

## ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MINUTES

### **ST. MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH**

**Racine, Wisconsin**

**February 2, 1997**

Arthur Musurlian, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m., followed by the opening prayer led by Father Yeprem Kelegian.

According to the Diocesan By-Law #17, a quorum was attained. There were 69 people present of 228 eligible voters.

The Nominating Committee presented the slate, and the Nominating and Auditing Committees conducted the elections for Chairman and Secretary of the Day. Both the Chairman of the Assembly and the Secretary of the Assembly election are as follows: Chairman: Sarkis Cherkinian (52), Murad Gengozian (13). Secretary of the Assembly: Mary K. Akgulian (32), Carol Kazarian (24), Thomas Janikian (10).

A recess for lunch was then called by the Parish Council Vice Chairman, Arthur Musurlian.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:10 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the previous Assembly: The minutes of the Special Parish Assembly on May 28, 1996 were reviewed and Claire Kadamian moved that they be accepted, followed by a second by Murad Gengozian. The Minutes for the meeting were then approved.

Adoption of Agenda: Mikael Garoukian moved that the Agenda be approved and adopted, seconded by Murad Gengozian. The motion passed.

Nominations for Parish Council: The nominees on the ballot were: Sarkis Andekian, Thomas Gengozian, Mary Janikian, Mark Kaprelian, Janet Mrazek, Irene Nahabedian and Susan Proctor. Jack Kazarian was nominated from the floor. The final results are as follows: Thomas Gengozian (63), Irene Nahabedian (54), Mary Janikian (43), and Janet Mrazek (38), were elected to the Parish Council. The first alternate will be Susan Proctor (31), followed by: Mark Kaprelian (18), Jack Kazarian (12) and Sarkis Andekian (11).

The Pastor's Report was presented and accepted by the Assembly. Jack Kazarian, in response to the Pastor's Report, praised the Lord for our Der Hayr being so good to our congregation. We are indeed blessed to have him as our spiritual leader.

Mary Janikian, Parish Council Chairperson, complimented the Parish Council and has been very pleased with them. She added that we are free to contact them at any time when necessary. The Parish Council Report was then accepted.

Susan Nerseslian, Treasurer, reported how she has enjoyed her position, working with Sam Kaprelian and Mary Janikian. She then explained the differences in dues, pledges and plate money and recommended that dues be paid first, then the pledge. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Next on the Agenda was the election of the Nominating Committee. Those nominated were Charles Hardy, MaryAnn Injasoulian, Kai Kazarian, Claire Kadamian, Catherine Mikaelian and Julia H. Petersen. Those elected are as follows: Charles Hardy (45), MaryAnn Injasoulian (38), Kai Kazarian (34). Julia H. Petersen is the first alternative with (32), then Catherine Mikaelian (30) and Claire Kadamian (28).

MaryAnn Injasoulian, for the Choir, stated they would like to have more young people join, as so many presently in the Choir are 60 and over. The report was received, as Arthur Cherkinian moved to accept the report and Mark Kaprelian seconded it. The report was accepted by the Assembly.

Women's Guild: Hourig Tcheurekdjian, Co-Chairman of the Guild, also invited new members to join. Martha Kargenian then moved to accept the report and Mary Katerdjian seconded it. The report was accepted by the Assembly.

Sunday School: Lauren Chalekian, Superintendent, gave the report. Carol Kazarian and Claire Kadamian motioned to accept the report, respectively. The motion was accepted.

Auditing Committee Election: John Barootian and Frank Vidian were on the ballot. John Barootian (32) and Frank Vidian (33).

ACYOA, Jrs.: Melanie Grigorian indicated how these young people have matured and become church oriented. Mary Janikian and Michelle Sahagian moved to accept the report, respectively. The motion was passed and the report accepted.

Armenian Fest: Gary Vidian was the Chairman of the Fest. Claire Kadamian moved to accept the report and Martha Kargenian seconded it. The motion was passed.

Retirees: Paul Tewagian was on hand in place of John Barootian, Chairman. Carol Kazarian motioned to accept the report. Martha Kargenian seconded it. The motion passed.

Project Committee: Sam Akgullian, who is resigning as Chairman due to health reasons, thanked the Committee, as well as others who have helped out. Mary Janikian moved to accept the report. Michelle Sahagian seconded it. The motion passed.

Permanent Trust Election: The nominees were John Esayian and Sam Kachichian. Sarkis Kazarian was nominated from the floor. The final results: John Esayian (33), Sam Kachichian (25) and Sarkis Kazarian (10).

At this point it was noted to Father Yeprem Kelegian that certain ballots for the Auditing Committee Election were not collected by the Nominating Committee. Therefore, Father Yeprem instructed the Nominating Committee to recount the Auditing Committee ballots and to include the two ballots not collected by the Nominating Committee. After the recount, there were 34 votes for John Barootian and 33 for Frank Vidian. Therefore, John Barootian was elected to a three-year term and Frank Vidian is the alternate.

Mariam Sahakian represented the Book and Gift Store Committee. Ardis Cherkinian moved to accept the report and Mary Cherkinian seconded. The motion passed.



**Adoption of the 1997 Budget:** Sue Nersesian, Treasurer, presented the 1997 Budget. Carol Kazarian moved that we adopt the Budget with Michelle Sahagian seconding it. The motion passed.

Sam Akgulian then made a proposal to be presented at the Diocesan Assembly as follows:

**PROPOSAL**

**WHEREAS** the Diocesan Assembly business meetings are conducted in English and then transcribed into Armenian for publication.

**WHEREAS** the majority of the delegates follow the guidelines of the ANNUAL REPORTS AND MINUTES in the English Language in business transactions.

**THEREFORE** propose that all Diocesan Annual Reports and Annual Minutes, be printed in English for distribution, and further propose that the Armenian translation only be available for distribution when requested from the Diocese.

**RATIONALE:** The cost of printing the Annual Reports and Minutes in both languages is redundant and expensive, and the vast majority of the recipients read only the English version. Also errors in translation would be minimized, while mailing and administration costs would be lessened. Finally, the delegates would receive the same quality of service without the expense.

Submitted by: St. Mesrob Diocesan Delegates  
St. Mesrob Armenian Church - Racine, Wisconsin - February 2, 1997

An amendment to the Proposal was made by Charles Hardy, to be added at the end of the Proposal: "However, one copy of the Armenian Minutes be sent to each Parish". The amendment was seconded and passed.

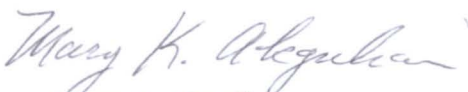
The amended motion was passed.

Ardis Cherkinian suggested that we have a "tally sheet" attached to our Annual Report Booklet, so members could record who won. The Parish Council agreed to do so.

**Diocesan Delegates:** The next election will be held at the 1997 Parish Assembly, to be held in 1998.

There being no further business, Claire Kadamian moved to adjourn the meeting, with Martha Kargenian seconding it and at 1:50 p.m. we closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary K. Akgulian  
Secretary of the Day



Sarkis Cherkinian  
Chairman of the Day



Fr. Yeprem Kelegian  
Pastor