

St. Mary's Armenian Church Elberton

Parish Council Meeting of July 27, 1971

The sixth meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday July 27, 1971.

The chairman, Mr. Bulbulian, opened the meeting and asked Diratsou Hekimian to offer a prayer.

The Parish Council members who were present were messrs: Bulbulian, Mamourian, Sabonjian, Tegnagian, Kasanjian, Chakamian, and Pooikian.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted as read.

The chairman, Mr. Bulbulian, requested that the Sunday School books be audited by Mr. Sabonjian. The Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Chakamian, directed the Secretary & Treasurer, through Mr. Pooikian to have the books made available for audit.

The Parish Council received a letter from the Diocese requesting that we send them a copy of the minutes of each meeting. Mr. Chakamian suggested that we should not send the minutes of each meeting but instead we send a quarterly review. Mr. Mamourian said that we should. Mr. Tegnagian said that we should comply with the Diocesan request. Mr. Mamourian made the motion ~~that we comply to~~ Archbishop Torkon's request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tegnagian. The motion carried with six in favor and two against.

A letter from the Diocese gave the names and dates of the Priests who will offer Badarak from now till September fifth. A discussion followed regarding getting different Priests instead of the same Priests that are assigned to our church. The number of people coming to church are not as many as there should be. A

change in Priests may draw more people. The chairman, Mr. Bulbulian, was going to try and do something about it.

A discussion followed regarding the whereabouts of the church deed. No one seemed to know who had the deed. The chairman, Mr. Bulbulian, directed Mr. Sabonjian to find out where and who had the deed to the church.

The August 15th picnic (Blessing of the Grapes) should be advertised among the members. Also we should try and get more godfathers of the Blessing of the Grapes. ~~Because of the success~~ of the July 4th picnic it was decided to assign the same organizers for both August 15th and Sept. 5th picnics.

The purchase of the screen door has been put off till September.

A request was received that we allow some people access to rooms upstairs. A motion by Mr. Chakamian that we make no exceptions. It was seconded by Mr. Kazanjian. The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45PM and coffee was served.

Chairman

*Armen H. Bulbulian*

Mr. A. Bulbulian

Recording Secretary

*G. Poesikian*

Mr. G. Poesikian

St. Mary's Armenian Church Upland

Parish Council Meeting of August 24, 1971

The seventh meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday August 24th, 1971.

The Chairman, Mr. Bulbulian, opened the meeting and asked Diratsou Hekimian to offer a Prayer.

The Parish Council members who were present were messrs. Bulbulian, Sabonjian, Tegnazian, Gokberk, Mamourian, Tutunjian, and Kazanjian.

~~The organization of the Labor Day picnic will have the same committee as the previous picnics.~~

It was suggested by Mr. Bulbulian to donate a gold cross to Jean Pekjian in recognition for her work as organist for church services. Motion was made and passed to give gold cross.

Mr. Sabonjian investigated and reported that the church deed is in the hands of the diocese.

Church tax exemption question was brought up again. It was decided to look into this matter after the summer activities were concluded.

The possibility of using two rooms upstairs was brought up. One for the use of an office and the other for Sunday School. This is after the installation of heat. This will be investigated by Messrs: Tutunjian, Kazanjian and Tegnazian. The results will be reported at the next meeting.

Auditing committee report is incomplete. The matter will be brought up again at the next meeting.

An expense fee of \$50.00 was set for utilities used by St. Nerses School during their stay here. Also it was pointed out

*their*

that all the rooms used by the school should be cleaned. A fee of \$60.00 paid to the church to hire someone to do the cleaning.

The meeting was adjourned and coffee was served.

Chairman

*Armen H. Bulbulian*

Mr. A. Bulbulian

Recording Secretary

*G. Poozikian*

Mr. G. Poozikian

Revised

**ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
ELBERON, NEW JERSEY  
MINUTES OF THE 1975 PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**1. Roll Call and Opening of the Meeting**

The 1975 General Parish Assembly of St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church in Elberon, N. J. was held in the church, Sunday, February 16, 1975, at 1:50 P.M. after church services and after a complimentary lunch was served by members of the Parish Council.

Father Kalayjian opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. B. Elian thanked everyone for being present. He then announced that the order of business as stated in the agenda would be changed slightly and that elections of the parish council would follow the roll call and election of the Tivan. This would enable persons who could not stay for the entire meeting to vote and leave at their pleasure. He then asked Mrs. Araxy Gokberk, secretary, to conduct the roll call which revealed (76) paid up and eligible voting members present out of (121) voting members, thus constituting a quorum. Approximately ten non-members were also in attendance. Shortly afterwards, other voting members arrived bringing the total from 76 to 81 present.

**2. Election of the Tivan**

Mr. Elian announced that the assembly would first elect a chairman and a secretary for the 1975 Parish Assembly. The following nominations were made for chairman and seconded: Mr. B. Elian, Mr. J. Chakamian, Mrs. A. Gokberk.

At this point Mr. J. Chakamian expressed in a few brief words the responsibilities for the chairman of the assembly in English. Mrs. M. Bahadurian asked that Mr. Chakamian's speech be repeated in Armenian which Mr. Elian did. Mr. A. Mamourian asked that a few introductory words be said about each person nominated but his request was not granted.

Open voting determined the assembly's choice. Mr. B. Elian received 50 votes and since this was a number over the majority present, there was no need to continue with votes for the rest of the candidates and Mr. B. Elian was duly elected chairman of the day.

The floor was then open for nominations for secretary of the assembly. The following were nominated and all declined: Mrs. A. Gokberk, Mrs. E. Alexanian, Mrs. J. Chakamian and Mrs. V. Bedeian. A short discussion followed and it was unanimously decided that Mrs. A. Gokberk must do this job although she objected. She did not accept, but, did do the secretarial work for the day.

### 3. Elections

A. PARISH COUNCIL: Mr. Elian asked Mr. Vincent Karakashian to copy the names of nominees, as presented by the nominating committee, found on page 5 of the annual report book, on the blackboard. Nominations were then made from the floor as follows: Mr. Pacradooni (declined), Mr. A. Mamourian (declined) Mr. Z. Ghazarian, Mr. John Pehlavanian, Mr. H. Serabian. Upon the close of nominations, Mr. John Chakamian asked that his name be removed from the ballot, that he had made this request previously to the nominating committee and was told to make this request at the Parish Assembly meeting since the ballot had already been prepared. His name was removed from the ballot.

The ballots had not been printed by the Parish Council, Father Kalayjian explained, because it was felt that it could quickly be done at the last minute and include names nominated from the floor, saving voters time and possible confusion because voters would have to write these names in if it was their choice. Father Kalayjian then suggested the nominating committee be excused to print the ballot and to place all the names in alphabetical order, including in this order the names just nominated from the floor.

At this point Mrs. V. Bedeian requested her name be taken off the ballot. Mr. V. Karakashian was instructed by Mr. Elian to do so.

A discussion followed in regard to Father Kalayjian's suggestion as to how the ballot should be printed. Mr. Gokberk made a motion that all names be printed in alphabetical order including those just nominated from the floor. It was seconded and voted upon and defeated. Mr. J. Pehlavanian then made a motion that all names be placed in order as a choice made from drawing lots. The motion was seconded, voted upon and defeated. Mr. John Kaiserian then made a motion the ballot be printed as presented by the nominating committee, in alphabetical order, then, the new nominations that were just made from the floor, be added at the bottom. The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed. Mrs. V. Bedeian from the nominating committee then left to print the ballot.

### 4. Consideration of Reports

A. PASTOR'S MESSAGE: Father Kalayjian explained he would read his message although it was printed in the Annual Report Book.

(1). Mrs. Gokberk commented that the message Father Kalayjian had read was very lovely but possibly not timely in a book of reports. In addition to the message, she and many others had expected a report giving his activities for the year. She commented that many of his activities were listed under the Parish Council report which in reality should have been in his

report. She added that regardless of where Father Kalayjian's activities were reported they should first of all have been more complete in that all his activities should have been listed and secondly more numerical facts backing records should be given so that the report would be authentic and not vague and deceiving.

Mr. Elian, at this point remembered that he had not appointed a Vice Chairman which is customary. Therefore he appointed Mr. V. Karakashian.

Mr. J. Chakamian requested that no other reports be read since they were in the report book and everyone had had a chance to read them, also, at a previous Parish Assembly meeting it was decided that reading of these written reports was unnecessary.

#### B. Comments on Written Reports:

(1). Dr. A. Haroutunian spoke in behalf of the Beautification Committee. She commented that the Beautification Committee had submitted a well planned complete and true report on their year's activities for the annual report book. She was angry over the fact that the report had been so cut down and that it no longer gave a true picture. Wording had been changed and an important figure and name had been left out. The report failed to indicate that the sum of \$437.00 was turned over to the Parish Council to be applied to the electric fund. Father Kalayjian apologized for the name left out and tried to give explanations on other points but Dr. Haroutunian refused to accept these explanations and the two way conversation was closed by Dr. Haroutunian. The explanations Father Kalayjian gave were as follows:

1. The committees delegated by the Parish Council could not expect to see their report in the Annual Report of the Parish Council verbatim.
2. Adequate resume was included in the Parish Council Report with due acknowledgements and thanks.
3. No figures have been altered.
4. The balance of approximately \$430.00 which the Committee turned over to the Parish Council for the Emergency Fund was duly acknowledged elsewhere.

(2). Mrs. J. Chakamian said that she had reported in her Women's Guild report that the Ways & Means Committee had a profit of \$4,200.00 but the figure was closer to \$5,000.00. She requested that Mrs. A. Tashjian, the new Women's Guild Chairman present the Parish Council with a check from the Guild in the amount of \$3,900.00. She also commented that it was their desire this money go toward the completion of the church driveway and parking lot.

(3). Mr. Elian then asked Mr. John Kaiserian, Chairman of the Auditing Committee to give his comments. Mr. Kaiserian said that the books were kept very well this year and were mathematically correct.

(a). Mr. John Chakamian also on the auditing committee, praised Mr. Kaiserian and Mr. Gokberk, Treasurer, for their outstanding work.

(b). Mrs. Gokberk brought up a question in regard to the Building Fund. She said she was of the understanding that the Women's Guild had presented a check last year to the Parish Council for the Building Fund but did not see this reported in any of the financial accounts--just what is the situation on the Building Fund? Much discussion arose from this question--some a little confusing. Mr. Bulbulian said that such money had been received and deposited in the Church treasury. He suggested opening a special account for this money. Mr. Chakamian said the church has a building Committee of which he is chairman but up to now they haven't needed any money. At present they have an investigation going on for which they will need funds. He also called to the attention of the people that last year's Parish Assembly voted that if the Building Committee need money that they should raise their own funds. Mrs. B. Lambie wanted to know if the check Mrs. Chakamian presented to the Parish Council was made out to the Building Fund. Mrs. Chakamian said yes that it was made out to St. Mary's Armenian Church Building Fund. Mr. Mamourian said if a check was made out to the Building Fund, how had it been endorsed? Mr. McOmber made a motion that the Parish Council open an account "Building Fund" and put this money in question in it. It was seconded. More discussion followed. Father Kalayjian said that there was established, three years ago at a Parish Assembly meeting a building fund account, but since we had no money for it it was never opened. Mr. Pacradouni wants to know what "Building Fund" stands for, a "New Building" or extension of the "Old Building". Mr. V. Karakashian said this as yet has not been defined. The motion made by Mr. McOmber was retracted. A motion was made that the Parish Council discuss this "Building Fund" definition and make its recommendation at a future meeting. Until such time there would be a freeze on any money labeled "Building Fund". The motion was seconded and passed.

Although it was evident that there were still many questions in regard to the reports, time was getting short and the meeting was forced to go on to the next order of business.

## 5. Continuation of Parish Council Elections

### A. PRESENTATION OF PRINTED BALLOT, CANDIDATES AND VOTING:

The ballot had been printed and presented to Mr. Elian. Mr. Elian introduced the candidates. The chair then appointed a few people to help with the voting procedure along with the nominating committee. The casting of ballots began and after



a short wait, election results were announced as follows:

<u>Dr. Stephen Checkosky</u> - (21)	Mr. George Poosikian - 22
*Mr. Sarkis Dadourian - 46	Mr. Hagop Zadikian - 39
*Mr. Barkave Elian - 59	Mr. Zohrab Ghazarian - 24
*Mrs. Araxy Gokberk - 45	<u>Mr. John Pahlavanian</u> - (26)
*Dr. Anna Haroutunian - 51	<u>Mr. Haig Serabian</u> - (20)
*Mr. John Kaiserian - 48	

6. Election of Diocesan Delegate, Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee

A. Mr. Elian once again asked Mr. V. Karakashian to place the names presented by the nominating committee, found on page 5, of the candidates for the Diocesan Delegate, Auditing committee and Nominating Committee on the Blackboard.

B. Nominations from the floor were accepted for the Diocesan Delegate. They were as follows: Mr. J. Chakamian, Mr. A. Mamourian and Mr. H. Alexanian.

Nominations from the floor were next accepted for the Nominating Committee. They were as follows: Mrs. S. Nalbandian (declined), Mrs. J. Chakamian (declined), Mrs. V. Zadikian, Mr. John Pehlavanian, and Mrs. A. Elian.

Nominations from the floor were next accepted for the auditing committee. They were as follows: Mr. John Pehlavanian.

Mrs. V. Dedeian once again left the room to print the ballot for these three committees.

7. Budget

A. Mr. Elian called on Mr. J. Chakamian to explain and lead any discussion on the budget.

B. Comments on the budget were as follows:

(1). Mrs. M. Bahadurian said the budget set for this year was too high. She suggested cutting the budget by reducing the cost of the parking lot by only building a small parking lot for the time being.

(2). Mr. Kaiserian said the budget for this year was set too high. The amount stated for publicity and postage could be reduced.

(3). Mr. McOmber said last year our income included Mr. Chakmakian's estate and therefore we have no guarantee of another such year. Therefore, he felt the budget was set too high.

(4). Father Kalayjian was asked to explain what a St. Vartan Steward is and how it affects our assessment. He gave the necessary explanation and announced the names of the St. Vartan Stewards of our parish: Messrs: B. Elian, V. Karakashian and J. Chakamian.

(5). Mr. J. Kaiserian wanted to know more about the Priest's office to be built: where, why so expensive, and, were there

professional estimates used to derive at the figure stated?

(a). Mr. Chakamian answered that the office would be in the old store room next to the kitchen. The figure used was not derived through professional estimates. Expenses that would be involved are paneling, carpeting, furniture, etc.

(b). Father Kalayjian commented that he had had a verbal commitment from a professional at \$1,300.00.

(6). Mr. McOmber wanted an explanation of the \$1,500.00 for recreational facilities.

(a). Mr. Chakamian said they had the youth in mind building them an outdoor basketball, tennis and volley ball courts, and, perhaps an indoor lounging area.

(b). Mrs. N. Dadourian said that recreational facilities of this sort at present, were not necessary.

(7). Mr. McOmber made a motion to accept the budget as presented except for the last two items - the parking lot and recreational facilities. Monies for these last two items should only be spent if we are sure can afford it.

(8). Mrs. Chakamian showed concern for the \$3,900.00 the women had just given the Parish Council for the parking lot. Mr. Elian said not to worry it would be properly handled.

(9). Mr. Bulbulian said that during 1974 only 50% of the members supported the church financially. There were thirty families who could well afford to make contributions equal to that of supporting families, but their total contribution never excelled the sum of 25¢ per week, which is less than our Sunday School children contribute regularly. If everyone takes equal responsibility there can be no problem of maintaining a decent budget.

A short discussion went on about fund raising.

(10). Mr. J. Chakamian made a motion to increase membership fees from \$12.00 to \$52.00 per year. Mr. A. Gokberk seconded the motion. Father Kalayjian gave a very good explanation of what all this really meant. The motion was voted on and defeated.

(11). Mr. Mamourian made a motion to raise the membership dues to \$52.00 but do away with the pledge system. It was seconded, voted upon and defeated.

(12). Mr. J. Solakian made a motion to raise the dues to \$40.00. It was seconded, voted on and defeated.

(13). Mr. Kaiserian made a motion to find out if the members "do or do not want the membership dues raised." The motion was seconded and voted upon. It was decided the membership dues should stay at \$12.00 a year.

(14). Mr. McOmber's motion was voted upon and passed.

(15). Mr. Kaiserian made a motion to get a mortgage on the church so that we could finish the parking lot. The motion was not seconded.

## 8. Proposals

A. The five resolutions recommended in the annual report book which follow were voted upon and approved.

1. The Nominating Committee be composed of Five (5) members instead of the Three (3) as it is at present.

2. At the close of the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly, same shall be recessed and reconvened, under the same officers, at least twice a year; once on a Sunday in May, and once on a Sunday in September, as said officers may determine by notice mailed to each member at least two weeks in advance of said meeting.

3. All meetings of the Parish Council shall be open and the members of this Church shall have the right to attend such meetings and be given reasonable opportunity to express their views on any issue that may come before such meeting.

4. Notice of any meeting of the Parish Council shall be given to each member in advance by publication in the Gantegh and a copy affixed to the Bulletin Board in the Church hall together with a copy of the agenda to be discussed at such meeting.

All regulatory resolutions and resolutions of general interest to the general membership passed by the Parish Council shall be published in the manner set forth hereabove.

5. A rotating Committee shall be established under the direction of the Parish Council, whose function shall be to take inventory of all tangible assets belonging to the church, preserve and safe-guard same and keep proper records thereof giving sufficient description to identify each item and the date and the name and address of the person or persons from whom such item was acquired.

Such committee shall consist of 3 persons and when first established, the person receiving the highest votes shall serve for a period of 3 years, and the person receiving the next highest votes shall serve for 2 years and the person receiving the third highest votes shall serve for 1 year. At each annual meeting of the General Assembly thereafter, one person shall be elected to fill in the vacancy caused by the person whose term shall have expired.

(1). Members of committee referred to in resolution #5 will be elected at the next Parish Assembly meeting.

## 9. New Proposals

A. A proposal was presented by the Parish Council, dated 12/74, which had not been printed in the report book, stating that the church should purchase a car for its use and pay for all maintenance, service, insurance, etc.

(1). Discussion followed, mostly against going into such an expense at this time.

(2). The proposal was voted upon and defeated.

10. Old Business

A. Mr. Kaiserian explained there were some typing errors in the Sunday School Financial report . . . Gomidas lecture should read \$200.99. Balance on savings account should read \$738.09.

11. Election of Diocesan Delegate, Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee continued

A. Ballots were printed now and were passed out by the Nominating Committee and helpers and votes cast and ballots returned.

B. Results of this election were tallied on the blackboard.

C. Election results were as follows:

(1). Diocesan Delegate: Mrs. V. Dedeian 6, Miss Mary Ann Tutunjian (3), Mr. J. Chakamian (15), \*Mr. Alex Mamourian 23, Mr. Hagop Alexanian 4.

(2). Nominating Committee: \*Mrs. Mary Bahadurian 44, \*Mrs. Hermine Karakashian (48), Mrs. Siranoush Najarian 5, \*Mrs. H. Pacradouni 37, Mrs. Mary Pookikian 14, Mrs. A. Varian 22, \*Mrs. V. Zadikian 34, Mr. John Pehlavanian (18), \*Mrs. Angel Elian 35.

(3). Auditing Committee; Mr. George Chookazian 14, \*Mr. Vincent Karakashian (42), \*Mr. Alex Mamourian 40, \*Mr. Richard McOmber 28, Mrs. V. Zadikian 13, Mr. John Pehlavanian (15).

12. Closing

A. A motion was made to recess the meeting and it was seconded and voted upon. Mr. Elian declared the meeting recessed at 8:00 P.M. to be reconvened on a date to be announced.

B. No closing prayer was made as scheduled on the agenda.

(A later count revealed that 51 persons out of the 81 had remained throughout the entire meeting).

