nigohosian, Jeanie Amerkanian. Leon Nigohosian asked if there were any nominations from the floor for Parish Assembly Chairman. Dikris Malool nominated Antranik Ouzoonian for 1996 Assembly Chairman. The candidate for 1996 Parish Assembly Secretary is Madlen Setian. All of the nominees for the respective offices, were asked to stand and were introduced. Mr. Setian asked that all Parish Council candidates see the photographer to have their picture taken. Leon Nigohosian asked all Parish Council candidates who were nominated from the floor to submit a biography to the church office no later than Monday, January 30, 1995, for mailing to the membership. A motion was made to close the nominations by Rose Mekenian, seconded by Jack Torosian. Motion was carried.

Leon Nigohosian asked the assembly to determine the hours for the second session (February 5, 1995) at which time the meeting will be opened and the time during which the elections will be held. He stated that the meeting notice we received stated that the Parish Assembly second session would begin at the completion of church services. Fr. Papken stated that services will end around noon. The chair asked for a motion stating that the meeting begin next week at noon. Ara Babigian asked if there was a change in the time services would be held. Fr. Papken said there would be no homily. Ara Babigian wanted to know what time do church services start in case someone wanted to attend. Fr. Papken said services will begin around 10:15 A.M. If the second session is to begin at 12 noon, Edward Parseghian asked how will those members who are not present know when the meeting will start. He stated that at the last Parish Assembly it was decided that the time meetings were to be held, be noted on the invitation. Martha Saraydarian suggested that since there was going to be a separate mailing with the names of those who were nominated from the floor, a sentence could be added with the time the meeting starts on February 5th. Leon Nigohosian stated that this indeed could be done and asked Mr. Parseghian if this solution satisfied him. Mr. Parseghian replied that it did.

Puzant Torigian noted that the Bi-Laws require two candidates for every position open. Mr. Nigohosian noted that the only position with only one candidate is that of secretary. The Nominating Committee presented a slate with double the number of candidates for every other position. If one drops out, they still have fulfilled their requirement. However, Mr. Nigohosian asked if he, Puzant Torigian, wanted to move to re-open the nominations. Motion was made to re-open the nominations by Puzant Torigian and seconded by George Mekenian. The motion was defeated. The chair exercised its prerogative to re-open the nominations. Leon Nigohosian read from paragraph 14B of the By-Laws citing the requirements for the number of candidates needed for each position. An additional candidate was needed for Nominating Committee and a

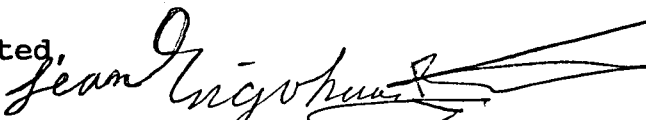
second for Assembly Secretary. Puzant Torigian nominated George Mekenian for Nominating Committee. George Mekenian declined. Paul Kahaumjian nominated Ara Babigian for Nominating Committee. He accepted. Henry Hagopian nominated Eileen Barsamian for Secretary. She declined. Sylva Torosian nominated Martha Saraydarian for secretary. She declined. The chair nominated Sylva Torosian for secretary and she accepted. A motion was made by Bedros Yavru and seconded by Mary Sanossian to close the nominations. The motion was carried.

Chairman Nigohosian made a proposal to begin next week's voting immediately after the opening of the meeting at noon and the determination of a quorum. Last year the hours were 12 Noon to 2:30 P.M. Andy Ouzoonian proposed 12 noon for a starting time, adjourn for lunch and voting until 2:00 P.M. Martha Saraydarian suggested that anyone registered and on line for voting at 2:00 P.M. be permitted to do so. Leon Nigohosian agrees that this will be done. Andy Ouzoonian made a motion to begin meeting at 12 Noon after a quorum, adjourn for lunch and voting, and resume the meeting at 2:00 P.M. at which time voting will end. Sylva Torosian seconds and the motion is carried. Mary Sanossian made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Levon Capan. The motion was carried. V. Rev. P. Dz. V. Anoushian delivered a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Madlen Setian  
Secretary 1995  
Parish Assembly



Leon Nigohosian  
Chairman 1995  
Parish Assembly

V. Rev. Fr. Papken  
Dz. V. Anoushian,  
Pastor and President  
1995 Parish Assembly

**30TH PARISH ASSEMBLY  
ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH  
SESSION II - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1995**

Very Rev. Fr. Papken Anoushian led the assembly in the opening prayer. Chairman Nigohosian asked all who were 1994/1995 dues paid members to rise. He ascertained that we had a quorum of at least 50 dues paid members.

