

The first General Membership meeting was held on Sunday, January 16, 1972, in the church hall. There were 51 members present. Parish Council Chairman, Armand Bendian, verified the fact that those present were members and eligible to vote.

The meeting was called to order by the Acting Chairman, Kaiser Boyajian at 8:00 P.M. An opening prayer was said by our President, Very Reverend Vazken Keshishian.

An election was held for Acting Chairman and Acting Secretary for this meeting was held. John Tertadian was elected as Acting Chairman and Rose Bendian as Acting Secretary.

Rose Bendian, Secretary, read the minutes of the General Membership meeting held on January 10, 1971.

Arthur Barsamian, made a motion that the minutes be approved as read. Kaiser Boyajian, seconded.

Barsam Barsamian, I have nothing against her, but those minutes are for an 8 year old. Nowhere has anybody offered a report like that. They are too much in detail with everyone's voice is mentioned. They would laugh at us if we would send minutes like that anywhere. I never heard such a report.

Hayr Soorp, You will learn yet, Barsam. Experience is more older near me than you.

Agnes Barsamian, Rather than spend alot of time on it, I can see if they were incorrect, than we should argue about it. We should let the Trustees do whatever they decide about it, later. Are the contents correct, that is what we have to vote on.

John T. I agree with you. I can't imagine a City Council minutes like that. Only the key items pertaining to the business should be in the minutes, this is too much detail. I think the Parish Council should have these minutes evaluated before submitting them to the Central Council. If there are no furthur questions on the motion, the motion is passed. The minutes stand as read. Now let's hear the Rector's report.

Hayr Soorp, You have in front of you the 1971 Church officer's names from the Diocesan Delegates, the Parish Council to the Dartball team. And to them, thank you that last year they worked in our church. These are my thoughts and my thoughts are the picture of South Milwaukee.

Hayr Soorp read his report.

Sarkis T. I suggest that we don't read the reports.

Armand B. Here I would like to say one thing. For the last few years, We have been putting this book together, like we did again this year. And I don't think that you people read them.

Sarkis T., Last year we decided to mail out these reports.

John T., Shall we skip the reading of the reports and get on with the order of business?

Arthur B., Armand put alot of time working in this church and I think we should give him a few minutes of our time here tonight.

Hayr Soorp, It is the Chairman's absolute right to read his report. Nobody has any command on it. And there should be no discussion about it.

Mary Lewis, I think Armand should read his report, but when he said that everybody doesn't read the report, there people who can't read english and don't have anyone to read it to them. It should be printed in Armenian, then if they read it you can say that.

Armand B., Mary, if I read it now, I'm sure everyone will understand.
Armand read his report.

John T., Any questions?

Barsam B., You read in your report that the office lighting fixtures were installed. Weren't they donated?

Armand B., No. They were supposed to be donated but they weren't. We payed for them.

Helen B., Shouldn't the Altar Curtains be listed in your report?

Hayr Soorp, They are listed in the Ladies Aid report.

Parish Council Treasurer, Kappy Kaprelian read the Treasurer's Report.

Mary L., Can you explain what is Activities?

Hayr Soorp, For instance, somebody gave a donation of \$300.00 and we purchased a slide projector FOR Sunday School.

Barsam B., Who is this Lucaper Panosian?

Hayr Soorp, She is lady from Racine who passed away and left this money to this church. She is Armand's aunt and we will do something in church as a memorial to her.

Mary L., In Maintenance, was there some major thing done for the amount to be so high?

Hayr Soorp, The storage room for one, expenses on the church it's self.

Sarkis T., The Parish house income.

Hayr Soorp, They paid twice in January for the last year or twice in December for this year. You have one month more. It is income for 1971.

Lucia Tertadian, What is this 15000.00 dollars?

Hayr Soorp, That is the Trustee's report. The entire Church report is in the back page of this book.

John T., I congratulate Kappy for the fine job, I'm sure that he has had his hands full. Any further questions on the Treasurer's Report?

Sarkis Tchejyan, made a motion that the Treasurer's report be approved. Arthur Barsamian, seconded.

Motion passed with a hand vote. Treasurer's report stands as read.