Respectfully Submitted,

*Arazy Gokberk*

Mrs. Arazy Gokberk, Secretary

Mr. B. Elian, Chairman of the Parish Assembly

Fr. V. Kalavjian, Pastor President

*Mailed with "Gantegh" of St. Mary Church*

PARISH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS:

On November 9, 1975, Mr. Jack Antreassian, a representative sent us through the Diocese, held a special meeting with our Parish Council. The main purpose of this meeting was to hear and discuss a letter sent to our Der Hayr (a copy of which was received by Mr. Barkev Elian) by our Primate, in regard to the problems of our Parish and the decision of the Primate and the Diocesan Council on these matters. The letter has been approved for publication by our Primate and reads as follows:

October 29, 1975

The Reverend Vertanes Kalayjian  
Pastor and President of Parish Council  
St. Mary Armenian Church  
1184 Ocean Avenue  
Elberon, New Jersey 07740

Dear Father Vertanes:

At its meeting of October 14, 1975, the Diocesan Council gave due consideration to the difficulties existing in the Elberon Parish of the St. Mary Armenian Church, having before it information and knowledge derived from:

1. Conferences of the Primate and Diocesan Council Chairman with the Pastor and Parish Council Chairman.
2. Various reports submitted by representatives of the Diocesan Council.
3. Other reports, letters and petitions directed to the Diocesan Council.
4. A meeting held on October 14, 1975, of the Primate, Diocesan Council, Pastor and Parish Council.

The decision of the Primate and the Diocesan Council, with regard to the St. Mary Armenian Church of Elberon, New Jersey, to be in force until further notification in writing by the Primate and the Diocesan Council, is as follows:

1. The convening of the Parish Assembly is hereby suspended until further notification.
2. The Pastor of the Church shall continue to carry out his customary duties, and shall receive his salary and other monetary benefits as under present policy in effect until such time as he may be reassigned by the Primate, which is under advisement at the present time.

3. The present Parish Council members are hereby removed from office. The present Chairman, Recording Secretary and Treasurer of the Parish Council, together with the Pastor as President, are directed to carry on the affairs of the Parish and function as a temporary committee under appointment of the Primate and the Diocesan Council; all decisions taken by this temporary committee shall be subject to the approval and ratification of the Primate and the Diocesan Council.. The minutes of the temporary committee's meetings must be submitted promptly to the Primate.
4. All committees previously appointed by the Parish Council shall cease to function.
5. The Pastor and the temporary committee shall be charged with running the affairs of the Parish in an orderly fashion and on an interim basis.
6. The Diocesan Delegate shall continue in office.

It is the intent of the Primate and the Diocesan Council that the Elberon Parish shall continue to be functional and that its affairs be conducted without interruption for the best interests of its parishioners and the Armenian Church of America. The Primate and the Diocesan Council are cognizant of the difficult task ahead for all concerned, but feel that with proper communication and cooperation the needs of the Parish will be met until such time as the Parish is again able to direct its own affairs.

Any person acting contrary to the intent of this decision will be dismissed by the Primate and the Diocesan Council, our expectation being that all efforts shall be in the best interests of the Church and the Diocese.

Prayerfully,

/s/ Ab. T. Manoogian

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian  
Primate

cc. Chairman, Parish Council  
Mr. Barkev Elian

INTERIM PARISH COMMITTEE WED. FEB 25, 1976

MA meeting was called by Jack Antreassian of the diocese for the interim committee on this date. Those present were: Jack Antreassian, administrator,

John Chakamian, asst. admin.  
Barkev Elian, asst. admin.  
Mary Hachigian, advisor  
Anna Haroutunian, advisor  
Araxy Gokberk, corresponding secretary  
John Kaisarian, advisor  
Haroot Karakashian, advisor  
Zareh Manigian, tress.  
George Kasanjian, advisor  
Mary Amb Tutunjian, recording secretary  
Not in attendance John Pehlivanian, ast. admin.

It was suggested by Mr. Antreassian that Mrs. Tashjian, the Women's Guild chairlady be contacted to resume the Women's meetings once more.

Mr. Antreassian was asking about the insurance on the church. Mrs. Gokberk would bring in a copy to be reviewed by Mr. Elian at the next meeting.

The various committees would be formed and a list for some committees would be needed.

Mary Hachigian volunteered to be in charge of the coffee hour for Sunday Feb 29, at which time services would be conducted by a visiting priest.

Mr. Antreassian suggested that the collection plate should be passed by appointed members.

We then went into the essential committees: The following were mentioned: Bldg. Committee, Publications, Ways and Means, Education, Facilities, Programs, Bldg and Grounds, Altar Guild, Stewardship, Parking Lot committee, and Budget. Mr. Antreassian suggested that at least \$100.00 should be allocated towards payment of the visiting priest.

The stewardship would be in need of chairmans and Dr. Steve Checkosky and Mr. Albert Pacradooni were suggested. The whereabouts of the pledge envelopes was bought up and Dr. Haroutunian stated that Der Hayr Kalayjian was in possession of them and should be contacted.

The Gantegh with perhaps Virginia Dedian as editor. The policy of the paper is to be discussed such as exactly what is to be printed. Mr. Bulbulian was suggested for the armenian portion with Mr. Pacradooni as assistant.

Ways and Means, Mrs. Gokberk, but she declined due to her interest in the educational portion.

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Facilities, Geoge Kasanjian.

Mr. Antreassian, stated there should also be a cultural committee, to present lectures, socials, dinners and various activities. The cultural committee should be placed into the budget. As chairman, Anna Haroutunian.

The Altar Guild, is part of the Women's Guild. Mr. Elian stated that the canons of the Armenian Church do not permit women upon the altar. Three names were mentioned of ladies who had already been approached and accepted. They were Mrs. Angel Varian, Mrs. Linda Kondokjian, and Mrs. Kevork Hovnanian of Rumson. John Kaisarian mentioned that Mrs. Nargis should also be invited due to her long service with the church.

Maintainance of building and grounds. Mr. Harout Karkashian, and Setrak Tutunjian.

Publications such as Gantegh and various notices. Mrs. Gokberk stated that this has always been a hardship. Who would run the mimeograph machine? She is the only one at present who can do it.

The whereabouts of the addressograph machine. Mr. Elian suggested we check with Der Hayr Kalayjian. Mr. Elian and Mrs. Dedian have copies of approximately the 300 names on our mailing list.

Educational Committee: Araxy Gokberk as chairman with Vincent Karakashian, Albert Pacradooni and Carol Kaisarian. Mr. Kaisaran felt that his wife would be busy at the present.

Armenian School: Mrs. Zabelle Sahagian is currently chairman. It was suggested by John Chakamian, Mr. Arshes Megerdecian also be encompassed as part as the school. Mrs. Hermiana Karakashian was suggested by John Kaisarian. The Armenian School and Sunday School should be one body rather than two separate schools.

Ways and Means: Zareh Manigian

Mr. Antreassian mentioned the function of the liaison would be the representative or newscarrrier. Who would be needing a liaison? Perhaps the Women's Guild and Youth Organization. Who would be in charge of the Youth Group. It was suggested that Mr. And Mrs. Alfred Voskian the prior leaders be approached. Mr. Antreassian stated he would contact them. Mr. Chakamian felt that if a few members of the goup went to see the Voskians that this would be beneficial.

Gary Karakashian current chairman of the youth group should contact the youth to attend a meeting once the date was set. John Kaisarian and Mary Hachigian would be liasion.

The Senior Citizins are currently using the facilities and have decided to turn over 60% of their treasury to the church. Are



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they considered under the jurisdiction of the church? They definitely are not. The committee would discuss this further at another meeting.

John Kaisarian suggested the book and gift stall in the back of the parish hall be re-opened. John Chakamian stated that Mr. Bulbulian at one time had been in charge.

Anna Haroutunian suggested the porch was in desperate need of repair. Haroot Karakashian and Setrak Tutunjian would be in charge.

Mary Hachigian inquired about the choir. The choir would be at the moment as to whomever showed up on that Sunday, Mr. Antreassian stated.

Father Artun <sup>Sempadian</sup> ~~Sampastian~~ would be down prior to Feb 29th to get things in order for Sunday services.

The question of the mail box was presented by Mr. Elin. Our mail box is at the Elberon post office. Once unfrozen it was suggested to have George Kazanjian pick up the ~~mail~~ mail.

Mary Hachigian will <sup>write</sup> ~~write~~ a letter to the post office to have it re-opened.

What would be a suitable day to hold our meetings. The general consensus was Wednesday evenings., with perhaps some alternate days for those unable to make this evening.

Our tax exempt number would be needed. Mrs. Gokberk thought she might have it. It is the Holy Cross of Union City, N. J., number.

Mrs. Gokberk asked Mr. Antreassian if we would perhaps have more than one Diocesan Delegate? Mr. Antreassian stated that it would still be one and Mr. Alex Mamourian would remain as our current delegate.

The meeting adjourned at 10 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Tutunjian  
Recording Secretary

WEDNESDAY March 3, 1976

Interim Parish Council of St. Mary's, Elberon, N. J.

A meeting was called on March 3, 1976 by Jack Antreassian our administrator at 8:30 P. M. at the church hall. Those present were:

John Chakamian	John Kaisarian
Araxy Gokberk	Barkev Elian
Mary Hachigian	Anna Horoutounian
Horout Karakashian	John Pehlivanian
Zareh Manigian	Mary Ann Tutunjian

George Kazanjian was not present due to illness.

The minutes were read with 2 corrections Mr. Elian would try to get St. Mary's a Federal Identification number. And the 3 ladies who were formerly asked to be on the Altar Guild are now not recognized due to the new council.

Insurance of the building. Mr. Elian felt that an insurance engineering report should be obtained prior to renewing our policy, as our insurance is too low.

Church mail, who would be responsible? Suggested it should or could be opened prior to each meeting or perhaps on Sundays. Mary Hachigian and George Kazanjian would pick up the mail and Roxy Gokberk would also assist in opening it. They will work out their own arrangements.

Mrs. Gokberk is to be in charge of the Church files.

Key situation, George Kazanjian has once more had the locks changed. George Kazanjian is to give no one the keys without permission of the council. Since he is in charge of the facilities he should have ownership of the keys. Mr. Hekemian should have possession of the entry door and Mr. Kazanjian to have the key for the stock room and kitchen. The office key should be given to the corresponding secretary. A back-up for Mr. Kazanjian is need. Perhaps a member of the Women's Guild. The back up man from the council will be Mrs. Gokberk.

