

HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GREATER BOSTON

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1984

The Annual Parish Assembly of the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts, was held on Sunday, February 5, 1984, following a luncheon, in the Cultural Hall, with the Pastor, Reverend Mampr Kouzouian presiding. The opening prayer was given in English and Armenian by Reverend Mampr Kouzouian.

The meeting was called to order by Donald Tellalian, Nominating Chairman of the meeting and chairman pro tem, at 1:30 p.m. One hundred seventy-five (175) dues paying members were present and voted.

Mr. Donald Tellalian, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, conducted the election of the day's Tivan. The following were elected:

Mr. Aetna Tashjian	Chairman of the Day
Miss Araxie Janjigian	Armenian Recording Secretary
Mrs. Queenie Raphaelian	English Recording Secretary

Mr. Tashjian called for the reading of the Secretary's report for the 1983 Parish Assembly. A motion was made and seconded to accept the secretary's report "as read" without a formal reading. He also called upon Donald Tellalian to read the slate as put forward by the nominating committee, and then open the floor for additional nominees. It was also requested that the nominees come forward to identify themselves for the benefit of the voting members. This was done as requested.

Motion was made and seconded to close nominations. There was a request from Charles Garabedian to have his name withdrawn from the list of nominees because of professional commitments.

The voting opened, and a recess was called for the members to cast their ballots. After a 15 minute recess, the meeting reconvened at 2:00 p.m., and the ballot box remained open until 2:30 p.m.

Those nominated for office were as follows:

Parish Council:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Edmond Danielson | 6. Nishan Mootafian |
| 2. John Demirjian | 7. Bruce Ohanian |
| 3. Ardashes Der Ananian | 8. Arthur Panosian |
| 4. Bruce Haroutunian | 9. Barbara L. Sahagian |
| 5. Harry Kaprelian | 10. Aetna Tashjian |

Nominating Committee:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Jach Bichajian | 6. Kenneth D. Hintlian |
| 2. John Davagian | 7. Charles Nahabedian |
| 3. Helene A. Dorian | 8. Eugene Raphaelian |
| 4. Helen Donabedian | 9. Peter Talanian |
| 5. Ira Habeshian | 10. Diran Zahigian |

Auditing Committee:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Gerald Boghosian | 4. Dale Haroutunian |
| 2. Armine D. Hagopian | 5. Edward Panjian |
| 3. George D. Hagopian | 6. Mary Ann Soursourian |

Diocesan Delegates:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Alex Ashjian | 8. Anita Hedison |
| 2. Daniell K. Dorian | 9. Ann Hintlian |
| 3. Charles B. Garabedian | 10. Dr. Parnag H. Kasarjian |
| 4. Ira Habeshian | 11. Archie Kolligian |
| 5. George D. Hagopian | 12. Robert P. Proodian |
| 6. George Haroutunian | 13. Eugene Raphaelian |
| 7. Harry Haytayan | 14. John Soursourian |

Pastor's Report:

Reverend Kouzouian felt that it was unnecessary to read the entire report, but he wished to read specific sections of the report to emphasize their importance.

Those sections were: The first four paragraphs of Page 3a

The 4th paragraph of 3c

The first paragraph of 3d

The third paragraph of 3e

The first paragraph of 3f

He wished to add to the 5th paragraph of Section XI (Appreciation), his gratitude to Father Oshagan for his help and assistance. A motion was made and seconded for this report to be accepted.

Parish Council's Activities and Financial Report:

It was decided that since everyone had previously read the Parish Council report, it would not be read at this meeting, but Mr. Stephen Panosian, the Parish Council Chairman wanted to emphasize the following points: The importance of the Stewardship Program and its positive progress, the extreme sadness at the loss of a valued friend and member, Joseph Haroutunian, and the successful banquet honoring the 20th Anniversary Celebration of His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. He also spoke of the needed improvements in the area of maintenance to our church, and brought out the fact that although we no longer housed the French School, we are currently renting the facilities to the Apple School which will help the budget. He asked if there were any questions. There were none, and a motion was made and seconded to accept the Parish Council report as written.