John T., Any comments on the Ladies' Aid report?
Any comments on the Choir report, Hampar any comment?

Hampar read the last paragraph of the report.

John T., Any recommendations here, we are open to discussion. You can take your request to the P. C. and they can revalue it.

Sarkis, The Parish Council can provide funds for that purpose. It is beneficial and I recommend that we hire her.

Mary L., When you hire someone, that person should know the church Badarak. Whoever it is, if a person is going to teach us, she should be there to direct us.

Archie D., Do you have anyone in mind? Or do you know of anyone who can do it?

Mary L., No. I don't know of anybody, but you can't hire someone who doesn't know the church Badarak. If they will direct in church, that's fine.

Namzar Kaprelian, When someone has a degree in music, regardless of the language, there is no problem, notes are notes. Whether it is Polish, German, Jewish or Armenian.

Celia Vahradian, As far as the Badarak, the Choir doesn't need any direction. But if we are going to have a Choral Group doing a program or something then get someone to direct them.

John T., I am sure that there are Choir members here and Hampar is their spokesman and you can direct your recommendations to him so that when he goes before the Parish Council he can relate them, to them.

Celia V., Do they really feel it is necessary to have a choir director for the Badarak?

Shirley Dadian, If you ask any choir member, they would be the first to admit that they need help.

John T., Any comments on Sudnay School?
Any comments on ACYOA?
Any comments on Auditing?
On any of the organization's reports?
Any comments on any of the Financial Statements? The only qualification seems to be that if be printed in Armenian.

Barsam B., How can there be any comments when everyone is on the plus side? I think they deserve a hand.

John T., I would like to add to that comment. I can't imagine that any Parish Council is in the black. Most of them are in the red. It is a compliment to the whole parish that they are still in the black. And I might add that we got a little push from our forefathers, I'm sure. And from our parents setting us up as they did. Congratulations to the old folks.

Parish Council Elections: (5)

John T., The next item is New Business, the election of Parish Council.

Arthur B., Each year people of this parish elect Trustees that unfortunately don't have time to become true Trustees. This has happened in the past and last year they had the same problem. You people are anxious to get the quota filled and you pick them for prestige. But some of these people are never here for the meetings. I doubt whether I would make a good Trustee this year because I just couldn't find the time to do it. On that basis I would like to decline the nomination. And I don't think you should elect anyone else that doesn't have the time either.

John T., Any nominations from the floor. First of all I think your comments are well taken and I would like to ask if there are any volunteers from the floor.

Kerope Balian,
Arthur B., Al Hayalian. Declined.
Armand Bendian. No. I have been on for the last five years, I've worked pretty hard and I have my work to do that I have to get done. I can't do it if I have to run

down here two or three hours a day. I think I have fulfilled my obligation and I would like to see some one else get in for this year. I would like to get out for atleast one year. No problem here. I'm not afraid to come back.

Arthur B.,

I would like to make one coment here. People in this community are playing a ping-pong game with the people who have just gone off the Trustees and the people who have just gone on. It is a shame that responsible people of this community are not coming forth to take responsibility and do some service to this church. These same two groups keep coming in and changing hands each time. Alot of people who have never served on the Trustees would find it very rewarding for one thing. We should search our minds for some name of persons who are sitting home right now who didn't even want to come to this meeting.

John T.,

Let me ask the nominating committee, did you send out letters to a certain percent of those not here?

Sarkis T.,

We sent out 20 letters.

Barsam B.,

I was going to nominate Harry Nabedian but I don't know who was on the list. Why don't you read off the list of those that declined so that we don't bring up those names.

Kaiser B.,

Names of those nominated and they declined:

Armand Bendian	D	Meyer Jandegian	D
Esahag Haidarian	D	Ronald Lewis	D
Charles Kademian	D	Geo. Mazurkiewicz	
Hoyle Green	D	Al Hayalian	D
Nazar Balian	D	Avak Yenidunian	D
Michael Barsamian		Bruce Barsamian	
Arthur Barsamian	D		
Matthew Kademian	D		
Louis Schoman	D		
Peter Sahagian			
Esay Esian			
Tony Hadjinian	D		
Rose Bendian	D		
Harry Nabedian	D		
Lorraine Nabedian	D		

Names of the Trustees that are staying in:

Grace Hadjinian	Nerses Nersesian
Sam Hadjinian	Kappy Kaprelian
Monog Panosian	Archie Dadian

Agnes B.,

Tony Cifaldi. Declined.