Treasurers Report... to date Vincent Karakashian has not relinquished the records. It is felt he is no longer the auditor. Mr. Antreassian wished to have the books immediately. He also feels all auditing should take place in the church, and not at home. John Kaisarian stated that the auditing committee remains per instructions from the Primate.

There will be church services on Sunday with Father Artun.

The signature cards for the bank were signed by J. Antreassian, Zareh Manigian and John Pehlivanian.

A tentative budget was read by John Chakamian of approx. \$18,518 along with the breakdowns.

There are no pledge envelopes and they will be order by John Chakamian approx. 150.

Youth Group. Mr. Antreassian has contacted Gary Karkashian, chairman.

St. Mary's Elberon, March 3, 1976 meeting con't

Our next meeting will be on Friday 12 March at 8:00 P. M.

The committees which had tentatively been selected at our first meeting had been verified and approved. The bookstall to be run by Mr. Bulbulian. John Kaisarian felt he did not do an adequate job and perhaps Souren Gokberk or the members of the youth group could take charge.

The Gantegh...Mr. Bulbulian was suggested and after some discussion Mrs. Gokberk would ~~take~~ take charge of the Gantegh.

The utility bills were on final notice, Zareh Manigian would take the money from the escrow funds to pay the bills.  
priest.

Stipend for the visiting Mr. Antreassian stated the payment would be \$75.00, as directed by the Primate. However, a general consensus of the committee felt that \$50.00 seemed fair.

We are in dire need of deacons. A discussion ensued and several names were discussed. Also, organists and choir members.

Coffee hour are to be continued. A donation basket would be put out for the youth group if they ran it. Dr. Haroutunian felt a donation should not be given if the church sponsored it as there are some members unable to donate.

Cleanliness of the church is essential who would be in charge. Mr. Christophorian and the Women's Guild or whatever group was in use of the facilities would take care of clean up.

A letter was read by Mary Ann Tutunjian from the Armenian Community of Monmouth and ~~the~~ Ocean Counties in regards to a meeting that was held in Colts Neck, N. J. The letter requested our Der Hayr Kalayjian be reinstated and other demands.

Jack Antreassian received a phone call stating there would be a demonstration at the ~~church~~ if Fr. Kalayjian did not perform Sunday Services the following Sunday. ~~Discuse~~

Mr. Antreassian asked for comments regarding the letter and the pending demonstration. There were no comments other than Mrs. Gokberk felt the letter should not be taken to N. Y. ~~should~~ the priest is to be reassigned.  
since

John Chakamian wanted to know if this committee had a voice in the choice of a new Der Hayr, and suggested Der Hayr Kalayjian.

Various contributions for use of the church for baptisms, weddings and other church functions should be discussed as perhaps \$50.00 is too high for a christening.

Repair of the porch. Houout Karakashian had received a bid and discussed it with the council.

Disruption of church services and profanity not to be tolerated in the church and action would be taken.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 P. M. Mary Tutunjian, Rec. Sec.  
*Mary Tutunjian*

INTERIM COUNCIL MEETING 12 March 1976

The meeting started at 0830. Not present John Pehlivanian. Minutes of the prior meeting were NOT read. We were informed that Vincent Karakashian had turned over the books. Inquiry of the monies of the Women's Guild and the Armenian School are still being held at the Diocese. The Armenian School books were in the same order as when Mr. Bulbulian had turned them over to ~~the Diocese~~ Vincent Karakashian for audit. Perhaps the Women's Guild books are to be audited.

Mrs. Gokberk has bought the filing up to date and filed all the papers she had in her possession. The 1973 church records are not available. It was felt perhaps Mr. Bulbulian had them and would be contacted.

The Women's Guild records of minutes and treasurer should be filed in the church. Mrs. Seimon has the minutes.

KEYS: George Kazanjian has all the keys and Mr. Hekemian has the key to the back entry door.

A record of decisions had been kept prior and Mr. Elian felt that any motions should be circulated to the membership.

Mrs. Gokberk gave her report on letters to the insurance company and the updating of addresses.

The Easter envelopes were discussed. The tax exemption number is still being worked on by Mr. Elian.

Mr. Antreanessian stated at the Diocesan Council meeting held just prior to ours a decision was made that a special parish assembly would be arranged ~~now~~ whereupon our membership can elect its leadership. This would be in motion before the end of March. There will be a special parish assembly meeting on Sunday June 13, 1976. Prior to election a letter will be sent to have the membership to enroll to be eligible to vote. Another election will be held in January or February 1977 also. The dues are to be \$15.00 per year. The slate at the parish assembly: 1. Parish Council elected, 2. Nominating Committee, 3. Auditing committee, 4. Budget Committee

John Chakamian mentioned our Diocesan Delegate. Jack Antreanessian stated ~~said~~ he may be asked to resign and perhaps to run again.

The interim committee is to be the nominating committee and Jack Antreanessian to be the Chairman.

Anna Haroutonian felt it was a bit premature, but after close observation Mr. Antreanessian felt the church was ready.

Mr. Antreanessian will bring a copy of the letter and application for our review. The Women's Guild meetings are being temporarily upheld. Our next meeting to be 24 March (Wed) at 0800. at that meeting the papers will be ready. Harout Karakashian felt we would need a larger room for the elections. The feasible payment for a visiting priest is \$75.00. At the moment there will be NO transfer of funds that are being held at the Diocese.

The damage to the Sunday school floor. Zareh Manigian stated he would take care of the necessary flooring.

Meeting adjourned at 0945 by John Chakamian.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Ann Tutunjian, Sec.

*Mary Ann Tutunjian*

MINUTES

INTERIM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

March 24, 1976

8:00 P. M.

Those present were: Barkev Elian  
Jack Antreasian  
George Kazangian  
Zareh Manigian  
John Kaiserian  
Harout Karakashian  
Roxy Gokberk  
Mary Hachigian

Meeting commenced at 8:00 P.M. Chairman Jack Antreasian chaired the meeting and asked Roxy Gokberk to read minutes of March 3rd and 12th. After necessary corrections, minutes were approved as read.

Chairman questioned the insurance and letter pertaining to same was given to B. Elian to handle.

Zareh Manigian's estimate to repair the Sunday School was \$400.00. Roxy Gokberk told those present that Mr. Hekemian did most of the repair work. It was decided to leave it as is. However, Harout Karakashian was asked to look at the leak in the roof of the Sunday School. Harout will also contact the contractor for further estimates to repair the entrance of the Church.

Chairman felt, since new locks were installed, an outside key for Kevork Christophorian was not detrimental. He will look into it further.

Correspondance was reviewed by Chairman and Roxy Gokberk and was properly distributed.

Treasury report was given by Zareh Manigian and all bills were reviewed. Treasury as of this date is \$598.84.

PAGE TWO

Chairman will work out the Easter Schedule to be put on the flyers. Roxy Gokberk will handle the Easter mailing.

John Kaiserian requested the location of the baptismal book for the recording of his child's baptism.

Zareh Manigian suggested fixing the side door into Church and the front door. Mrs. Akellian would be conferred with on this.

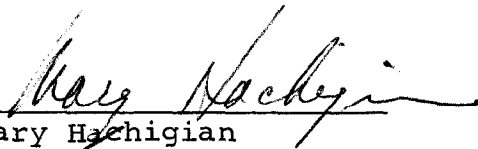
Chairman will see to it that we receive our needed supply of candles.

Chairman read the new membership form and letter to be enclosed to all members. They are in the process of being prepared.

Coffee hour this Sunday will be donated by Mr. & Mrs. Harout Karakashian.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mary Hachigian

Chairman indicated two items to be discussed at our next meeting:  
Women's Guild  
Old records

MINUTES OF INTERIM GOVERNING COMMITTEE OF ST. MARY'S, ELBERON, N. J.  
WEDNESDAY 5 MAY 1976

Present: Araxy Gokberk, Mary Hachigian, John Chakamian, E. Elian, Zareh Manigian, Mary Tutunjian. John Kaisarian appeared at the end of the meeting.

Meeting commenced at 0815 with Jack Antreassian presiding. Alex Mamourian our Diocesan Council Delegate gave a summary of the Annual Assembly held in Philadelphia the weekend of 2 May. Mr. Mamourian has donated his time and efforts for this weekend.

The minutes were read with the following corrections: the phone call made by Mrs. Gokberk was to Mrs. Karakashian not Mrs. Lambie in regards to the Women's Guild. The mowing of the lawn was done in the past by Mr. Kevork Christopherian and the Gokberk Boys.

The following priests would hold services; 9 & 16 May, Father Sempatian, 23 May, Father Baboorian, 30 May Rev. Semerjian.

The treasurers report given by Mr. Manigian. There is \$345.00 in the checking account, with some questionable bills.

It was suggested that the applications for church membership prior to election to be given to the treasurer and Mrs. Gokberk., the corresponding secretary. Mr. Antreassian has been asked if there would be nominations from the floor during elections. After some discussion it was still questionable by Mr. Antreassian. Chairman of the elction to be Mr. Antreassian or a member of the Diocesan Council. Also, a priest would be present. There will be a slate of 18 names. A list of candiates to be mailed to the membership.

J. Chakamaian suggested a list of all paid members also to be sent in case there should be a question or a challenge. The governing committee is to review ~~x~~ the membership for verification. Applications should be on individual forms. Could a member vote prior to the election?, was raised by J. Chakamian. This would not prove feasible.

Haig Serabian will ~~not~~ audit the books per John Chakamian. The Womens Guild Books also to be audited.

J. Chakamian has pending some paint donations for the porch.

Mr. Antreassian reported on the Women's Guild meeting.

The Sunday School roof: John Chakamian suggested Andy Rivas. Mr. Manigian will contact Mr. Rivas. Also to have him repair the sliding door. A rough estimate on our part would be approx. \$150.00 for both.

Mr. Antreassian read a letter from Mrs. A. Tashjian our former Women's Guild president which had been sent to the Primate, to clear up a letter sent to him by two Women's Guild members.

There will be a dinner in memory of George Chookazian on May 23rd hosted by Mr. Elian. The dinner will be cooked by Mrs. Kazanjian. A program to be chaired by Mr. Elian. Proceeds of dinner to be donated to the church.

Mr. Elian stated that George Kazanjian has monies for the coffee hours of 9 and 16 May. Mr. Elian will verify this.