Gregory Krikorian was then asked to give the Financial Report. Mr. Krikorian then stated that there were 773 dues paying members and that there were 161 members present and this did not constitute a quorum. The Chairman stated that the by-laws read that either One-third membership or 50 members would constitute a quorum. Mr. Krikorian asked if there were any questions about the financial report. A question was asked whether the Apple School rental figure of \$6,500 was for one-half year or was it a yearly rental. Mr. Krikorian stated that it was through April of 1983. A question was raised as to "prayers" under Miscellaneous Income on page 6c in the amount of \$137.00, and to what did this refer. Mr. Krikorian explained this was donated by individuals who wanted prayers of "Der Voghormia." Another question was raised under Disbursements. A parishioner wanted to know why the Donations figure jumped from \$200 in 1982 to \$1,000 in 1983. It was explained that \$500 was donated at the banquet for Serpazan Torkoom Manoogian and that \$200 and then \$300 was donated to St. Marks Church in Springfield, Mass. It was also asked why the travel expense jumped from \$300 in 1982 to \$900 in 1983. It was explained that 1982's meeting was in Hartford to which many of the delegates drove their cars, but that the 1983 meeting was in Chicago which entailed air fares.

A question was asked why the Apple School rental was less than the rental had been for the French School in the past. It was explained that the Apple School rental was less because they rented less space, but they would be anticipating an expansion in the near future, and hopefully we would restore the rental picture to at least the previous amounts.

A comment was brought out by one of the parishioners, and reinforced by others, that the annual reports were sent out too late and they felt the reports should be sent out earlier in order for the parishioners to have ample time to read the reports thoroughly in order to prepare questions for the meeting.

Another question was brought forth about clergy preparation of \$5,000. It was explained that every church was assessed by the Diocese as to its due which was 2% of the annual income of the church.

A point of information was brought up that the diocesan dues of \$35,828.00 was determined by the following criteria:

1. Membership
2. Number of clergy
3. income
4. Sacraments
5. Delegates

A question was raised as to why there was a \$19,000 increase under Salaries. It was explained that the increase was due to the addition of a Youth Director, an additional bookkeeper and an additional custodian.

A question was asked as to why the stipends were not broken down. It was explained that this point has come up in the past as some people feel this figure should be broken down, but that the figures are available if anyone should like to see them. The treasurer, Mr. Krikorian, recommended that in the future it should be broken down, but the Chairman advised that this point had to be discussed under "New business." A question was raised as to the transfer to Reserve Savings of moneys. It was explained that all interest money received from certificates of deposit went into savings.

A question was asked as to the whereabouts of the \$10,000 given in November by Isaac Karchakian. It was explained that it was listed in the Trust Fund as we only receive interest for that money.

There was a question as to the whereabouts of St. Nersess Donation and it was pointed out it could be found on the bottom of page 6h. Another question was brought forth as to the difference of the 1983 disbursement proposal of \$346,000 as against this year's \$310,000 disbursement. It was explained that last year proposed disbursement was \$318,000 and we came in at \$311,000. The Income in 1983 was only \$290,000 which made a deficit of \$21,000. Another question was raised as to what was the insurance claim. It was explained that these were monies reflected from the income derived from the insurance company for the rugs that were stolen from the church. Another question was brought out as to why "miscellaneous services paid by parishioners" is listed under payments made by church. It was explained that these monies are paid to the church and the church pays it out, that is how it works and that is why it is listed. A question was raised if anyone gave the church a "set figure" on oil. It was explained that an average was taken for the last few years in order to arrive at a projection, but it was felt that the cost of oil should be higher because oil is going up and the projection is low.

A question was brought up as to where we are purchasing the oil. Were we purchasing the oil from co-op or from a private party? It was felt we could make a saving of ten to fifteen cents per gallon if we purchased from a co-op. It was pointed out that we are presently purchasing from a private party, but that the suggestion was a good point.

A motion was then made and seconded to accept the Financial Report and 1984 Proposed Budget as written.

At this point Chairman made a comment that people should not be discouraged from making comments about new proposals, but that they should be in order. He also brought up the point that new business had to be voted on before going to the Diocesan Assembly and that it must pass in 2 consecutive Diocesan Assemblies in order to be an amendment in the By-Laws. A further point was made by the Chairman that the balloting was closed now at 2:35.

George Hagopian was asked to come forth to explain the trust fund. He noted that there was a correction on Page 7 of the Cash on Hand which read \$405,522.70 should now read \$405,522.90. He explained that pages 7, 7a and 7b were a recap, as to what had transpired during the current year and that 7a and 7b was a breakdown of all contributions since the fund started. Mr. Hagopian stated that the funds established could not be touched for the first ten years, and at the end of the ten years, the income could be used to operate the church. A question was asked if trust fund donations were primarily money or were there securities. Mr. Hagopian responded that we had no securities or stocks or bonds.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Trust Fund and Gifts Report 1975 thru 1983 as written.