Florence Y.,

John Tertadian. Declined. "I have another year on the Auditing Committee. You can't be a Trustee and on the Auditing Committee too."

I am declining the other one and I will stay here.

Mary Haidarian, What year are you in now.

John T., This is my third year now. Namzar & I are in our third year now and I think the Auditing Committee should stay another year.

Celia V., I would like to nominate John Gurinian.

Hayr Soorp, This should be very clear. If you are on the Auditing Committee you can't be in the Trustees. You should resign from one to be in the other. If he resigns he can be.

Peter S., Alex Haidarian,

Celia V., Seconded.

Archie., Kaiser Boyajian. Declined. I'm going to say the same thing that Arthur said, because of my job, I can't.

Grace H., Who is going off the Auditing Committee.

Hayr Soorp, John Tertadian, but according to his rules, he tries to stay there.

Grace H., Sarkis Tchejayan.

Archie D., Seconded.

Florence Y., Rose Esaian. Husband Declined for her, saying, we both can't be here.

Hayr Soorp., You can't close the nominations until you have twice the number of names for the numbers of offices. The law says that how many people need you should have twice the number of names.

John T., Is that in the By-laws?

Hayr Soorp, Yes.

John T., Referring to the by-laws it states that you should have twice as many nominees for the positions that are available.

Grace H., Is that the Diocese By-laws?

Hayr Soorp, Any By-laws. Grace.

John T., No. That is the interpretation of the President.

Agnes B., May I make a suggestion? Apparently there aren't enough

people accepting nomination, why don't they submit to just having their names put on and make it understood that they don't wish to be elected. So that the nominations can be closed.

Archie D., Kerope Balian.
Agnes B., Seconded.
Peter S., Mihran Balian.
Archie D., Seconded.
Celia V., John Sarian.
Armand B., Seconded.

Peter Sahagian made a motion that the nominations be closed.

Archie Dadian, Seconded.

Secret Ballot.	Peter Sahagian	39
	Sarkis Tchejayan	34
	Esay Esaian	32
	Kerope Balian	27
	Bruce Barsemian	25
	Michael Barsemian	24
	Alex Haidarian	19
	Mihran Balian	18
	George Mazurkiewicz	9
	John Sarian	8

Auditing Committee:

Mary Lewis, I would like to talk to Hayr Soorp. When I was a Trustee, Hayr Soorp told me that my brother could never Audit my books.. How come Namzar can audit Kappy's books? A brother or sister could not audit each other's books.

John T., I would say that if you have one representing the Auditing committee, here we have three. I don't know if there are any By-laws that say that. You are speaking of conflict of interest.

Mary L., Right, Hayr Soorp? You told me that. When I was Treasurer.

Hayr Soorp, I find lately that I am making statements that I never did. I never told you that kind of things that your brother can't. Because he didn't have that kind of a problem, Mary.

Mary L., Hayr Soorp, you said that to me. I'm not lying. Namzar has been on for quite a few years.

John T., Unless someone objects to it, I would say that with an Auditing committee of three, there is no conflict of interest. I don't think. Any other comment?

Armand B., I have one comment. You had stated that one person should go out every year. You have three persons on there now and half of them go out at once again. Don't you think we should change the rotation a little bit?

John T., Let me comment on that. For John this is his first year and for Namzar and I, this our third year. One of us will have to step down next year and the other, the year after.

Diocesan Delegates: (2)

Hayr Soorp, We need two Delegates and two Alternates.

John T., Let me first ask this. Let me step down for a moment. The fact that we have a Parish Council, would it not be a thought that members from the Parish Council go?

Hayr Soorp, Anyone can be a Delegate.

Two members left the meeting.

John T., Nominatings are now open.