It was felt that \$75.00 was too much to pay a visting priest. To be disused at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 0925.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Tutunjian, Rec. Sec.

*Mary Ann Tutunjian*

MINUTES OF THE INTERIM GOVERNING COMMITTEE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ELBERON, N. J.  
21 May 1976 0830 P. M.

Those present: John Kaisarian, Anna Harootian, Barkev Elian, George Kazanjian, Zareh Manigian, John Pelevanian, Arazy Gokberk. J. Antreassian, Presiding  
John Chakamian, MARY TUTUNJIAN

Zareh Manigian stated that his records were incomplete for the end of 1975. It was suggested that he get in touch with the bank along with John Pelevanian to get statements from the bank to complete his records.

At the close of the deadline for membership there were 191 paid members.

Mr. Antreassian read letters: one was a bulletin which was going out to all members as a cover letter and the other a letter from the Primate to accompany it.

John Chakamian suggested that nominating and auditing committee be included in the election.

Mr. Elian had a protest in the form of a letter regarding the legality of the election. A rebuttal was given by Mr. Antreassian regarding the decision of the Diocesan Assembly was being final.

Mr. Manigian will be at the books to approve the legality of any member that will be nominated off the floor at the time of election. Any member who is nominated must be a 1975 member. Crosby Goshgarian and or George Mekenian from the Diocesan Council will be present along with a priest.

A secretary to take minutes on this date of 13 June will be selected from the floor. It was suggested that there should be one in Armenian too. John Pelevanian suggested a tape recorder.

Mary Ann Tutunjian mentioned the absentee ballote of Jack Froonjian who is presently in the service whether or not he could vote. Due to his non-presence Mr. Antreassian stated he could not.

Several suggestions as to how the day of election should progress were discussed. Various places and time ~~places~~ were also suggested.

A list of the applicants for church membership will be sent to all of the members. If there should be a protest this is to be done in writing and sent in no later than 4 June 1976.

Three slates were to be presented: 18 Parish Council  
6 Auditing  
6 Nominating

The question was raised could a member pay his 1975 dues and be reinstated in order to vote? This was approved as being all right be the committee.



Minutes of the Interim Governing Committee of St. Mary's Elberon, N J.

21 May 1976

\* \* \*

A roster of names for prospective candidates was made up by the committee.

Mr. Antreassian the final outcome will be by the vote of plurality, those receiving the greatest number of votes.

Seventeen (17) names were ratified by the committee for the Parish Council they are as follows:

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. George Poosikian   | 10. Jack Froonjian     |
| 2. Haig Serabian      | 11. Karl Kalfayian     |
| 3. Setrak Tutunjian   | 12. Mesrop Vartanian   |
| 4. Berge Buchakjian   | 13. Zorab Ghazarian    |
| 5. HARout Karakashian | 14. Anna Hovnanian     |
| 6. Steve Checkosky    | 15. Virginia Dedian    |
| 7. Andrew Rivas       | 16. Satenig Nalbandian |
| 8. Armen Bahadurian   | 17. Ronald Yeranian    |
| 9. Mary Hachigian     |                        |

\* \* \*

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Rose Lee Sabonjian  
John Kaisarian  
Marian Manigian  
John Solokian  
Nora Bitchakjian  
Zaven Noorigian

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

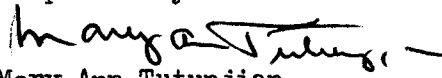
John Pelevanian  
Mary Poosikian  
Mary Bahadurian  
Rose Sabonjian (Belmar)  
Elsa Kazanjian  
Serpohi ~~Ka~~ Nargiz  
Ann Hagopian  
Geneve Chakamian  
Zabelle Sahagian  
Annette Serabian

John Chakaman will get in touch with all of the above.

Meeting adjourned at 1100 P. M.

Next meeting to be Tuesay 8 June 1976.

Respectfully subm itted,

  
Mary Ann Tutunjian

INTERIM GOVERNING BODY OF ST. MARYS CHURCH ELBERON, N. J.

8 June 1976 8:30 P. M.

Those present: John Chakamian, Harout Karakashian, Zareh Manigian,  
John Kaisarian, Mary Ann Tutunjian, Jack Antreassian

Mr. Antreassian stated that 3 members of the Diocesan Council would be present at our Parish Assembly on 13 June. They would be Mr. Mekanian, Crosby Goshgorian, and Father Paren Avedikian. Father Avedikian would also have the services.

Procedure for the meeting of Sunday were discussed.

John Chakamian stated that if there were no nominations from the floor that perhaps all 10 on the ballot would be selected for the six month period.

Harout Karakashian would bring in the ballot box.

A secretary would be needed. Mrs. Rose Lee Sabonjian was suggested.

Mrs. Chakamian would be asked to play the organ since Dr. Haroutonian would not be present.

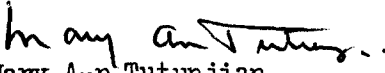
George Poosikian would be asked to bring the rolls and coffee following the services for coffee hours.

A letter was read from Mr. Bulbulian re: the legality of membership with their affiliation with another church. The question was raised of the McCombers. There was no objection from the Committee.

There would be no protests or objections accepted on Sunday.

Meeting adjourned at 0915.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Mary Ann Tutunjian  
Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF 1st INTERIM PARISH COUNCIL  
OF ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN CHURCH, EL-MERON, N. J.

June 24, 1976 8:40 p.m.

Present from old Council - Jack Antreassian  
Mary Ann Tutunjian

Present new Interim Parish Council:

Harootune Karakashian	Andrew Rivas
Armen Bulbulian	Haig Serabian
Mary Gorra	Mrs. Aroosiag Tashjian
Berj Buchakjian	Setrak Tutunjian

Absent: George Poozikian

Mr. Antreassian presented a letter addressed to him from Archbishop Terkian Mancoogian confirming newly elected members of the interim parish council on June 13, 1976. A copy of this letter will be made to be put on the bulletin board in our church hall.

Getronagan

Mr. Karakashian read the letter sent by the Essayian ~~Getronagan~~ Alumni, Inc., Iselin, N. J., asking for use of church grounds for their picnic on July 25; this group will bring their own food and the parish council agreed that in accordance with telephone conversation Mr. Bulbulian had with Mr. Honaryan, \$35.00 donation would be acceptable for this purpose. They are to use the grounds from 12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Karakashian also read a letter from Mrs. Seta Ghasarian, Chairman of Ways and Means Committee of Armenian Relief Society in reference to using the church grounds for a Yard Sale on August 7, 1976. The parish council was in favor of ARS using the church grounds for this purpose and we asked that \$75.00 donation would be required; however, if kitchen facilities would be required for use in regard to the sale an additional donation of \$35.00 would be required.

Mr. Karakashian nominated various Committee Chairmen for the church:

- (1) GANTEGH & PUBLICATIONS Mr. Karakashian nominated Mr. Bulbulian and Mr. Bulbulian accepted; Mary Ann Tutunjian accepted to help type and Mr. Bulbulian will contact another typist.
- (2) YOUTH GROUP Mr. Karakashian nominated Michael Gorra and John Kyserian. These persons will have to be contacted.
- (3) SUNDAY SCHOOL Mr. Karakashian nominated John Chakamian to be Superintendent. Mr. Chakamian will have to be contacted.
- (4) PLEDGE & MEMBERSHIP Mr. Karakashian nominated Zahre Manigian & George Poozikian.
- (5) CULTURAL Mr. Karakashian nominated Mr. & Mrs. Steve Checkosky (whoever takes charge of this may go to various cultural groups but the program will be church sponsored.

Also, in regard to the church Cultural program, three programs must be met each year, namely,

VARTANANATZ DAYZ  
APRIL 24, MARTYRS DAY  
CULTURAL MONTH

- (6) BUILDING & BEAUTIFICATION Mr. Karakashian nominated Andrew Rivas; Mr. Rivas accepted.

- (7) PICNIC COMMITTEE Mr. Karakashian nominated Mr. V. Armanian to be Chairman of Picnic - Harvesting of Grapes
- (8) WOMEN'S LAISON Mr. Karakashian nominated Mrs. Arcoosig Tashjian and Mrs. Tashjian accepted.
- (9) CHOIR & ALTAR Mr. Karakashian will contact various persons for this.

Mr. Karakashian also stated that there should definitely be two members of the parish council on hand every Sunday; of course, all parish council members should be present every Sunday.

Mrs. Tashjian suggested that the collection plate be passed after "Der Veghornia" because at this time the church is usually at its capacity.

Mr. Karakashian discussed what days would be best for all parish council members to meet - it was unanimous to have meetings every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. as the designated evening. Also, he further stated that the parish council will meet every week until the end of August in order to get things started again.

Mr. Antreassian informed the Parish Council that there is a complete set of envelopes ready for mailing purposes. These will have to be checked by adding or deleting; also address plates should be ready for mailing. He also stated in reference to our insurance policy we should get a lawyer so we will be protected and also find out who has the policy at present - files will have to be checked for insurance policy - Mr. Karakashian will ask John Pehlevanian about this.

Mr. Antreassian also brought up the fact that when other organizations use church facilities we must stress the fact that they must leave our church and its facilities clean. Parish council should talk to Mr. Hekemian about cleaning up the hall.

Mr. Antreassian stated that we should tell all our friends to come to church.

Mr. Antreassian submitted the following schedule of visiting Priests:

Sunday, June 27, 1976:	Der Nercos Baboorian
Sunday, July 4, 1976:	Bishop Papken Varjabedian
Sunday, July 11, 1976:	Bishop Vatche Hovsepian

Mr. Antreassian informed the parish council starting July 17, 1976, Bishop Papken Varjabedian could be a temporary priest here until the end of this year. Bishop Papken would be here every other week for a full week, but would be here every Sunday for Badarak. Provisions would have to be made for him to live upstairs. Mr. Rivas stated that he would have to see what quarters are available at this time. Bishop Papken would receive \$100 per week plus \$75 for traveling expense - approximately \$800 - \$1,000 for traveling expense based for a year. Mr. Bulbulian said we would have to discuss this further before we commit ourselves - plus the fact that the parish council would have to consider this very carefully.


Berj Duchakjian suggested that all parish council members also receive a copy of the minutes. Everyone agreed that this would be a good idea.