Immediately after the Divine Liturgy, the meeting was called to order at 12:12 P.M. Chairman Nigohosian opened Session II stating that a list of members qualified to vote was available for all those who wished to examine it. He then stated that this second part of the 1995 Parish Assembly meeting which was originally scheduled for February 5th, but was postponed to today due to inclement weather. He reminded everyone that we were in a church and that everyone should act accordingly. He introduced the Parish Assembly officers, Very Rev. Fr. Papken Anoushian, President,

Madlen Setian, Secretary, and Leon Nigohosian, Chairman.

He explained that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America and would be guided by Roberts Rules of Order.

He cited the new Diocesan By-Law for those elected to Auditing Committee: the person with most votes would be elected to a full 3-year term, the person receiving the second highest number of votes will be elected to a partial term of 2 years, and the person receiving the third highest number of votes would be elected to a one year period only, according to the Diocesan By-laws which have been changed to provide for standard terms.

Chairman Nigohosian reminded everyone that the reports were distributed two weeks ago (January 29) and more were available today for those who did not receive one. He suggested that everyone take the opportunity until 2:00 P.M. to review them.

Chairman Nigohosian also noted that the election was governed by the Auditing and Nominating Committees. He then read the names of those who were disqualified from counting ballots because they held positions on those committees and were running for office. Jeannie Amerkanian was listed as assembly secretary. In her absence, Hayr Soorp verified that she had withdrawn. However it was confirmed that Marie Zokian, Mari Camcikyan and Ani Kecoglu were still candidates and were disqualified from counting votes. Chairman Nigohosian named the alternates who could replace those who were disqualified: Susan Stoneson - was not present, Shake Shahinian was present and could be involved in counting of the ballots.

Seta Izmirly asked that the names of those who had withdrawn be announced again. Chairman Nigohosian replied that Jeannie Amerkanian, Aram Setian and Alex Markarian had withdrawn.

Chairman Nigohosian entertained a motion by Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk to recess the meeting and reconvene at 2:00 after the election. The motion was seconded by Mari Camcikyan. The motion was carried at 12:35 P.M.

The meeting was reconvened at 2:12 P.M. and quorum was re-established. Chairman Nigohosian thanked the lunch committee and made a correction stating that Jeannie Amerkanian had withdrawn from the position of Assembly Chairman and not Secretary.

Chairman Nigohosian proposed that the order of the Agenda be modified with the following amendments:

that item #16 - 29th Parish Assembly Minutes become # 5A,  
that item #17 - Approval of Proposed Budget for 1995 become # 5B,  
that item #18 - Audit Report inserted today 2/12/95 become # 5C,  
that item #19 - Old Business become # 5D,  
that item # 20 - New Business become # 5E.

Item numbers 21 Announcement of Election Results, and item number 22 - Closing Prayer and Adjournment would become items numbers 16 & 17, respectively. A motion was made by Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk to adopt the proposed changes and seconded by Susan Shamamian. Puzant Torigian proposed that the Auditing Committee report be heard before the Budget Report. The motion was modified so that item #18 Auditing Committee report would become #5B and

that item #17 Approval of the 1995 Budget would become #5C. The motion was carried as amended.