Father Papken said that at the end of the year, the church has \$489,124.69 ready money, and that on Dec. 31, \$18,000 was the total on hand from all the church organizations. There is also \$20,000 in the 1000 Club, and that perhaps they can add these amounts to the fund balance.

At this time, Chairman Tashjian called for the reports from the various church organizations. The Stewardship Chairman, Haig Hedison said the report was self-explanatory but the Stewardship Program was improving every year. He asked if there were any questions? A question was asked as to how many new members we obtained in 1983. Mr. Hedison answered 40 or 50 new members, but the total was offset by the deceased. A question was asked if the amounts given could be listed by families to help to possibly raise the total and what was the average amount given per family unit. He explained the average amount given per family unit was \$200. Mr. Hedison also pointed out that the computer would now be of great help to retrieve further information.

Cultural Committee Chairman was called to report but was not present. It was asked if there were any questions? There were no questions but there was a vote of appreciation by several parishioners for the work done by the Cultural Committee.

Erevan Choral Society Report was not given by Father Oshagan because of absence due to illness. Mrs. Zabel Odabashian stated that this year's concert was to be commemorated to the Martyrs and that the concert had a membership of about 50 people. Mrs. Zabel Odabashian presented the choir report on page F.

Mr. Aetna Tashjian, before calling the Sr. Women's Guild to give their report, thanked them for a splendid luncheon.

The Sr. Women's Guild Report was then presented by Rose Sargavakian.

Helen Donabedian asked that minutes by the Chelsea Women's Auxiliary be accepted as written.

The Lynn, Salem, Peabody Ladies Auxiliary Chairman was not present and there was no comment about the report.

Women's Guild Chairman, Margaret Atamian, felt report was self explanatory, but mention was made of a May 19 Operetta, and that tickets were now being dispersed.

Holy Trinity Men's Union Chairman was not present but the report was accepted. At this point, Mr. Albert Oskoian brought out that all the TMU does is eat, play cards, and work at the lottery dinners and that there should be more of a goal and he felt that Parish Council members should be aware of this and take more of an interest in this direction. Alex Ashjian felt the TMU does patronize the church financially and that they also have speakers. A question was brought up that if the 1000 Club is run by the TMU, why aren't the people who are running it and working at it, members of the TMU. It was brought out that before only the committee members did everything and that they would ask other organizations to help. Question was not answered but some wanted to know what the by-laws stated in this case. Anita Hedison felt that the executive committee of the 1000 Club should be members of the TMU, otherwise why do they get credit when other people, not of TMU, do the work. It was stated that every executive member of the 1000 Club should be a member of the TMU.

Armenian School reported that because of declining enrollment it was decided to stop Saturday school and have it Sunday morning. 40 to 50 students enrolled. These students were divided into 3 groups and the hours were from 10:00 to 10:30. The curriculum was mostly speaking and History, but also writing of characters of the alphabet were added. Perhaps they would go back to Saturday if the enrollment continued to increase.

Church School Report given by Dn. Richard Abdalian. He reported that a new curriculum was being prepared by the Diocese and will be implemented by Holy Trinity as a pilot program, and hopefully will be used by all the churches. There were 115 students, but attendance declined the last few months, and he encouraged parents to bring the children. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Couples Club Chairman was not present.

ACYOA Seniors report presented by Alexan Kouzouian. He stated that they had a membership of 35, but that only 12 were active members. He also mentioned that delegates were sent to Sports Weekend in Toronto.

ACYOA Juniros report was presented by Lisa Stephanian. She gave a list of activities to come and reviewed the report.

Youth Director, Deacon Richard Abdalian presented his report and read the second paragraph. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

New Business

Nishan Mootafian felt that totals that were lumped should be broken down. He felt that stipends of the clergy should be broken down in the annual report. He asked if Parish Council considered this in the past. Stephen Panosian said this information was available to every member who can go to the church and get that information, but it was not printed as such in official documentation. Nishan Mootafian made a motion that stipends be broken down and reported individually in the annual report. Discussion ensued as to whether the Parish Council decided if the stipends were reported in a lump sum. It was stated that the Parish Council votes on raises and salaries and then the total was published because they felt it was proprietary information, which should be available only to parish members. A vote was taken on the motion as to whether there should be a breakdown of stipends in the annual report. 24 were in favor of the breakdown, and 42 were opposed and the motion was defeated.