Mr. Karakashian is going to check into the matter of our church choir, organist, and altar.

Haig Serabian made a motion to close the meeting at 11:00 p.m. and Berj Buchakjian seconded this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Harootune Karakashian,  
Chairman, Parish Council

  
Mary Gorra  
Secretary  
Parish Council

Copy to:

Archbishop Toros Manougian

2 NO MEET:

MINUTES OF INTERIM PARISH COUNCIL  
OF ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN CHURCH, ELBERON, NEW JERSEY

June 30, 1976 8:40 p.m.

**Present:**

Harcotune Karakashian  
Armen Bulbulian  
Mary Gorra  
Berj Buchakjian

Andrew Rivas  
Haig Serabian  
Mrs. Arcoosag Tashjian  
Setrak Tutunjian

**Absent:** George Pooikian

Regarding distribution of mail - church papers should be placed on a table inside the church with a sign stating - "PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE" - or put them on the shelves on the wall near doorway of church hall.

Berj Buchakjian obtained the insurance policy from Zahre Manigian; cost for total premium is \$488 for contents in church valued at \$2,000. Haig Serabian suggested that we increase value of contents from \$2,000 to \$5,000 and that if our premium doubles or triples we could perhaps advise the Diocese and ask them to pay or perhaps ask Mr. Hekemian to pay the difference. At present the church building is insured at \$52,000 and the Sunday School building is insured at \$25,000.

Regarding the stipend for Bishop Papken Varjabedian we must find out from the Diocese as to the exact amount; according to Mr. Antreassian the amount would be \$400 a month or \$100 per week and approximately \$75 per month for traveling expense or approximately \$800 - \$1,000 per year. We would like the amount clarified with a breakdown.

Discussion regarding items that belong to the church; suggestion was made to have receipts issued for any item removed from church property. This receipt should be signed by Andrew Rivas; Haig Serabian will help with this.

To this date, Mr. Karakashian has not received an affirmative answer as to whether or not Mr. Checkosky will accept the chairmanship for the Cultural Committee. Mr. Aramian accepts the chairmanship for the picnic (Blessing of Grapes) on Sunday, August 15. Setrak Tutunjian will contact Mr. Aramian and ask him to be present at the next parish council meeting to discuss the picnic.

Also, Mr. Karakashian will give us definite names as to who will be on the altar with the priest; Genev Chakemian will be the organist. Haig Serabian will inquire about obtaining candles in New York.

Anything more than Petty Cash should be authorized by the Parish Council. If anything has to be purchased, the Parish Council must authorize it.

**Treasurer's Report** - Berj Buchakjian received all material from Zahre Manigian and according to Mr. Manigian the checking account balance as of this date is \$3,865.22. Also, Mr. Buchakjian states that according to Mr. Manigian there are no records available for income for the church for the months of January and February 1976. Mr. Karakashian made a motion that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and Mr. Rivas seconded to this motion.

Mr. Karakashian read a letter from Mr. E. George Dabagian (Diocese) regarding One World Festival on September 11-12, 1976. It was decided to wait until we hear from Mr. Dabagian again as he stated in his letter before we decide anything specific. Mr. Buchakjian suggested that we could think about representing St. Mary's in the area of Arts and Crafts.

Mary Gorra presented her letter addressed to the Members of the Parish Council regarding the appointment of Father V. Kalayjian as Pastor of St. Mary's Church, Elberon, N. J.; this letter and the subject matter is for consideration by members of the Parish Council.

Andrew Rivas, Building Committee Chairman, studied the condition of the porch adjacent to the church and he came to the conclusion not to spend any great amount of money but to temporarily fix the porch so it will be safe. Mr. Rivas and other members will look for conations for materials to defray costs.

Calendar of Events at the church are as follows:

July 18 -- Knights of Vartan Picnic

July 25 -- Essayian Getronagan Alumni Picnic

August 7 -- Armenian Relief Society Yard Sale

August 15 - BLESSING OF GRAPES - Church Picnic

Mr. Sulbulian made a motion that the meeting be adjourned; Haig Serabian seconded to this motion.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Gorra  
Secretary, Parish Council



Harootune Karakashian  
Chairman, Parish Council

Copy to:

✓ Archbishop Terkon Manoogian

MINUTES OF INTERIM PARISH COUNCIL  
OF ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN CHURCH, ELBERON, NEW JERSEY  
July 7, 1976 8:20 p.m.

3RD MTC

ALL 9 MEMBERS WERE PRESENT.

The minutes of June 30th meeting were read - Mr. Tutunjian made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Bulbulian seconded to this motion.

Mr. Karakashian had invited the Ladies Auxilliary and Mr. Aramian to be present at our meeting to discuss the church picnic on Sunday, August 15, 1976. Mr. Aramian is the Chairman of this picnic. Mrs. Najarian thanked Mr. Karakashian for inviting them. Mr. Aramian asked as to how many people he could expect to attend this picnic. After much discussion he was told to plan for approximately 300 people. Mr. Aramian has been given authority to do the necessary purchasing for the picnic.

Also with the Ladies Auxilliary the subject of the Cultural Program was discussed and the Ladies Auxilliary stated that they would like to help in the Cultural Program; i.e., they will take care of the food. The Parish Council will take charge of the program. Approximate dates for this event were for either October 10 or October 17. It was also unanimous to have music at the picnic on August 15. Mr. Karakashian will inquire about this and find out how much it will cost.

Miss Mary Ann Tutunjian will check with the local police department to see if the church can have a flea market in September.

There was also a discussion to have a raffle in the near future and Mrs. A. Tashjian will be the Chairman of this event. Various persons will check to find out what items they could get and the price for the item. It was discussed to have the raffle on January 8, 1977, after Communion breakfast. But at our next meeting we will discuss the final date for this raffle.

Regarding the Pledge Committee - Mr. Karakashian informed us that Zareh Manigian accepted Chairmanship for this committee.

Mr. Karakashian informed us that he was not able to contact Mr. Jack Antreassian regarding addressograph plates. Pitney-Bowes cost is \$24 per 100 plates. Haig Serabian will check with Pitney-Bowes.

Building Committee Chairman Rivas reassessed the porch and it has been decided to rip out the bad sections of the porch and put in a permanent section by pouring cement instead of using plywood because it is so rotted. Mr. Rivas stated this will take place on July 17 with the help of other parishioners.

The ARS (Armenian Relief Society) has accepted the conditions for their Yard Sale on Saturday, August 7, 1976.

Mr. Karakashian presented a letter from the Primate regarding the stipend for Bishop Papken Varjabedian and it is \$400 a month plus \$85 per month for traveling expenses. Also stated in the Primate's letter that sleeping quarters will be provided in the space above the church, and that Bishop Papken, until further notice, will start here on Sunday, July 18, and he will arrive here on Saturday, July 17.



Haig Serabian suggested that a letter be sent to all parishioners regarding forthcoming events to keep our parishioners informed as to what this Parish Council is doing. This was acceptable by everyone.

Mr. Setrak Tutunjian suggested that we check with our insurance company and inform them that we might consider having a care-taker live on the church premises and what affect this would have on our present policy.

Mr. Karakashian will contact our present oil company (Weller Company) and re-contract them for reduced price.

Berj Buchakjian made a motion to adjourn the meeting and George Poosikian seconded this motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Gorra, Secretary  
Parish Council



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Harootun Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

Copy to: Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

MINUTES OF 4TH MEETING OF INTERIM  
PARISH COUNCIL

4TH MTE.

July 14, 1976

8:40 p.m.

Present: Harootun Karakashian Mrs. Aroosiag Tashjian  
Armen Bulbulian Setrak Tutunjian  
Mary Gorra George Poosikian  
Berj Buchakjian

Absent: Andrew Rivas  
Haig Serabian

Discussion regarding a letter be prepared by the Parish Council and sent to all Parishioners giving them information as to whathas happened so far with this new Interim Parish Council and list the various committees and their respective chairmen.

Berj Buchakjian presented the Treasurer's Report - The amount of \$3,865.22 was the figure when we took over as of June 24, 1976. Money received thereafter for two Sunday's totaled \$61.25 and on July 12 the amount of \$3,926.47 was deposited. After payment to Father Baboorian for 2 weeks of \$150.00 a balance of \$3,776.47 is now on hand.

Mr. Karakashian spoke to the oil company and in their conversation..the oil company offered us a less amount per gallon; therefore, Mr. Karakashian made a suggestion to get this service contract and this was agreeable with everyone.

Raffle - Parish Council agreed to purchase a freezer for the forthcoming raffle and we are considering this item for 1st Prize. Berj Buchakjian has the Parish Council's authority to purchase it and Berj will obtain a receipt stating the retail price which is necessary to put on the raffle ticket.

Berj Buchakjian made ammotion to accept July 7th minutes with necessary corrections and Mrs. Tashjian seconded to this motion.

Correspondence - Letter received from Dr. A. Boghosian, Asbury Park, enclosing his check for \$30.00 as his annual pledge for 1976. It was decided to send him a letter of thanks.

Mr. Karakashian read the card received from Bishop Papken Varjabedian stating that he will arrive here on Saturday, July 17.

Mrs. Tashjian suggested that Mr. Karakashian ask someone to provide transportation for senior citizens who wish to attend church on Sundays. Mr. Karakashian will contact Mr. Chilingirian regarding this. Mrs. Tashjian made a motion to get transportation for the senior citizens and Berj Buchakjian seconded to this motion.

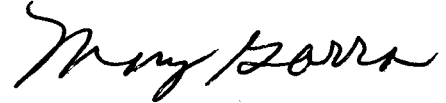
It was agreed to send a letter to Bishop Vatche Hovsepien and to thank him for coming here and also to send a copy of Bishop Vatche's letter to our Archbishop Torkom Manoogian. A motion was made by Mr. Setrak Tutunjian to pay Bishop Vatche \$100 and this was seconded by Mary Gorra.

Mr. Karakashian will contact Mrs. Angel Varian and ask her to be the Chairman of the Beautification Committee.