Chairman Nigohosian pointed out the following typographical errors in the report: page 5 - should state "Dr. Levon Capan attended the Diocesan Assembly by virtue of his being Parish Council Chairman (ex-officio), in his place the first alternate Ara Martaian also attended." The list on page 6 should also reflect that Ara Martaian went as 1st alternate since Dr. Capan was already attending in his capacity of P. C. Chairman. Page 10, 3rd line, should say "motion detection activated lights were installed." Page 17 under Family Auxiliary the correct word should read "Disbursements." Page 18 the heading of columns should be shifted to the right so that the INCOME heading should be above \$14,640, the EXPENSES should be above 24,140 and the BALANCE above \$28,786.50. Page 23, second paragraph, second line should be changed from 'He read the following "....." ' to "He read the statute." Also on page 23, paragraph seven states that a letter was attached. No letter was attached and the phrase "(a copy of this letter is attached to these minutes)" should be stricken in its entirety. In the same paragraph four lines down the word "directory" should be changed to "directive." Page 24, second paragraph, sixth line, again "(This letter is attached as part of these minutes)" should be stricken, since the letter does not appear in the minutes. Page 26, third paragraph, line 6, the correct spelling is "delegates;" also on page 26, the seventh paragraph, 2nd line should read "1993 Parish Assembly minutes be approved." Page 27, last paragraph, 3rd line from bottom the phrase "pay all expenses is correct." Page 31, under Operating Expenses, 2nd entry Exhibit K change figure to \$30,809. Page 37, the 2 right-most columns under Budget 1994 the figure \$12,500, and under Actual 1993, \$8,542 should be in brackets to indicate that these figures are for both plate and candles. Shnorig Bashian stated that on page 11 the asterisk should be changed. Shant should have two asterisks since he attended St. Vartan Camp, and Diran and Karen should have one asterisk because they attended St. Nerses. Chairman Nigohosian asked for any other changes or amendments. He stated that more could be added later.

Chairman informed everyone that they should speak at the microphone and that an Armenian translator was available if needed.

The Chairman invited V. Rev. Fr. Papken Anoushian to give his report.

Fr. Papken then took the floor and stated in both Armenian and English that he was very happy to see everyone present at this year's Assembly. He stated that St. Thomas was indeed one family and the fruits of that were very well harvested. He stated that since that attitude was prevalent among us, we were all fortunate as a whole Church Parish, as demonstrated by the outcome in the report which showed the \$53,000 surplus, plus approximately \$47,000 in the building fund, and \$27,000 in the emergency fund. He stated that this accomplishment showed the picture of a jointly responsible Parish Council working in solidarity, and the larger St. Thomas Family. He stated that if the St. Thomas Family had not

supported church events, the church would not have had this prosperous & successful outcome. Fr. Papken also urged everyone to experience for themselves the words and deeds of individuals and not believe hearsay. He stated that the St. Thomas Family is very important to himself. He stated that it is an Armenian Church; Armenians attend services here and do not go elsewhere because it is an Armenian Church. He stated that it is his duty to give them their faith, love and pride of their ethnicity and nation. But he stated that since we are here in the U.S. and not in Armenia, there are differences. We have those who do not speak the Armenian language, but that doesn't mean that this isn't their church. They, of course, do belong here. He stated that he was aware of what the needs of the faithful are and that he took great pleasure in satisfying the needs of our family and is always happy to do so. Therefore, sacraments such as funerals, baptisms and weddings are performed in English when requested, and during the Divine Liturgy the Confession, Homily and Bible readings are regularly done in both English and Armenian.

In conclusion, he stated that the feeling of brotherly spirit existed within the Parish Council and it was dispersed throughout the Church. He stated that we are one family and that his actions are in accordance with the members of the church in order to satisfy their needs. Fr. Papken stated that we were "here today to discuss the points raised and I'm sure all will be solved in the spirit of Christianity and love of Armenianism".

Ara Babigian asked Fr. Papken to comment on the change in the number of members and Fr. Papken answered that the Membership Committee would answer that.

Dikris Malool asked that the names of the visiting clergy be added to the report as part of the history of St. Thomas and Fr. Papken said that it would be inserted as an addendum.