Nominating Committee list:

Sarkis Tchejeyan
Arthur Barsamian
Grace Hadjinian
Esahag Haidarian

Mary L., How many years.

Hayr Soorp, Four Years.

Mary L., Mary Ambrookian.

Barsam B., Seconded.

Archie D., Armand Bendian.

Kappy K., Seconded.

Florence Y., Charlie Kademian.

Mary L., Seconded.

Beter S., Barsam Barsamian.

Madeleine T., Seconded.

Madeleine Tchejeyan made a motion that the nominations be closed.
Agnes Barsamian, seconded.

Secret Ballot:	Grace Hadjinian	33
	Sarkis Tchejeyan	28
	Barsam Barsamian	26
	Esahag Haidarian	24
	Arthur Barsamian	23
	Charley Kademian	19
	Armand Bendian	16
	Mary Ambrookian	15

Seven members left the meeting.

Nominating Committee:

Tony Cifaldi	28
Kaiser Boyajian	28
Deacon Varhadian	24
Barsam Barsamian	22
Mary Lewis	18
Charley Kademian	11

Agnes Barsamian made a motion that the nominations be closed.
Mary Haidarian, seconded.
Hand vote taken.

Proposed Budget:

John T., I am sure that this has been gone over in fine detail.
I would like to have Armand go over this Proposed Budget now.

Armand B., You notice that we have made up the budget with a deficit this year. You people have two routes to go this year. Either you people start spending your money and putting it back in the building or you take the money and invest it. This building is deteriorating. It needs a new roof. We were told three years ago to get it fixed. The back rooms need painting. The altar is cracking. The faucets are leaking, do you want me to go on? This year I thought we should start spending money. Now this doesn't mean that we are giving the Council an open invitation to spend this money. There are eleven people in there and they decide where the needs are the most. And also since we made up this budget, the rent has gone up to \$170.00, Elec, Water and Gas has gone up. Also the phone bill. This budget was made up in December, before these increases.

John T., On membership dues, you averaged in 1972, \$7500 and you actually collected in 1971 \$8118, do you expect deficiency or something.

Armand B., No, we are a funny bunch of people here. We are behind about \$600 in dues this year. You have to go out and get it. So where do we stand, if I said \$8500 we would probably be down to \$7500 or \$7800. So we draw a happy medium. And another thing, each year a member dies, he isn't getting replaced. We have had very good Madaghs but, one of these days we are going to have a bad one.

John T., Interest on Savings? you show \$150 in 1972 but \$575 now.

Hayr Soorp, That is the Parish Council budget only. We have all the monies from all the Organizations near us, that is why we have that amount. We should have really divided it.

Sarkis T., Does this book go to the Diocese?

Hayr Soorp, Yes.

John T., Any more questions on the 1972 budget?

Hayr Soorp, Any way we are not giving full authority to the Parish Council to spend near \$5000, they don't have Card Blance to spend this much money. If we need it for repair, but not full authority to spend that money. Just because it is in the budget. If you compare it with last year, proposed budget for 1971, we had \$1500 deficit. But, we made near \$7300 profit. Because we had maintenance \$2000 and we didn't spend that much money. Counting our needs, we should be aware always that something could happen and we will need that money. When we want to spend that much money at once we should come to a General Meeting again to tell you that we need this money. At that time again you will vote on it.

Grace H., Is \$500 the amount?

Hayr Soorp, \$500 at one time. If we go for one thing more than \$500 we come to the General Meeting. For example the Altar.

John T., Any more questions on the Proposed Budget? I want to be sure it is well understood. I want to leave my question for the last.

Mary L., I want to know, is Hayr Soorp getting an increase in Salary?

John T., That was my question. I want it clearly understood cause every time we leave these meetings, someone will say, "I didn't know we gave him a raise.

Armand B., The Parish Council deems it necessary that we give Hayr Soorp a \$10.00 increase in his wages, per week. We also took on the extra parking fee of \$5.00 that he was paying over there.

Barsam B., You just got done saying that when you spend more than \$500.00 we have to vote. Now you let it slide by this one?

Armand B., This is not approved yet. If you approve, it will be.

