

ST, JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

RICHMOND, VA.

-General Membership Meeting-
January 19, 1986

The 1986 General Membership Meeting of the St. James Armenian Church was called to order by John Baronian, Chairperson of the 1985 Parish Assembly, at 1 p.m.

The meeting was opened by a prayer by Reverend Arsen Barsamian.

Roll was called by Chairperson, John Baronian. There were 37 members eligible to vote present.

The minutes of the 1985 Parish General Assembly were then read by Dale Baronian. They were approved as read.

Election of chairman and secretary of the day was then completed. Charlie Evranian as chairman, and Stella Bandazian as secretary were respectfully selected.

Chairman, Charlie Evranian then proceeded with the business of the day according to the agenda. The following reports were then given:

Paster Report

Reverend Arsen Barsamian have his report. (see enclosed)

Parish Council Report

Chairman, John Baronian reported three major undertakings took most of the parish council's time; the expansion of the kitchen, redoing of the stage area, carpeting and walls to be finished upstairs, and the maintenance of building. Greg Kassabian would now be in charge of the maintenance of the church facilities. He also stated that the problem of not having sufficient decons in church on Sunday is a project the parish council is still working on. John Baronian announced because of construction in the church, the annual food festival had to be cancelled from winter months until the first week in May tentatively. Bedros Bandazian commented that John Baronian should be recognized for his many hours of work in the expansion of the church facilities, and that the expense of the project was under the allowed budget amount.

Women's Guild Report

Azniv Amirkhanian, Chairlady gave the organization's report. (see enclosed) It was stated that the Women's Guild would be paying for new draperies in the church hall and upstairs in the educational building.

Sunday School Report

Chairman, Sam Baronian, Jr. have his report. Roxie Kricorian assisted the sunday school throughout the year. There are 21 members in sunday school program, with 5 classes and a team of 12 teachers, with a new approach of team teaching this year. There was a discussion from Jack Tootelian being pleased with the enrollment this year; also Melanie Kerneklian thanked Sam for all his efforts. Liz Tootelian brought up the fact that Armenian Christmas party should be earlier in the month to coincide with the 25th, so as not to confuse the little ones. Parish council will discuss this.

Armenian School Report

Chairman, Bedros Bandazian have his report. (see enclosed)
It was a very successful year for the school with a conversation class of 12 and a primary class of 6 students. A check for \$500.00 was donated back to St. James Church in payment of the original loan to start the school. Pledges have made the school self-sufficient.

Choir Report

Chairman, Robert Thomas gave report.
He asked for more members to participate in the choir. Rehearsals are held every tuesday night. Mrs. Araxie Manoukian is giving voice lessons to those interested. Lucy Barsamian and Mrs. Manoukian attended seminar at St. Nerses to up date information on choir regarding methods of singing songs, etc. to induce spirital response.

Cultural and Educational report

Reverend Arsen Barsamian gave this report. Upcoming plans include a lecture on Armenian Architecture through the University of Richmond; A concert of George Mugerdechian through the Virginia Commonwealth University. A discussion followed as to members of this committee. It was recommended by those present that Mrs. Elizabeth Baronian would attend a meeting with the parish council and guild lines would be initiated as to committee make-up, trusteeship, and other factors intended by Mrs. Baronian, the benefactor.

Boys Club

Chairlady, Joyce Soghoiangave this report. (see enclosed)

Endowment Fund

Chairman, Peter Greene have this report. (see enclosed)
A discussion followed in reference to exactly what the endowment funds' intentions are. The interest of this fund is to be used for any need of the church. \$42,000 was borrowed for the new expansion in order to avoid going to a lending institution. John Baronian explained all efforts would be made to replenish this amount, but could not commit the parish council as this time since additional work had to be completed.

Oriental Rug Sale Report

Ronnie Greene have this report for Chairman, Michael Vranian. Our profits exceeded last year's profit. (see enclosed)

ACYOA Report

Chairlady, Shockey Boyajian gave this report. (see enclosed)
They have 10 members. Seven meetings were held. Up coming dance to be held February 8th. A check for \$400.00 was donated to church.

Armenian Dance Group

Report was given by Shocky Boyajian. (see enclosed)
The dance group would now have a younger age group also. Lucy Barsamian and Azniv Amikhanian would be working this age group.

Baseball Team Report

Charlie Evranian gave this report. He stated that only possible expense for coming year would \$500.00 for insurance.

This concluded all reports.

Next on the agenda was the election of officers for the following:
Parish Council, Nominating Committee, and Auditing Committee.

Ann Norris, Chairman of the nominating committee presented the following slates.

Parish Council:

- 21 Virginia Abernathy
- 32 Nebe Boyajian
- 6 Alice Darhanian
- 22 John Giragosian
- 25 Peter Greene
- 11 Linda Sharigian

Nominating Committee:

- 20 Stella Bandazian
- 22 Margie Baronian
- 23 Varteni Barsamian
- 12 Roxie Kricorian
- 23 Ann Norris
- 17 Gerry Sharigian

Auditing Committee:

- 19 John Ashjian
- 24 Sam Baronian
- 11 John Darhanian
- 21 Charlie Evranian

Newly elected officers for Parish Council to serve a two year term are:
Nebe Boyajian
John Giragosian
peter Green

Those remaining for a one-year term are Bedros Bandazian, John Baronian, Henry Magarian and Ronnie Greene.

Newly elected officers for the Nominating Committee are:
Margie Baronian
Varteni Barsamian
Anne Norris

Newly elected officers for the Auditing Committee are:
Sam Baronian
Charles Evranian

Ronnie Greene, treasurer then gave the Financial Report. Azniv Amikhanian made the motion that this report be approved. It was seconded by Nebe Boyajian.

Ronnie Greene, treasurer gave the report on the Savings Account. Motion to accept report was made by Nebe Boyajian and seconded by Jack Tootelian.

Ronnie Greene, treasurer gave the report on the budget for 1986. Discussion followed on high cost of insurance for Der Arsen Barsamian. Chairman, Charlie Evranian asked that the Parish Council address issue of insurance to see that all is appropriate. Motion that budget be accepted made by Nebe Boyajian and seconded by Peter Greene.

John Baronian commented that Ronnie Greene, treasurer had programmed the church's budget into a computer system and that it was most effective in keeping the books.

New Business

John Baronian made a motion that the members of Parish Council should be reduced to 5 (five) members. Motion was seconded by Elizabeth Baronian. Motion was passed. Also, George Euksusian commended that Parish Council should strive to increase paying members.

No old business.

Reverend Arsen Barsamian made comments thanking everyone on their excellent work in chairing various committees and functions throughout the year.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Peter Greene and seconded by Nebe Boyajian

Rev. Arsen Barsamian gave the benediction and asked for a moment of silence in memory of all those who had passed away.

Meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Stella Bandazian
Stella Bandazian, Secretary
of Day