

letter preceded by a meeting with Mrs. Atkian at which she told me 2 or 3 people wanted me to "lighten up" on PAROS policy.

When I insisted on names she gave: K. Krikorian, M. Hachadorian and S. Mirakjian.



Please note.

At no time did the Parish Council inform me of how the concealer was presented or who brought it.

The only information (or misinformation) I have had come by the grapevine.

The complainer is still anonymous.

F.K.G.

March 30, 1988

Received 4/7/88 because mailed with 71 non-profit stamp

Mrs. Florence Goekjian
PAROS Editor
18301 S. Woodland Blvd.
Shaker Hts., OH 44120


Dear Florence:

Pursuant to our conversation of last week pertaining to the PAROS, attached please find the motion, which was passed at our Parish Council meeting of March 28, 1988. Attached to the motion is also an excerpt from the By-Laws of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, which clearly gave us direction in passing this motion five votes in favor to two votes against.

We trust you will follow this as a guideline for the PAROS in the spirit of a unified Armenian community. Remember, we are small and we need each other.

With best personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,


Helen Atkian, Chairman
St. Gregory of Narek Parish Council

attachments

Fait accompli!

T-156

ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH
678 Richmond Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143
(216) 381-6590

MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED that as a matter of policy and as an act of Christian charity, The St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church to afford free use of the church publication known as the "Paros", for the publishing of edited news items and announcements by all Armenian Organizations whether church auxiliary or not, but who also traditionally support and affiliate with the St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church and its national and world authorities.

Further, this and all other Paros policy matters to be reviewed every three (3) years by the Parish Council.

Church Policy I. ATTACHED

Mrs. K. K. Goekjian
18301 So. Woodland Road
Shaker Heights, OH 44120

April 9, 1988

Parish Council
St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church
678 Richmond Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

This is in regard to your handling of the complaint made against my work as Editor of PAROS by an organization outside the Church (one which is not subject to Diocesan by-laws or governed by the Parish Council, but has its own purposes, by-laws, executive body and treasury), in this case the AGBU. Your procedure was improper, and the letter to me drafted over the signature of Helen Atkian, a copy of which is attached, was offensive in tone.

The coincidence in timing of the AGBU's complaint about a policy which I established eight months ago, and the rush of a "lame duck" Parish Council to push through a motion to accommodate the outside organization, is certainly subject to question.

Since you did not give me my rightful privilege as target of the complaint to receive a copy of the AGBU letter, take part in your discussion of it and present the reasons for my position, I am asking that a copy of that letter be sent to me immediately.

I will, of course, ask for a review of this situation when the newly elected governing body of the Church comes into office, since in my opinion your motion is poorly conceived, badly written and certainly not in the primary interests of the Church.

Florence K. Goekjian

Florence K. Goekjian
Editor of PAROS



April 19, 1988

Mrs. Florence Goekjian
18301 So. Woodland Road
Shaker Hts., OH 44120

Dear Florence:

This is in response to your letter of April 9, 1988 in which you request a copy of a letter of complaint that you believe was sent to the Parish Council.

The local AGBU Chapter has never sent a letter of complaint to the Parish Council.

The legally passed motion that you refer to in your letter was made in Parish Council by a legal member of the Council, who after being made aware of certain facts, felt compelled to try and emphasize that our Church and the traditional Armenian benevolent and cultural organizations in the Diaspora are in communion and under the support and protection of the Armenian Church.

?


I do not pretend to be a lawyer, nor am I a student of law; but, I do know that any fair thinking person would fully recognize the meaning and the intent of paragraph i, page 27 of the Diocesan By-Laws.

I would also like to remind you of the statement you made to me recently, in which you indicated that you would abide by the rulings of Parish Council in this matter. Please correct me if I misunderstood you.

Florence, this is not a private war and the small Armenian community in Cleveland needs peace, tranquility and progress. In order to accomplish that goal, our Church and its local leaders must be sensitive and responsive to the needs of all of our people who incidentally also happen to be God's children. Let us both be remembered as people with wisdom.

With best regards and in Christian fellowship, I remain

Yours truly,


Helen Atkian, Chairman
St. Gregory of Narek Parish Council

* Consider yourself corrected. My response is in P.4 of my letter to the Parish Council dated April 9, 1988.

ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH
678 Richmond Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143
(216) 381-6590



March 29, 1988

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Your Grace:

Enclosed is a copy of a motion that was passed by the St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Apostolic Church Parish Council at its meeting of March 28, 1988.

At the time that this motion was discussed and later passed, reference was made to page 27, paragraph "4" of the By Laws of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, (copy attached), along with the fact that our Church publication has traditionally published announcements from all our community organizations.

The Parish Council felt compelled to re-emphasize this policy by Resolution because three members of our church, two of whom are relatively new in the church community, have recently in rather vocal and sometimes insulting and disruptive ways, demanded that the occasional announcements that the local Tekeyan and AGBU chapters submit should be banned and that the PAROS should and must publish articles from Church related organizations only.

Under normal circumstances this kind of thing could be handled and laid to rest on the local level in the manner that I have just described; but unfortunately, it appears that this matter will not rest until a much higher authority lends his support to this legally passed motion in a very crystal clear manner.

Your Grace, we need your help soon!

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Helen Atkian".

Helen Atkian, Chairman
St. Gregory of Narek Parish Council

HA/mtk
enclosures

ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH
878 Richmond Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143
(216) 381-6590



DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016-4885 212 686-0710

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

April 20, 1988

Mrs. Helen Atkins
Chairman of the Parish Council
St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church
678 Richmond Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44143

Dear Mrs. Atkins:

Thank you for your letter of March 29, 1988, enclosing a copy of the resolution that was passed by the St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church of Cleveland at its meeting held on March 28, 1988.

The Diocesan Council at its meeting held on April 16, 1988, discussed and approved the resolution of affording free use of the church publication "Pharos" for publishing announcements or edited news items by all Armenian organizations who traditionally support and affiliate with the St. Gregory of Armenian Church of Cleveland, Ohio. Furthermore, this decision falls within the purview of article 33 (i) of the Diocesan Bylaws.

May the Lord bless you all for your devoted service to His church.

Prayerfully,

At, Torkom Manoogian

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate