

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

General Membership Meeting

February 7, 1982

The general membership meeting of St. James Armenian Church of Richmond, Va. was called to order by the Parish Assembly Chairman, Mr. Noubar Boyajian at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Der Arsen Barsamian. The treasurer, Barkev Baronian called the roll and reported that of 97 paid pledge dues members 46 were present therefore a quorum was had.

Nominations were requested for offices of chairman and secretary of the day. Noubar Boyajian being the only candidate to accept the nomination was called to chair the proceedings of the day. Nominations were asked for office of Secretary for the day. Roxie Kricorian being the only one to accept, was called to record the minutes.

Minutes of the 1981 General Membership Meeting was read by the secretary of the 1981 assembly, Virginia Greene. Gerry Sharigian clarified that his comments concerning Der Hayr's stipend increase was read in the minutes were representative of the opinion of the Parish Council and not his own personal opinions.

The minutes were approved as read with the above correction.

A minute of silent prayer followed honoring the deceased members during the course of 1981.

For the following reports, see enclosures:

a-Der Hayr

b-Parish Council report by chairman Peter Greene (see enclosure)

c-Women's Guild reported by secretary of the Guild, Virginia Greene (see enclosure) \$1,600.00 which is 2/3 of their present balance was given to the Parish Council

d-Armenian School reported by the treasurer of the Armenian School Board, Bedros Bandazian (see enclosure). A comment was made by Dianna DerHovhannessian stating that the registration procedure could have been improved and also transportation could have been offered.

e-Sunday School report by Superintendent Roxie Kricorian (see enclosure)

f-ACYOA report by chairman Chuck Ashjian (see enclosure)

g-The Educational and Cultural Committee written report by chairman, Linda Sharigian was read by Noubar Boyajian (see enclosure)

h-Anoush Dance Group report was given orally by Rose Soghoian, who stated that the group danced at the Boy's Club International Festival and at the Church name-day celebration. They also had practiced extensively during the summer. They will be selling records graciously donated by Vahan and Aghavni Ghazarian.

i-Softball team report was given by Parish Council liason officer, Harry Tatian and the team coach, Dr. Murad Kerneklian. They do not have an account. Financial need is seen by the Parish Council. There will be a need of \$500.00 for registration fee to enter the league and also insurance for the team. By league rule the team players are required to attend church services once a month for the church they play. One player was dismissed from our team because he was not fulfilling this requirement.

j-The International Boy's Club food festival report was given by Rose Soghoian. (see enclosure) A comment was made that there was no problem in the food preparation but problems was in other areas such as the transporting of food and articles to and from the Coliseum, ticket sales, etc. which was a burden to the committee and which they hope to rectify this year with others taking on those responsibilities.

k-Annual Food Festival bazaar report by chairman, John Baronian (see enclosure) Chairman acknowledged his appreciation to all who helped and especially to Shnorig Soghoian and Margaret Dedeian for the kitchen work; to Jerry Kambourian for washing dishes and to Virginia Greene for organizing.

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1-Choir Report-In the absence of Yeretsgin Manoukian, Der Hayr reported on behalf of the choir and stated that there was \$180.00 in the choir account and that there is dire need for a person to work with him and Yeretsgin Manoukian to organize a more efficient choir.

The next order of business was the election of new members to the Parish Council to fill the vacancy of those whose terms had expired. The following slate was presented by Barkev Baronian, chairman of the Nominating Committee; Nebe Boyajian, Dr. Charles Chavdarian, Dianna DerHovhannessian, Victoria Jamgochian, Joyce Soghoian, Bedros Okhanes, Tigran Amirkhanian, Yeghia Bouroujian was nominated by Virginia Bandazian and seconded by Dianne Velegris. Bedros Bandazian made a motion that nominations be closed and seconded by Virginia Greene. The following were elected to office: Noubar Boyajian, Dr. Charles Chavdarian, Bedros Okhanes and Dianna DerHovhannessian,

The following nominees were presented for the nominating committee: Dianne Velegris, Rose Soghoian, Melanie Kerneklian, Becky Greene, Margaret Boyajian, Anahid Berberian. The following were elected to office: Dianne Velegris, Melanie Kerneklian, and Anahid Berberian.

The following were nominees for the Auditing Committee; John Ashjian, Dale Baronian, Bedros Bandazian, Charles Ashjian. Those elected were Dale Baronian and Bedros Bandazian.

A financial report was given by Barkev Baronian, treasurer. After a discussion, concerning the parking lot resurfacing expense and the expansion of present kitchen facilities in the future, Bedros Bandazian made the following proposal seconded by Gerry Sharigian that expenditures for the resurfacing of the parking lot be removed from the proposed 1982 budget. The motion passed with 25 in favor and 10 against.

The financial report and 1982 budget were accepted with the above deletion. A motion was proposed by Dianna DerHovhannessian and seconded by Yeretsgin Barsamian.

Bedros Bandazian made a motion and seconded by George Euksuzian instructing the Parish Council to come back next year with a study giving a detailed report on the resurfacing of the parking lot. Also that if during the year, the Parish Council saw fit it needed resurfacing in a hurry, to call a special membership meeting to make a decision rendering its approval or disapproval. The motion was approved.

Robert Thomas made the following motion seconded by Yeghia Bouroujian... that during the year the Parish Council form a new building committee that will look into designing improvements in the kitchen. This committee should include people who work in the kitchen and those familiar or experienced in building, construction and designing. After much discussion, this motion was approved.

Henry Magarian suggested that in considering the inflation growth there should be an increase of membership dues. During the discussion the following suggestions were made 1-increase of our membership ~~of our membership~~ and 2-increase the prices of our dinners. Der Hayr mentioned that the dinners were not primarily moneymaking but a time to come together as a church family. By increasing the prices may discourage some families to attend.

Tigran Amirkhanian said there is a need to concentrate on our youth and how to bring the young people into the church life instead of spending our time and money on property improvements. More should be done to meet human needs, especially the youth. He requested that the Parish Council should look into this matter and find some solutions.

m-Endowment Fund report was given by Peter Greene (see enclosure)

Gerry Sharigian made a motion to close the meeting seconded by George Euksuzian.

Der Hayr closed the meeting with a prayer.

Rev. Arsen Barsamian
Rev. Arsen Barsamian, Pres.

Noubar Boyajian
Noubar Boyajian, Chairman

Roxie Kricorian
Roxie Kricorian, Secretary