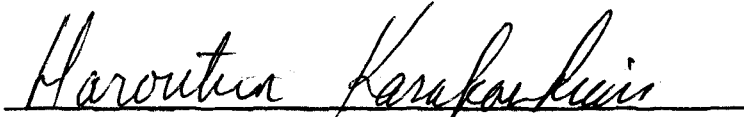
Mr. Bulbulian brought up the subject of the membership committee should be separate from the pledge committee. After much discussion the Parish Council recommended to separate the membership committee from the pledge committee. Mr. Karakashian will make arrangements to appoint chairman for each committee.

Mary Gorra made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Berj Buchakjian seconded to this motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Gorra, Secretary  
Parish Council



Harootun Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

Copy to:  
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian





*St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church*

1184 OCEAN AVENUE  
ELBERON, NEW JERSEY

XXXXXXXXXXXX  
Telephone: 222-0127

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Mr. Karakashian also suggested that we have "Rules for the Use of Church Property of St. Mary's." After discussion, it was decided to have a stencil run-off, and when any group or organization wants to use the kitchen that this set of RULES be given to the person in charge.

Mr. Karakashian informed the Council that the Ladies' Guild will be in charge of Coffee Hour after Badarak on Sundays.

Miss Mary Ann Tutunjian informed Mr. Karakashian that she contacted Mrs. Araxie Gekberk and asked her to be Superintendent of the Sunday School and Miss Tutunjian gave the following message and everyone agreed that it should be in the Minutes:

"I spoke to Rexy about becoming the Sunday School Superintendent. She stated she could not give an answer until the end of the summer. I felt however that you would want to know sooner than that so things could get organized. With that she stated she could not. Mary Ann"

After some discussion regarding announcements from the altar, Mr. Karakashian suggested that a letter be sent to Mr. Jack Antreassian and ask him if announcements can be made from the altar for organizations other than church and is it still in force to make an exception for A.G.B.U.

Bishop Papken Varjabedian stated that he would like to meet some of our parishioners and some of the members are going to arrange get-together in regional groups at various homes.

Haig Serabian suggested it would be a good idea to appoint someone to take pictures of various events. After some discussion regarding publicity Berj Buchakjian made a motion to establish a new committee of Public Relations; this was seconded by Mary Gorra. Mary Gorra will ask Mary Ann Tutunjian. The main purpose is to advertise any church activity and take pictures.

Berj Buchakjian made a motion that Mary Gorra, Secretary, be authorized to make arrangements for someone to take her place during her vacation; Haig Serabian seconded to this. Mary Gorra will ask Mary Ann Tutunjian; this was agreeable to the Parish Council and to Bishop Varjabedian.

Haig Serabian made a motion to close the meeting and Berj Buchakjian seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Gorra*  
Mary Gorra, Secretary  
Parish Council

*Haroutun Karakashian*  
Haroutun Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

Copy to: Archbishop Terken Manoegian

MINUTES OF THE 6th INTERIM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

28 JULY 1976 0845 P. M.

Present: H. Karakashian, A. Bulbulian, B. Buchakjian, S. Tutunjian  
G. Poosikian, H. Serabian.

Absent: A. Tashjian, A. Rivas, M. Gorra.

In the absence of Mary Gorra and through prior approval from  
Bishop Varjabedian Mary ann Tutunjian was the recording secretary  
for the evening.

The minutes of 21 July 1976 were read and approved.

The first order of business was the coffee hour. Mr. Bulbulian  
recommended that a donation basket should be out during this time.  
It was approved.

Haroot Karakashian wished to maintain an attendance record for  
our own use and also to send this information to Archbishop  
Manoogian so he could see how were doing.

A letter of thanks is to be sent to Mr. C. Chilingarian regarding  
his generosity in aiding in the transportation of parishioners  
to and from church.

A get well card was sent to Andrew Rivas during his recuperation  
for his knee operation.

A letter was read from Archbishop Manoogian addressed to Haroot  
Karakashian regarding the reassignment of Father Kalayjian,  
along with an enclosure to Father Kalayjian stating such a  
letter had been forwarded to us.

A letter was read from Dr. Bogoshian of Asbury Park regarding  
the high and unusual qualities of Father Kalayjian. There  
were endless words of praise for him.

The porch renovations are well under way and it was suggested  
we send letters to all parishioners requesting donations.

Haroot Karakashian stated for our 15 August Celebration and  
picnic we hire Zorab Harboyan and his partner at a charge of  
\$150.00 to play at the picnic.

A list of rules for parties wishing to use the church facilities  
was discussed and a set of rules will be presented to those  
who wish to rent our facilities.



# *St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church*

1184 OCEAN AVENUE  
ELBERON, NEW JERSEY  
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Telephone: 222-0127

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Rev. Vertanes Kalayjian, Pastor

## 8th Interim Parish Council Meeting August 11, 1976 8:40 p.m.

**Present:** H. Karakashian, A. Bulbulian, B. Buchakjian,  
M. Gerra, H. Serabian, S. Tutunjian  
**Absent:** G. Poesikian, A. Rivas, A. Tashjian

Minutes of August 5th meeting were read and Berj Buchakjian made a motion to accept the Minutes and Mr. Setrak Tutunjian seconded to the motion.

Discussion regarding Blessing of Grapes on Sunday, August 15, along with last minute preparation regarding picnic after Blessing of Grapes. It was decided to call the Asbury Park Press to put this in the paper and Mary Gerra will call the Press.

Mr. Karakashian read a letter received from Mr. Jack Antreassian stating rules and regulations making announcements from the altar. This letter will be in our church files.

Mr. Karakashian contacted our insurance company and instructed them to raise our policy for contents in the church from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

Mr. Karakashian informed the Parish Council that the Armenian Cultural Association had asked him if they could use the kitchen on Friday, August 20, and Saturday, August 21, to only cut meat. It was approved by the Parish Council and Mr. Karakashian informed the Council that a letter of confirmation will follow.

Mr. Armen Bulbulian described an incident which occurred in our church on Sunday, August 8, 1976, during Badarak and the incident is as follows as per Mr. Bulbulian:

Mr. Vincent Karakashian walked into church about 10 feet with one hand in his pocket and in the other hand a bunch of keys jangling while Bishop Papken Varjabedian was giving his sermon. This noise was very distracting during Bishop Papken's sermon. Mr. Bulbulian asked Mr. Vincent Karakashian to please stop making that noise and Mr. Karakashian's answer to Mr. Bulbulian in a loud voice was "shut up" and everyone in church heard him. One of our Church members became very upset over this incident and walked out of church trembling.



*St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church*

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Rev. Terence Kaldjian, Pastor

PAGE 2

Mr. Setrak Tutunjian made a motion that this incident be recorded in our Minutes; Mary Gorra seconded to this motion. Also, it was agreed by the Parish Council that should Mr. Vincent Karakashian ever disrupt the Badarak again, that two members of the Parish Council will approach him and tell him that he is not to enter our church in this previous manner.

Mr. Berj Buchakjian, Treasurer, reported that in going through papers he discovered a statement regarding the parking lot and according to the found statement there is a balance of ~~\$\$\$~~ \$280.55. Mr. Karakashian will contact Mr. John Kyserian about this since he was in charge of the parking lot assignment.

Mr. Haig Serabian made a motion to close the meeting and Mr. Setrak Tutunjian seconded to this motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Haroot Karakashian*  
Haroot Karakashian,  
Chairman, Parish Council

*Mary Gorra*  
Mary Gorra, Secretary  
Interim Parish Council

✓ Copy to: Archbishop Terken Manogian

*St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church*

1184 OCEAN AVENUE  
ELBERON, NEW JERSEY

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9TH INTERIM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
August 19, 1976 8:40 p.m.

Present:

H. Karakashian.	A. Tashjian	Bishop Papken Varjabedian
A. Bulbulian	S. Tutunjian	
M. Gorra	H. Serabian	
B. Buchakjian	A. Rivas	

ABSENT: G. Poosikian

Bishop Papken Varjabedian started the meeting with a prayer read by Mr. Rivas and Bishop Papken also said a prayer.

Minutes of the 8th meeting were read by M. Gorra; Berj Buchakjian made a motion to accept the minutes and Andrew Rivas seconded to the motion.

Mr. Karakashian had invited Mr. Aramian to be present at this meeting to give us a report of the picnic on August 15. Mr. Aramian presented bills and he recommended that for next year's picnic that a separate committee be organized for the distribution of work that is necessary to make the work load easier for the Chairman of the Picnic. Haig Serabian also suggested that possibly next year instead of individual tickets for each item that instead one ticket be sold with various ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ denominations attached to it. Mr. Serabian will bring in a sample.

Berj Buchakjian - Treasurer's Report - Mr. Buchakjian opened an account with Colonial Bank, Manalapan, N. J. in the amount of \$1,994.96; also in the First National Bank of Toms River, N. J., we have \$1,885.89. Also, in the Neptune Office of New Jersey National Bank we have the amount of \$388.57; this amount of \$388.57 will be withdrawn and transferred to the Colonial Bank in ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Manalapan, N. J.

Mr. Karakashian did not contact Mr. John Kyserian about the balance of \$280.55.

Mr. Bulblian together with Bishop Papken will get started on the GANTEGH for September.

Bishop Papken requested that on Sunday, September 12, the Armenian Sunday School children be present in church on September 12 with their parents to receive Holy Communion with their teachers.

*St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church*

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ELBERON, NEW JERSEY

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Telephone: 222-0127

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Rev. Vertanes Karayjian, Pastor

Page 2

It was suggested to write a letter to all Armenian papers and possibly a picture of the Blessing of Grapes at St. Mary's on Sunday, August 15, 1976.

Bishop Papken wants to go on record that occasionally there would be an exchange of priests from neighboring churches. This was agreed by all members of the Parish Council.

Mrs. A. Tashjian will find about for sure that if we apply now ~~th~~ for our Raffle, if this application would be good for 1977.

Mr. Rivas made a motion to close the meeting and Mr. Buchakjian seconded to this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

*Haroot Karakashian*

Haroot Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

*Mary Gorra*

Mary Gorra, Secretary  
Interim Parish Council

✓ Copy to: Archbishop Torkom Manoogian





SA MARY'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
1184 Ocean Avenue, Elberon, N. J.