Chairman Nigohosian invited Dr. Levon Capan, Parish Council Chairman to give his report. Dr. Capan reported that it was an honor for him to serve on the Parish Council during 1994 with a fine group of people and a priest who is young, energetic and the embodiment of the young Armenian, traditional clergyman. He offered his special thanks to each and every Parish Council member. He stated that the surplus of \$53,000 was the result of coordinating work the Parish Council did together. He stated that last year we had \$19,600 in the reserve Building Fund, which was accumulated by putting aside \$2,000 monthly, and that Al Victoria had made a motion to add \$6,000 bringing this to \$24,000 and by adding this year's \$24,000, the total figure becomes \$48,000. If added to our other surplus, the church had close to \$100,000, which was a tremendous accomplishment. He noted that there are many out of the 52 churches in our Diocese who are in extreme financial difficulty. He stated that our success is possible thanks to God and to the people who worked, donated and contributed to the church. He apologized for omitting the Sunday School in his report. He reported that in September the Building Committee was activated. Its members are Albert Victoria, Andy Ouzonian, Raffi Arslanian, Jack Charshafian, and Hagop Torosian as liaison of the Parish

Council. He reported that the condition of the roof of the church complex was not as bad as thought last year and it appears that there is no need for a large expense.

He reported that the Parish Council drew up a contract with Fr. Papken per the 1994 Parish Assembly resolution. He stated that the contract did not add anything different from the arrangement the church had with Fr. Papken during the last three -and-a-half years. He then read the contract, which had three main provisions:

1. Fr. Papken should serve for a 5-year term beginning in February 1994, and continuing until February 1999;

2. Fr. Papken would perform his duties of pastor according to the Diocesan By-Laws and the traditions and canons of the Armenian Church;

3. Fr. Papken's compensation would be decided by the Parish Assembly, subject to Diocesan approval. All other items stay the same, such as auto expenses, etc. Nothing was different. Ara Babigian stated that these are not in the Parish Council report. Chairman Nigohosian suggested that an addendum could be made to add the copy of the contract to the minutes and that the approval of such a contract was passed by last year's Parish Assembly. Rose Mekenian stated that no contract is final unless it is formally approved by the Primate and the Diocesan Council. Rose Mekenian stated that this Assembly should approve the contract. Dr. Capan stated that the contract was drawn and approved by the Parish Council, he had not said that it was approved by the Parish Assembly and that this item would come up later under New Business.

Puzant Torigian raised the question of the departure of the church caretaker. Chairman Nigohosian stated that there had been a threat of litigation, so any discussion of this matter was improper and ruled that he was out of order.

Edward Parseghian raised the question of the procedure when one Parish Council member does not attend meetings more than four times. Dr. Capan stated that Frank Avakian Stoneson was a P.C. member who had not attended meetings because he had hurt his back in an automobile accident and afterwards had knee surgery. Dr. Capan contacted him 5-6 times. Leon Nigohosian stated that according to the Diocesan By-Laws a member can be absent for reasonable and compelling causes.

Chairman Nigohosian introduced the next item 5A, the 1994 Minutes from last year on pages 23-29 and asked for any changes. Rose Mekenian noted that on page 24, paragraph 8, line 3 the word "candidate" should be deleted and the words "to vote you" should be inserted; on page 26, paragraph 8, line 3, the word "motion" should be deleted and the words "a comment" inserted.

Sonia Tashjian stated that on page 26, last paragraph about the library, that she knew that \$1,500 was donated by Vay Najarian with which she personally went to Boston to buy books which were given to St. Thomas in cartons. This \$1,500 was found and not lost.

Chairman Nigohosian moved to adopt the 1994 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

Chairman Nigohosian thanked Sylva Torosian for the fine job

she did on the minutes last year.

Chairman Nigohosian moved on to Old Business, Agenda item 5D.

Puzant Torigian made a motion that the old Parishioners Concern Committee be re-established. This would be an independent organization to address concerns. Andy Ouzoonian seconded the motion. The motion was defeated.

Chairman Nigohosian brought up 5E, New Business.