Grace H., He means, Barsam, that if there is any expenditure for the church over \$500.00.

Armand B., Now that's a \$10.00 increase in salary and an additional \$5.00 for an extra parking stall. He gets one with the apartment and one is for visitors. Now this increase doesn't go into effect until it is approved by you people.

John T., While we are on that item, the question that I had was you are over the 5.5% increase. Was that considered?

Arthur B., That is not taxable income.

John T., Sorry, I am just asking, was that considered?

Armand B., Yes and no.

Barsam B., I think we have an exception to the rule here. In my personal opinion.

John T., I just want it clearly understood as to the full amount. So that afterwards, when we leave here there will be no comments. If anyone has anything to say, bring it on the floor now.

Florence Y., I don't know if this pertains to what we are to vote on. I want to bring this up now. Why, and I want to direct this to the Trustees, why doesn't Hayr Soorp visit the people in the hospital in emergency and why is a phone call necessary? Now, my husband was hospitalized last January and no effort was made on his part to visit the hospital. Why? Why, is it necessary for any member of this congregation to phone him? A phone call is not necessary. Why? Can you answer me this? It is printed in the Bulletin, week after week. That we are not to call his home. Why, for what reason? Now the older people that are here, no one has stood up and said anything. I have been talking with the older people and they just don't what to.....

Armand B., I will give you an answer to that. You don't know what goes on in Hayr Soorp's house. When you get a batch of annoying phone calls day in and day out, and you don't know which is good or which is bad and you don't know what they want. We have tried to cut them off completely. We say, go through your chairman or through Parsagh. We were very close to getting the police dept. on this. You people here are the ones doing it. When I say you I mean you people. Let me rephrase it. I am not pointing to you or you as an individual. But somewhere, somehow, these phone calls are coming in.

Florence Y., Is he home 24 hours? Ask him.

Hayr Soorp, I am not waiting for you 24 hours. I'm not your watcher.

Florence Y., I saying for emmergency.phone calls.

Hayr Soorp, For emmergency? Did you call? Who was in emmergency in January?

John T., I think we a point in question here. We are talking about the proposed budget. You have a point and we'll leave it on the floor, because I think you have a very good point. But I think we should stay on the budget and then bring this up for discussion. Getting back to my original question. About the 5.5%.

Armand B., Yes, we thought of that, but we thought that in this case, If the membership wanted it, we shouldn't have any qualms about it. If the increase is approved by the membership, I don't see why we should be held to the 5.5%. After all we are the ones paying the bill.

John T., Any other questions on the salary increase?

Armand B., Let me add this, there is nothing that says that we are held to the 5.5%. when there is merit increases, He is not under a regular salary under Union contract. This is a Merit increase.

John T., I disagree on that.

Peter S., Why don't we pay the whole parking fee and then his salary increase will come within the 5.5%.

Armand B., You can do it any way that you want.

Peter S., Let's understand one thing, we have a lot of money to spend, now when we want something good, let's pay for it. And not be afraid to spend money to make money next year. I anticipate a better year than we have this year or last year, this coming year. Because of the participation of the members of this church in the future.

Grace H., I think we should do it legally and call the Interl Revenue to find out because we will file Income Taxes.

John T., I think that under circumstances, you can give the increase and if it's challanged, you have to go before the Board of Directors. Any other questions on the budget?

Agnes Barsamian made a motion that the Budget be approved.
Sarkis Tchejayan, seconded.

Secret Ballot: 27, yes--13, no--2 abstained.

John T., The question was brought up before in regards to Hayr Soorp making visits to hospitals. The question was asked about Hayr Soorp visiting the sick and why can't we call him direct. I ask the question myself, why can't we call him direct?

Armand B., #1. When he gets call from his parishioners, they don't talk for five minutes, you talk for two or three hours.
#2. What is so bad about you calling the chairman? Where does the chairman stand in this church?
#3. I've been out with the priests, with Father Guregh and with Hayr Soorp. I've had the door slammed in my face, we don't need you, they say.
#4. You go visiting and the guy says, what are you doing here?, I'm not going to die.
These are true facts that I'm telling you.
#5. Why don't you give Deacon Parsagh the authorization that he has? Give him a little curtesy.