Albert Oskoian made a motion for a wireless microphone so people can speak from audience more freely. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Albert Oskoian made a motion that the Christmas bazaar be moved back to the first Saturday of December. Anita Hedison, who had been bazaar chairman, said this year's bazaar was too close to the rug sale and it was difficult for those who work on the same committee. Some brought out that it was more festive in December and some brought out that the weather was better in November. Nancy Kasarjian said 1983 attendance was slightly less. Motion was passed that the bazaar be moved back to the first Saturday in December.

Albert Oskoian asked if the By-law booklets were available to be purchased. The Chairman informed him they were available at the Diocese and also at our own Church office for five dollars.

Arthur Panosian brought up the fact that we have 50 feet of cable that could be placed in the middle of the floor instead of purchasing the wireless microphone. Chairman stated that the motion for a wireless microphone had already passed. It was also brought up that the motor for jack in center was not working, but "wireless microphone" meant something that could be available to the group of people. The Chairman of the parish council said he would look into this matter.

Zabelle Odabshian said that the Christmas Concert has become a annual event and that risers should be purchased instead of going every year to get them. She recommended portable risers. Stephen Panosian said requisition should be made to Parish Council and they would look into it. The motion was withdrawn since it was not seconded.

Marge Atamian made a motion that in the future, the sample ballots mailed out prior to elections state the length of the term of office of the delegate. This was not made clear in this years sample ballots. Motion was seconded and passed.

Albert Oskoian wanted to know how far along we were on plans for the martyrs memorial monument. Archie Kolligian, Chairman for that project, said he has discussed this with Reverend Kouzouian and Reverend Maksoudian, and he felt that each time there were other events that took precedence. They have spoken to architects, and Reverend Kouzouian and two other members went to New York to speak to a sculptor, but thus far, they have felt that nothing they have seen meets the criteria which they seek. They do feel they will continue to work on this project as they would very much like to have a monument ready for the 70th anniversary of the martyrs. Chairman for this project said that all contributions are being accepted for this project and that the cost was estimated to be 65-75 thousand dollars. Reverend Kouzouian said that this had to be left open so that they could judge when artists came forth with plans and figures. He said the information would be available as soon as decisions were made.

Rose Tikjian asked if a Diocesan Delegate's term was 4 years, how long could he or she serve? Chairman answered there was no limit.

Question was brought out about absentee ballots for those who could not be present. It was brought out by Reverend Kouzouian that this motion was submitted to proposal committee and it missed the deadline for presentation and it was resubmitted on January 24th to the Diocesan Proposal Committee.

A motion was made by Marge Atamian that a Diocesan delegate should have been first a member of the parish council, and served at least one term as a trustee. Motion was made and seconded and a vote was taken. Vote was 41 for and 26 against. The motion was then slated to be carried to the Diocesan level.

A motion was made that the term of a diocesan delegate (which is 4 years) be only 2 consecutive terms, and then they must be replaced. A vote was taken and the motion was defeated. This was the end of new business.

Reverend Kouzouian then gave thanks to the outgoing members of the Parish Council. He then congratulated the newly elected officers, who were as follows:

Parish Council:

1. Edmond Danielson
2. Bruce Haroutunian
3. Arthur Panosian
4. Barbara L. Sahagian
5. Aetna Tashjian

Alternate: Tie: Harry Kaprelian
Nishan Mootafian

Nominating Committee:

1. Jack Bichajian
2. Helene A. Dorian
3. Eugene Raphaelian
4. Peter Talanian
5. Diran Zahigian

Alternate: Ira Habeshian

Auditing Committee:

1. Armine D. Hagopian
2. George D. Hagopian
3. Mary Ann Soursourian

Alternate: Gerald Boghosian

Diocesan Delegates:

1. Daniel K. Dorian
2. George D. Hagopian
3. George Haroutunian
4. Archie Kolligian
5. Robert P. Proodian
6. Eugene Raphaelian
7. John Soursourian

Alternate: Anita Hedison

At this time, Reverend Kouzouian gave the closing prayer, and with no further business to come before the meeting, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was voted to adjourn at 4:10 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Queenie E. Raphaelian
Queenie E. Raphaelian
English Recording Secretary