On behalf of the Parish Council, Dr. Capan stated that the Board of Trustees was made up of the following members: Edward Bashian, Vay Najarian, Dick Turnamian, Garbis Kirikian, Arthur Azarik, Michael Halebian, Mary Ann Saraydarian, Harout Mekhjian, Al Victoria, Michel Izmirly, Nazar Nazarian, Andy Ouzoonian, George Mekenian and that the P.C. was thankful to them for their diligent work over the years. However the 7-year term of all were expired with the exception of Arthur Azarik, Michael Halebian and Mary Ann Saraydarian, who were appointed 3 years ago. The rest were appointed more than seven years before and, because their terms were expired, the P.C., according to the 1987 Board of Trustees By-Laws, had a duty to appoint new members. After many long discussions the Parish Council decided to have a mixed group of trustees by re-appointing some older existing members and also some new individuals. As a result, and after consultation with the trustees, Edward Bashian, Vay Najarian, Richard Turnamian and Garbis Kirikian would be re-appointed. The new members would be Leon Nigohosian, Hagop Torosian, Arpi Arslanian, Dr. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk. Richard Saraydarian and Levon Nazarian declined. In addition Rupen Saddler, Andy Shahinian and Haig Tashjian would stay on as honorary members. Dr. Capan stated that letters were sent to all the trustees for consultation and the P.C. received input from the Board of Trustees. The contents of the letters received from the trustees was discussed and considered at the P.C. meetings and, as a result, these names were put forth. Dr. Capan moved to put this list of the Board of Trustees to a vote for approval by the Assembly.

Andy Ouzoonian made a point of order. He stated that the trustees were appointed in 1987. A vote was necessary by the Assembly and the Assembly had not had a chance to review these candidates and this was out of order and also not on the agenda. Chairman Nigohosian replied that under the Board of Trustees By-Laws passed in 1987 by the Parish Assembly, the procedure calls for the Parish Council to prepare a list in consultation with the Board of Trustees and bring it to the Assembly. Mr. Ouzoonian stated that it was a balloting issue. Leon Nigohosian stated it was not a balloting process, but, instead, a question of approval or disapproval of the list of names (not a selection process). Chairman Nigohosian asked Dr. Harout Mekhjian if he received the Parish Council Chairman's letter. Dr. Mekhjian replied that he had and that he had sent copies to all Board of Trustees members and five members answered him and that their responses had been sent to the Parish Council Chairman. Chairman Nigohosian ruled that all was done according to the By-Laws. Chairman Nigohosian stated that it



was the Parish Council's responsibility to come up with the names of possible trustees and that By-Laws stated that the existing trustees should be asked for consultation, and not approval. This obligation was met, and the Board of Trustees had been consulted and their responses were deliberated upon by the Parish Council. Andy Ouzoonian stated that this was not New Business and it was not on the Agenda and therefore out of order. Chairman Nigohosian stated that 3 years ago, at the 1992 Parish Assembly, no advance notice was given and the same thing was done when the names of Mike Halebian, Arthur Azarik and Mary Ann Saraydarian were submitted to the Parish Assembly for approval and they were appointed to the Board of Trustees. The Chairman of that 1992 meeting was Andy Ouzoonian.

Leon Nigohosian said that the By-Laws do not state that this position is for life and that the By-Laws have been followed and due notification and consultation was given.

For clarification, Chairman Nigohosian read the contents of the letter from Dr. Levon Capan addressed to Dr. Harout Mekhjian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, informing him that the terms of all, but 3, trustees were expired. The letter listed the names of the new nominees, those who would be re-instated and also of those would remain as honorary members. Dr. Capan's motion to approve the list of names for the Board of Trustees, was seconded by Sylva Torosian. There was an extended discussion of the motion with several persons speaking.

Andy Ouzoonian made a motion to table this matter. A vote was taken on the motion to table the trustee matter. A count was taken: 35 voted for and 57 against. The motion to table was defeated.

Rose Mekenian moved that Dr. Capan's motion be amended such that the incumbent members of the Board of Trustees be considered to have been re-appointed "de-facto". As a result, those members, if any, appointed prior to 1987 would serve 2 seven-year terms and their tenure would expire fourteen years after their first appointment to the Board of Trustees (that is, they would have been appointed by vote for the first seven-year term and appointed "de-facto," without any vote, for the second term). Hence, those first appointed in 1981, for example, would serve until 1995, at which time they would be re-appointed by voting or replaced, and so forth. She stated that this would achieve a staggered-term situation.

Chairman Leon Nigohosian stated that the By-Laws did not permit any "de-facto" appointment of the trustees and that Rose Mekenian effectively was re-writing the 1987 By-Laws, which was improper. He stated, further that the terms of the incumbent trustees began in 1987, with the passage that year of the Board of Trustees By-Laws now in effect and that all of them, except Mary Ann Saraydarian, Michael Halebian, and Arthur Azarik (all of whom had been appointed in 1992 or thereabouts) had completed their seven-year terms. Also, the Chairman held that the 1987 By-Laws superseded those previously enacted and ruled Rose Mekenian's motion out of order.