John T., I have one question myself, I'm releaving myself as Chairman here. If I'm sick and I'm in need of a priest, I want to call him direct. I'm not going through anybody else. Thats what I pay for. I pay for his services for when I'm sick and that's what I want.

Namzar Kaprelian, Is that all we have Hayr Soorp for? To visit the sick? Not to have services, not to preside at meetings. And about calling him personally, in any office, in any corperation, you never get to the President, you get to the Secretary first.

John T., When you want to call the Mayor, call him direct.

Barsam B., This is different than a corperation, Namzar. Does the Bank President give the last rites?

Namzar K., He is not saying that he is not available, all that he is saying is, he is telling you who to call.

Barsam B., I have nothing against these telephone calls. Whoever is making these annoyous phone calls, why should the rest of the parish be penalized for it. #2. You call the Trustee chairman, or somebody else, then you call the Deacon's wife, to tell them I'm sick or whatever it is. If she is grocery shopping, I can't get a hold of her either. This is my point. I like to be able to talk to my own priest. Because I have personal matters and I want to talk to him. I don't want to go to somebody else. This is my personal idea. I don't think that 90% of us would make annoyous calls. Sometimes we call to ask how he is doing or if he wants to go somewhere. But that is something different, but If I have a personal problem or reason, I want to be able to call him direct. I want to talk to my priest, he is my heavenly father.

Mary L., I want to know, when my mother was sick, I told Hayr Soorp twice to go and visit my mother in the hospital and he did not go. Now, I am the oldest, she does not have a husband, for three weeks she was in the hospital. Now I told him and why didn't he go?

Hayr Soorp, You are lying.

Mary L., Hayr Soorp, you are lying. I told you at Choir.

Hayr Soorp, You haven't the dignity. You haven't even shame on your face. You are lying.

Mary L., No, I'm not. You did not go to the hospital.

Hayr Soorp, Go and ask your mother. If I visited in this city any older women, that is your mother.

Mary L., My sister-in-law was in two times.

Hayr Soorp, I didn't smell my fingers to know that your sister-in-law or your family is sick. That's enough. All these people are talking and I didn't talk until now. I never saw an undignified parish like yours. You haven't even shame.

Mary L., I said it.

Hayr Soorp, You said it because you know who you are.

Mary L., I know who I am and Hayr Soorp, you know who you are.

Hayr Soorp, Of course I know who I am. But, you don't know who you are.

Mary L., Twice you lied.

Hayr Soorp, Shame on you.

John T., Alright, the floor is closed, for the time being.

Arthur B., There are varying degrees of sickness. Some people call Hayr Soorp for a little head ache and expect him to come running. But I will tell you one thing. Now, I sat here real quiet and listened to you, now please have curtesy to listen to me. The sickness is really turned around in this church, the sickness is in the peoples minds. Not in their physical being. And the sickest people right now is this church and you people who are fighting him, rather than cooperating with him are adding more germs to this sickness rather than helping the church. We sit nice and quietly and listen to you bitch about your little idiosyncrasys that you had and have been brewing in you for years and you haven't got the curtesy to honor people or respect them or respect

their position. You give them a pauper's salary that your husband wouldn't even work for, your husband wouldn't work for it, I wouldn't work for it and nobody in this room would work for the salary that he is getting. And yet, on that salary, you expect him to be God, your mother, your father, your uncle, your brother and your sister. Now I'm fed up with everything that you guys are throwing at him. And I will tell you one thing, I have my little squaks about Hayr Soorp and some of the things that he does too. But I still listen to him with the respect that this man deserves. He has done more good for this church than anyone ever has.

Kaiser B.,

Not so long ago, I was awoken at 3:00 A.M. by Hayr Soorp at my door. He had to get out of his apartment cause he was being pestered by annonymous calls.

Grace.,

Sometime ago, we offered to have his phone tapped. Why hasn't this been done?

Commotion,;;;.....

John Tertadian, acting chairman, closed the meeting at 11:55 P.M.

No prayers siad.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Bendian

Rose Bendian,
Acting Secretary