

MINUTES OF ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY ASCENSION
PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, 1984

The Annual Parish Assembly of the Armenian Church of the Holy Ascension opened at 1:45 p.m. on Sunday, February 19, 1984, with 56 eligible voting members present. Invocation was given by Der Untzag Nalbandian.

Verification of dues paying members was made.

Richard Khachian was elected Assembly Chairman and Nicky Taraian was elected Assembly Secretary.

The secretary read the minutes of the 1983 Parish Assembly.

Elections for new Parish Council members, Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee commenced. Sonia Trapasso read names for ballots and passed out same. Theresa Harabedian suggested that names of those eligible to vote be called and ballots given to each. No motion was made. Parish Council chairman introduced each candidate and gave a brief resume for each. Assembly Chairman asked for nominations from the floor. Martha Khachadorian nominated Ann Khachian for Auditing Committee and Rose Shegerian seconded. During nominations from the floor confusion arose as some members had prematurely voted and handed in ballots. Der Untzag requested that those ballots be destroyed and new ones be distributed to those who had voted. Richard Kalfayan spoke from floor suggesting that in order to avoid this problem next year two lines should always appear on slate for write-in names. Leo Malkasian made motion to close ballot. The motion was seconded by Perry Shegerian.

Pastor's Report was given by Der Untzag. He began by giving the correct spelling and pronunciation of his name.

Being assigned to our parish on January 18, 1984, Der Untzag naturally had nothing to say about the past year. However, he reported that he was contacted by Parish Council Chairman Mardy Azarian in September of 1983 and asked to make a weekend visit since we were looking for a new spiritual leader. He made the visit in October, 1983, and decided to move. His decision was accepted by the Parish Council and approved by Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. He expressed his thanks to all 1983 Council members for giving him the opportunity to come to our parish, explore it and bring out its hidden treasures. He spoke of the importance of young people and his desire to do everything to make them more active in parish life. He asked us for our moral and financial support. He reported that he has to date visited 25 families and that he looks forward to a successful new year.

He then read the following list of 10 items which were his goal for the year:

- 1) Home visitations of both members and non-members in order to become better acquainted with them and their needs;
- 2) Publication of parish newspaper ANI;
- 3) Armenian language classes on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.;
- 4) To increase membership in Sunday School;
- 5) To increase membership in Choir and train deacons;
- 6) To expand ACYOA and organize senior group;
- 7) To conduct religious and cultural activities;
- 8) To work in unison with sister churches;
- 9) To make visitations and provide assistance to senior parishioners;
- 10) Attendance at ecumenical meetings and building of good relationship with outther parishes.

He asked members for suggestions and informed us that he is available to us at all hours at both his office and his home, and asked to be advised of illnesses and hospitalizations.

Parish Council Report was given by Chairman Mardy Azarian. The report was accepted as read.

Ladies Guild Financial Report was read by treasurer Nicky Taraian. She reported a balance of \$1551.52 in the treasury, and presented the Parish Council with a check in the amount of \$1000.00. The report was accepted as read.

Choir Report was given by treasurer Sonia Trapasso. She also reported a balance of \$1521.11 in the treasury, and presented the Parish Council with a check in the amount of \$1000.00. The report was accepted as read.

Sunday School Report was given by superintendent Theresa Harabedian. She also reported a balance of \$509.13 in the treasury, and presented the Parish Council with a check in the amount of \$500. The report was accepted as read.

ACYOA Report was given by Mark Bozian. He then presented the Parish Council with a check in the amount of \$250.00, leaving a balance of \$250.00 in the treasury. The report was accepted as read.

Auditing Committee Report was given by Gary Hovhanessian. The report was accepted as read.

Building Committee Report was given by Richard Khachian.

Ann Khachian suggested that less money be spent for adornment and payments be made to lower our mortgage balance. Council Chairman Azarian clarified fact that some adornments were made as donations. Building Committee member Richard Khachian stated that the Building Committee did not spend anything on adornments.

George Maljanian questioned the \$276.00 electrical bill.

Nancy Hovhanesian questioned whether all pledges had been paid. Theresa Harabedian reported that they were three year pledges and were 99% paid.

Mr. Khachian reported that upkeep of the church included a new front facade, roof repairs and painting.

Theresa Harabedian suggested that we project the future and forget the past. She expressed the hope that all of us would plan to give as much if not more than what we had given in the past. She commended everyone for giving willingly. She then asked if it would be possible for the Building Committee to present a written report for distribution. Mr. Khachian stated that he did have such a report but did not have the facility to reproduce it, and would do so in the future. The report was then accepted as read.