Chairman Nigohosian asked for a vote on the motion put forth

previously by Dr. Capan to reconstitute the Board of Trustees as per the list prepared by the Parish Council and communicated to the Board of Trustees. The motion was carried.

Dr. Capan moved to ratify the contract with Fr. Papken and Grace Hagopian seconded. Chairman Nigohosian asked for any discussion. Puzant Torigian asked to see the contract in writing, he also stated that Fr. Papken was appointed by the Primate and there was no need for a contract. He asked that the motion be tabled and that the contract be published. Chairman Nigohosian invited Mr. Torigian to read the contract aloud. Mr. Torigian read the same contract as read previously by Dr. Capan. Dr. Capan stated that this agreement is not against the By-Laws and that it is not being done without the Diocese knowing about it. Dr. Capan stated that the Primate is aware of this contract, as the 1994 Assembly Minutes were sent to the Diocese. Chairman Nigohosian moved the question to ratify the contract with Fr. Papken. The motion was voted upon and carried.

A copy of the agreement with Fr. Papken is attached to these minutes.

Ara Babigian stated that he had copies of letters concerning irregularities and problems at last year's elections which were sent to the Diocese. Chairman Nigohosian responded that the Diocese had taken the matter up and had considered that there was nothing out of order here and if there was anything it was up to the Diocese to enforce it. Mr. Babigian stated that he had a copy of letter signed by Vicar General and Judge Gurahian sent to Fr. Papken. Chairman Nigohosian stated that this was a pending matter and not final.

Chairman Nigohosian invited the Auditing Committee to give its report. Gregory Amerkanian and Araxie Pichigian reported that based on the committee's review, no discrepancies were found and everything was done in accordance with normally accepted accounting practices and following the procedures from previous years. Library funds were not found. Yg. Kasparian wanted to know how far they looked for funds. Doug Martaian and Shake Mekhjian should have been contacted for their input on funds. Chairman Nigohosian recommended that the Auditing Committee contact these 2 people and let the Parish Council Chairman and Treasurer know the outcome.

Dr. Capan moved for the amendment of the Board of Trustees By-Laws and the Charter of the Architectural Committee per the revised copies of both that had earlier been distributed to all in attendance. The amendment to the Board of Trustees By-Laws is as follows: the term of office will be changed from 7 years to 4 years and new members and re-appointed members should be governed by this change. The new members would serve for 4 years. The members who are still serving will complete their 7 year terms. Andy Ouzoonian stated that this was presented without time to review and that it was unfair to submit this to the assembly. Vay Najarian suggested to wait a year. Dr. Capan agreed that a motion will be brought next year to address these matters, i.e. the amendment of these By-laws and the Charter. Copies of both amended items are attached hereto.

Parish Council Treasurer Grace Hagopian entertained questions

about the 1994/1995 Budget and Report. Puzant Torigian stated that the Family Auxiliary of St. Thomas seems to replace the Women's Guild and Men's Club. Chairman Nigohosian said that was wrong and that it is not a replacement but an organization where both husbands and wives and children can attend together and not hold separate meetings in the manner of the other organizations. The treasurer responded to various questions regarding her report.

Yg. Kasparian asked why we no longer donate \$1000 to St. Nerses Seminary. Mrs. Hagopian explained that a portion of our Diocesan dues go towards St. Nerses. After much discussion Dr. Capan stated that everyone is conserving their funds in this economy. Seta Izmirly said that \$1000 still remains in the budget for St. Nerses. Ani Capan made a motion to remove that item from the budget. Sylva Torosian seconded the motion. Chairman Nigohosian asked for a vote on the motion the motion was carried to strike that item from the budget. Andy Ouzoonian noted that there were no funds set aside for grounds beautification. Margaret Garjian noted that even though no money for beautification was set aside in 1994, the grounds looked very nice. Virginia Victoria, who is in charge of the grounds for the Parish Council, stated that there was some money donated privately with which some work was done. Varujan Arslanian stated that he will donate the sum of \$1000 for grounds beautification. Grace made a motion for the acceptance to the 1995 Budget. Dr. Capan seconded and the motion was carried.

