

Parish Assembly - Minutes

January 25, 1981

The annual general assembly of the Armenian Church of the Holy Ascension was held on Sunday, January 25, 1981 in the church auditorium at 1:30 p.m. with the Invocation by Der Levon Arakelian, Pastor. A quorum was declared after verification of Dues-Paying Members. Thirty-nine members were present. Ballots were distributed for the upcoming elections. The following were elected:

Chairman of the day.....Mardy Azarian
Secretary of the day.....Theresa Harabedian

Parish CouncilDr. Berdj Harabedian, Edward Jevarjian,
Harry Tashjian, and Ralph Trapasso

Nominating Committee...Gladys Jevarjian, Keghan Stambolian,
and Dr. Robert Touloukian

Auditing Committee.....Annie Khachian, Richard Khachian, and
Marty Moomjian

The minutes of the 1980 Assembly were read and accepted.

The Pastor's report as well as all the reports of the various auxiliaries were read and accepted by the Assembly. All reports were also submitted to the Chair.

In the Pastor's report, Der Leyon thanked all who had volunteered and supported the church and various church affairs throughout the year. He outlined his pastoral duties in detail and emphasized the importance of regular weekly church attendance. He also stressed the need for more volunteers and community involvement, and the value of our background and Armenian heritage, and how all of us would be benefitting from all this by attending church and church functions on a regular basis. Eight important points were stressed by Der Hayr. He also suggested that an Endowment Fund be formed.

The Parish Council report was given by Dr. Berdj Harabedian, Chairman. In his report, Dr. Harabedian outlined the number of church affairs sponsored by the Parish Council, the financial success of the 1980 Mt. Ararat Festival Bazaar, and the recommended Pastor's increase in salary. He also thanked everyone for their support and hoped the following year would be as successful as the previous one.

Richard Khachian reported on the Auditing Committee 's findings, and said all looked in order for submitting to the Assembly.

In the absence of the chairlady of the Ladies Guild, that report was read by the Secretary. The various activities were outlined and a financial report was given by Anna Gorakian, Treasurer of the Ladies Guild. She stated that new purchases for the church kitchen were made, such as a coffee maker, and baking pans, and a check in the amount of \$ 2,200.00 was presented to the Parish Council, leaving a balance of \$ 681.00.

The Choir report was read by Sonia Trapasso, in which she thanked various people for their support and presented a check for \$ 500.00 to the Parish Council, leaving a balance of \$ 461.05.

The Sunday School report was read by Theresa Harabedian. The activities of the Sunday School were outlined, as well as the number of students enrolled and the number of teachers. A check for \$ 500.00 was presented to the Parish Council, as well as a check for \$ 50.00 to the Junior Parish Council.

Harry Tashjian spoke on behalf of the Jr. Parish Council. Although he did not have a formal report to submit, he did mention the New Year's Eve Party, which was the first function given by this newly formed auxiliary. Der Hayr spoke in detail regarding this affair and expressed deep disappointment concerning the lack of support from the Parish.

The Youth Group report was read by Virginia Kalfaian, in absence of James Kalfaian, president. At present there are ten members, and explained the interest and desire has more or less diminished. There was further discussion, after which Der Hayr informed the Assembly, that several attempts and approaches have been made in securing a suitable person as Youth Advisor for this group, but there has not been too much success in this matter.

The Mt. ararat Festival Bazaar financial report was given by Ralph Trapasso. It was reported that a gross income of \$ 47,568.43 was achieved, and a net income of \$ 18,644.10 was gained after expenses. It was also noted there are still some outstanding accounts yet to be received from the Ad Book. A goal of \$ 20,000.00 was set for 1981 (net income).

The Building Committee report was given by Edward Jevarjian. He reported that the refacing of the front of the church and painting of the church should be done. Der Hayr announced that the new altar should be ready by the end of February, 1981. Richard Khachian, treasurer of the Building Committee, gave a financial report. He stipulated that at the present time, there is a bank balance of \$ 71,821.13, and mortgage loan of \$ 234,730.62.

Garabed Hovhanesian, Diocesan Delegate reported on the Convention, which was held in Washington, D.C. He suggested that anyone who can possibly attend these meetings should do so, for it is not only interesting but very informative as well.

The treasurer's report was read and the proposed Budget for 1981 was presented to the Assembly. (\$54,640.00) The Budget was accepted by the Assembly. A recommendation was made by the Auditing Committee to hire a professional Accountant to audit the books semi annually. After discussion, a motion was made....that the Parish Council consider the recommendation and act accordingly. This was passed.

No old business.

Under New Business, a motion was made that the Nominating Committee mail out in advance the slate for the upcoming elections in order for everyone to study it in more detail, and perhaps stimulate interest in attending the Assembly. After much discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Points of information were requested regarding Der Hayr's salary and expenses. Der Hayr explained to the Assembly that guidelines are set by the Diocese.

Following the Benediction, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Harabedian

Theresa Harabedian
Secretary, General Assembly, Jan. 25, 1981

Walter J. ...
Assembly Chairman

Rev. Levon Arakelian
assembly President