11th Parish Council Meeting, 8:35 p.m. September 1, 1976

**PRESENT:** M. Karakashian A. Bulbulian M. Gorra B. Buchakjian  
G. Poesikian A. Rivas H. Serabian S. Tutunjian  
**ABSENT:** A. Tashjian

Minutes of August 29th meeting were read; Berj Buchakjian made a motion to accept the Minutes and Mr. Bulbulian seconded to this motion.

In regard to the \$2,200 contractor's bid for painting the exterior of the church, this bid was submitted by Mr. Rivas, Chairman, Building & Grounds Committee.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** submitted by Berj Buchakjian as follows:

As of August 29th:	First National Bank, Toms River	\$1,445.05
	Colonial National Bank, Manalapan	2,242.34
	Keystone Savings & Loan	289.52
	New Jersey National Bank (Cashier's Check)	388.57
	Cash on hand.	107.85
		<u>\$4,473.33</u>

Mr. Karakashian invited Mrs. Steven Checkosky, Sunday School Superintendent, to be present at this meeting so that she could present her program for the Sunday School year. Registration for the children will be held on Sunday, September 12 at which time notices will be sent to all Parishioners informing them of the registration and also that KHACHVERAZ will be observed and informing everyone that there will be Open Communion on this day for all children, their parents, teachers and all parishioners. Also, it was decided by the Parish Council that sandwiches will be served after Divine Liturgy.

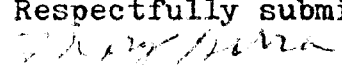
Mr. Bulbulian made a motion that members of the Parish Council who must make Toll telephone calls pertaining to church business present their telephone statements to the Treasurer to be reimbursed; Berj Buchakjian seconded to this motion.

Berj Buchakjian made a motion to authorize Mr. Rivas to replace the gutters on the south side of the church building; M. Gorra seconded to this motion.

It was decided to send Mr. Alex Mamourian, who is a Delegate representing St. Mary's, a registered letter and inquire as to why we haven't heard from him since this Parish Council has been in office and why he hasn't attended any of our meetings.

Mr. Karakashian informed everyone that the next Parish Council meeting will be September 15 and September 29. Mr. Rivas made a motion to close the meeting and Mr. Tutunjian seconded to this motion. The Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

  
Haroot Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Mary Gorra, Secretary  
Parish Council

Copy to: Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
1184 OCEAN AVENUE  
ELBERON, NEW JERSEY

September 16, 1976

12TH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 8:45 p.m.

**PRESENT:** BISHOP PAPKEN  
H. Karakashian A. Bulbulian Mrs. M. Gorra A. Rivas H. Serabian  
Mrs. A. Tashjian S. Tutunjian

**ABSENT:** B. Buchakjian G. Poosikian

Bishop Papken was present for the first time since he was released from the hospital. He opened our meeting with a prayer.

Minutes of the 11th Parish Council meeting on September 1st were read; Mr. Rivas made a motion to accept the Minutes and Mr. Tutunjian seconded to this motion.

Mr. Alex Mamourian called Mr. Karakashian and reported that he will try to attend our next meeting; Mr. Mamourian stated that he has been ill.

Mrs. Gorra reported that after attending Ladies' Guild meeting on Sept. 14, the women stated that they would like to have Cultural Day on Sunday, Oct. 24, provided that this is all right with Parish Council. Mr. Karakashian stated that he had already contacted Mr. Jack Antreassian and made arrangements for Sunday, October 17, to have Mr. Nubar Kupelian to be the guest speaker on October 17, for Cultural Day at St. Mary's; also, Mr. Karakashian has contacted Miss Tanya Hovnanian to play the piano on that day. Mr. Karakashian will contact Mrs. Najarian to clear the date for Cultural Day as October 17. Mr. Karakashian informed the council that John Chakamian will be Chairman for Cultural Day.

Bishop Papken mentioned that he has an hour long film on Etzmiazdin and perhaps at a future date it could be shown to all parishioners and interested persons at the church hall.

Bishop Papken suggested that a clearing committee be organized so that the various Armenian organizations in our community will not have a conflict in events. Mrs. Gorra will write to A.G.B.U., Armenian Cultural Association, Armenian Relief Society, and Knights of Vartan. Haig Serabian suggested that on the back of the Gantegh a calendar of events should be listed for all Armenian organizations and head it as Community Events.

Mr. Rivas, Chairman of Building & Grounds Committee, reported that the floor of the porch is completed; also that weather permitting the gutters will be replaced. Mr. Bulbulian reported that some donations have already been received for the painting of the church. Mr. Karakashian stated that he has ordered a new sign for the exterior of the church "ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH". Also, under the cross on the outside of the church a night light automatically operated will be installed.

There was discussion regarding membership dues for the coming election in 1977. The question is that there isn't any information that states whether or not every member has to pay his 1977 dues before the election in order to vote. Therefore, Mr. Bulbulian made a motion to write to Archbishop Torkom Manoogian and ask him what the procedure will be for the 1977 election at St. Mary's and find out whether the members have to pay before voting and if so to give us authority in writing to ask parishioners for 1977 dues before voting. Mr. Tutunjian seconded to this motion.

Mr. Rivas made a motion to close the meeting and Mr. Serabian seconded to this. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m. and Bishop Papken closed the meeting with a prayer.

*Haroot Karakashian*

Haroot Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

*Mary Gorra*

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Gorra, Secretary

Copy to: Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

Mr. Karakashian suggested that Mr. Jack Antreassian's letter of August 2, 1976, regarding announcements from the altar be incorporated in the Minutes so that it will be on record:

....."The practices of our church with regard to announcements from the altar are as follows:

- "1. They must be kept to an absolute minimum. The altar cannot be used as an advertising medium. Some of our churches have even adopted the policy of making no announcements at all, issuing instead a weekly bulletin (mimeographed) for distribution each Sunday, containing all relevant announcements.
- "2. Only matters concerning the church can be announced from the altar.
- "3. And even with church announcements, we must be very selective and announce only matters of some importance, and not just everything that we want to bring to the public's attention. These must be done by other means.
- "4. There are no exceptions with regard to non-church groups.
- "5. There is a general exception, however. Non-church matters of national import, such as the Lebanon campaign, for example, are worth any attention we can give it. And in such instances we must use our good judgment or apply to the Diocese for guidance.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jack Antreassian"



*File*

ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
1184 OCEAN AVENUE  
ELBERON, NEW JERSEY 07740

October 27, 1976

15th PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 p.m. The following attended the meeting:

G. Poosikian      A. Rivas      Haroot Karakashian      Berj Buchakjian  
A. Bulbulian

The following were absent because of illness and other personal reasons:

Mrs. M. Gerra      Setrak Tutunjian      Mrs. A. Tashjian

In the absence of the Secretary, Mrs. Mary Gorra, Mr. Bulbulian prepared the Minutes of this meeting.

TREASURER'S Report - The total amount in the Treasury up to this date is \$3,705.81.

Also, the minutes of the last meeting were not read.

CORRESPONDENCE - A letter from the Diocese reminds us that Father Semerjian's check for September was not sent to him. The Treasurer will verify this.

A letter from the ACSA requesting the use of the church hall on November 19, 1976, was read. The request was granted unanimously.

A schedule was prepared by Mr. Karakashian alternating Deacons for services on the Altar. This schedule was approved unanimously.

The question of Mr. Hekimian's eviction from the second floor was postponed temporarily.

Sunday School Superintendent Mrs. Steven Checkosky has resigned. She and her husband and family are moving out of this area. It was decided to continue the Sunday School as it is now until another Superintendent is appointed.

The following schedule was prepared for meetings of the Parish Council:

November 3, 1976  
November 17, 1976  
December 1, 1976  
December 15, 1976

A letter will be written to Mr. Hekimian giving him instructions for the following matters:

- 1 - The Parish Council will prepare a room for Bishop Papken to live while he is with us. He will also have other facilities in his disposal to make his stay here comfortable.

- 2 - Beginning immediately, Mr. Hekimian will have no official capacity in the church.
- 3 - In the absence of Bishop Papken, Mr. H. Karakashian, representing the Parish Council, will make all arrangements for Church and Altar services.
- 4 - Mr. Hekimian will have no authority to make any physical changes on the church property without the prior knowledge of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council decided to write a letter to Archbishop Terkem Manoogian asking him to extend the present Parish Council's term of office in order to complete the re-organization of the church before plunging into administrative problems. It was decided to consult Mr. Jack Antreassian and send the letter immediately.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Haroot Karakashian

Haroot Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

Armen H. Bulbulian

Mr. Armen Bulbulian, Vice Chairman  
Parish Council

Copy to: ✓ Archbishop Terkem Manoogian

ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
1184 OCEAN AVENUE  
ELBERON, NEW JERSEY 07740

16TH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

November 3, 1976

8:55 p.m.

The following were present at this meeting:

Mr. H. Karakashian    A. Bulbulian    B. Buchakjian    Mrs. A. Tashjian  
Mrs. M. Gorra

The following were absent:

S. Tutunjian    A. Rivas    H. Serabian    G. Poesikian

Mr. Bulbulian read the Minutes of October 27th meeting. Mrs. Tashjian made a motion to accept the Minutes; Mr. B. Buchakjian seconded to this motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Mr. Buchakjian reported that the savings account remains as \$388.57; money from the Parking Lot account is not received as yet. Cash on hand \$70.60.

1st Nat'l Bank,  
Toms River    \$    6.18

Colonial  
Nat'l Bank    2,861.63

New Jersey Nat'l  
Bank    388.57  
\$3,326.98

Mr. Buchakjian presented the bill from the painter for \$590.00 and Mr. Buchakjian will contact the painter regarding completion of the small building before payment in full.

CORRESPONDENCE - Mr. Karakashian received a letter from Mr. Nubar Kupelian regarding whether or not we have an Armenian school in this church. It was decided to inform him of the Armenian school under the direction of the Armenian Cultural School Association and refer him to Mr. Zorhab Ghazarian.

Inasmuch as November 6 is Choir Day in all Armenian churches, the Parish Council decided to give a small medal to the deacons, organist, and choir members in celebration of Choir Day.

Mr. B. Buchakjian made a motion to close the meeting; Mrs. A. Tashjian seconded to this motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Haroot Karakashian

Haroot Karakashian, Chairman  
Parish Council

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Gorra  
Mary Gorra, Secretary

Copy to: ✓ Archbishop Terken Manougian