Diocese Delegate's Report was given by delegate Dr. Berj Harabedian. The report was accepted as read.

At this time voting results were presented as follows:

<u>Parish Council</u>	<u>Auditing Committee</u>	<u>Nominating Committee</u>
Steve Goomrigian	Jack Bousian	Peter Kapusuzian
Archie Misakian	Dr. Berj Harabedian	Rose Shegerian
Richard Kalfayan	Ralph Trapasso	Eleanor Zysk
Fraij Yapoojian		

Proposed Budget for 1984 was presented by Council Treasurer Steve Goomrigian who reviewed figures item by item and explained carryover deposits from previous year such as bazaar proceeds. He indicated that in the future these

moneys would be deposited as received. Richard Kalfayan questioned rental income. Treasurer reported that approximately \$14,000.00 was spent on replacement of pump, water tank and hot water heating system. Harry Gopian explained capabilities of pump and hot water heater. The report was accepted as read.

Voting results were discussed at this time. George Maljanian complained that he did not think it was right that Shavarsh Papazian had not been reelected. Council Chairman explained that this was how people had voted.

Nazaret Azarian officially welcomed Der Untzag and wished him the best of luck.

Theresa Harabedian requested a report from the Bazaar Committee. At this time Ralph Trapasso distributed copies of the 1983 Bazaar Report which showed a net profit of \$14,522.56 and welcomed questions. He stated that Dr. and Mrs. Kazanjian of Woodbridge, Conn. who had won the raffle trip and donated the money back to the church. Eleanor Zysk thanked everyone who had worked on the bazaar without the guidance of a priest and stated that she was confident that with a new priest we will do better this year.

Theresa Harabedian stated that something should be done about forthcoming consecration program on May 27. Der Untzag stated that a banquet committee has been formed consisting of one member from each auxiliary; Hillandale Country Club has been rented; and the committee is in the process of trying to put something together. He asked that everyone in the parish should accept requests for help in this endeavor.

Richard Kalfayan asked Der Untzag what was needed in the way of godfathers for the church. Der Untzag explained that 3 church godfathers and 17 pillar godfathers were needed. The church godfathers were to make sizable donations, and the pillar godfathers were to donate \$3000.00 each. Rose Shegerian questioned the \$3000.00 figure. Perry Shegerian questioned where moneys would go. It was reported that everything would go to the Building Fund.

Hagop Khachadorian stated that Mr. Tatigian was the godfather of our church. Der Untzag explained that this is an entirely different building which requires a new godfather. At that time Mr. Khachadorian suggested that Mr. Tatigian's grandson be approached to take his place. The suggestion

will be considered. Keghan Stambolian asked how we can tell the previous godfather's grandson that this church was to have a new godfather. Der Untzag replied that he would make necessary explanations if questioned. Leo Malkasian asked that the grandson be given first preference.

Der Untzag reported that all parish members and friends of the church will be receiving announcements.

George Malkasian questioned the Building Committee and suggested deleting the old committee and electing a new one, or even putting the task in the hands of the Parish Council. He stated that he would like to make a motion to remove the old committee and put in a new one. Theresa Harabedian asked why he wanted the change, and he stated he was not happy with what he saw; he thought they had outlived their usefulness and asked for input from the Assembly to see if they wanted it continued.

There were no other complaints. Council Chairman Azarian stated that the Building Committee had done a good job and he did not think there was any way that anyone else could have done a better job than what was done. He stated that it might be possible that some people might not be happy with their decisions, but it was also possible that decisions could be made by a parish priest that might not be popular. Mr. Azarian stated that they had not done anything improper and had worked for the best interests of the community. Rose Shegerian questioned the original purpose of the Committee and was informed that it was to check building sites, etc. Mrs. Maljanian questioned whether they are responsible to report to anyone. Mr. Azarian replied that everyone on the Committee answers to the Parish Council.


Council Chairman then stated that he was sorry that Shavarsh Papazian had not been reelected. He thanked those who had run for office and had not been elected, and hoped that they would be given the opportunity to run again next year.

Peter Kapusuzian made a motion to adjourn the Assembly which was seconded by Stanley Zysk.

Der Untzag congratulated the newly elected members of the Parish Council and wished them health and wisdom to work together.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:45.p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Nicky Tarajian
Assembly Secretary