Leon Nigohosian asked if there were any questions on the Board of Trustees Report. Yg. Violet Kasparian noted that it was not a good report and that the \$5000 in their funds did not reflect any interest. The Auditing Committee was asked to look into the interest of this fund.

There were no questions for the ACYOA, Avaks, Choir, Family Auxiliary and Kirikian Armenian School. Edward Parseghian noted that the totals on Christian Education were incorrect. Shnorig Bashian stated that there were two outstanding checks of about \$300 which made up the difference. Yg. Kasparian asked why there were two grades held in the same class and how many students the school had. Mrs. Bashian stated that the two grades were held together due to the small class size and that the school had about 100 students. Mr. Torigian Kirikian Armenian School

There was a discussion on the Men's Club Report, specifically on the payment of dues to the Sports Programs and Rentals of Gymnasiums. Ara Babigian stated that 3 years ago the Parish Council had asked the Men's Club to underwrite this expense. Ani Capan asked if all churches pay for this sports program and why did the Men's Club choose not to contribute any funds to the church. She stated that if the parents of the players were asked, they would gladly pay for at least half the individual fees. Dr. Capan stated that all church organizations ask for donations from individuals such as food donations for a Kef Nite or Christmas Dinner etc. He suggested that if the Men's Club did the same they could donate some of their surplus funds to the church. Sirvart Demirjian stated that as a mother of one of the team players, that she was sure the parents would pay for all games; she said that the

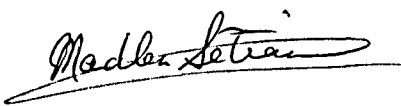
parents would come forth and contribute and help with the expense. Jack Ekizian asked for a letter from the Parish Council authorizing them to collect the money from the parents. Varujan Arslanian wanted to know if the Men's Club paid for the use of the church facilities. He stated that the Men's Club does nothing for the church. He stated that if the Men's Club were compared to a business, then that business would be dissolved because it was not making a profit. He couldn't understand how 47 adult people could not help the church. He asked why there was no contribution made to the church and why they didn't help. Ara Babigian answered that the Men's Club saved the church \$5,500 by paying for the sports expenses. Chairman Nigohosian asked why the Men's Club doesn't go through the Parish Council every time they spend more than \$500 as passed by the 1994 Parish Assembly. Ara Babigian replied that he would investigate that.

Virginia Victoria, Chairman of the Membership Committee entertained questions from the floor. Ara Babigian asked how many paid-up members St. Thomas had. She replied 400.

Chairman Nigohosian invited Mr. Aram Setian to report on the election results on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Setian announced the names of the winners. For Parish Council: Richard Saraydarian, Virginia Victoria, Hagop Torosian, Leon Nigohosian, Madlen Setian and Mari Camcikyan. Alternates were Seta Izmirly and Arthur Azarik. For Nominating Committee the winners were: Lucy Piligian, Sylva Asadourian, Mary Zokian, Ayda Kilerciyan and Ani Kecoglu. Alternates were Ara Babigian and Elsie Nigohosian. For Auditing Committee the winners were: Sirvart Demirjian, Talin Kupelian and Hovsep Taktajian. Alternate was Jeannie Amerkanian. For Chairman of the 1996 Parish Assembly the winner was Leon Nigohosian and the alternate was Andy Ouzoonian. For Secretary of the 1996 Parish Assembly the winner was Madlen Setian and the alternate was Sylva Torosian. Chairman Nigohosian announced that the Auditing Committee members would serve as follows: Sirvart Demirjian - a full 3-year term, Talin Kupelian would serve a partial 2-year term, and Hovsep Taktajian would serve a one-year term. Mr. Setian was asked how many ballots were cast. He announced that 217 ballots were cast.

Dr. Yavru-Sakuk moved to close the meeting, Dr. Capan seconded. The motion was carried at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Madlen Setian  
Secretary 1995  
Parish Assembly



Leon Nigohosian  
Chairman 1995  
Parish Assembly



V. Rev. Fr. Papken  
Dz. V. Anoushian,  
Pastor and President  
1995 Parish Assembly