

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH
CLEVELAND, OHIO
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 1975

The Annual Parish Assembly of St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church was called to order at 1:10 p.m. on Sunday, January 26, 1975. Parish Council Chairman, Kevork Arslanian, welcomed the parish members. A moment of silent prayer was said for two departing parish members: Noubar Abdalian and Karekin Demirjian. Roll call was taken by Florence Karoghlanian with the result of 35 eligible members present. Since this did not constitute a quorum, a motion was made and seconded and passed that the membership present be considered a quorum.

John Borazanian and Mona Karoghlanian were elected to serve as Chairman and Secretary of the Day respectively.

Miss Karoghlanian read the minutes of the 1974 Parish Assembly, which were accepted as read.

Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor of the Parish, was asked to give his report. Der Hayr was going to read his Armenian report; however, the Assembly felt it was unnecessary since we all received the Annual Report in the mail, in both Armenian and English two weeks prior to the meeting. The Assembly also felt that anyone giving a report should not read, but only add any comments they felt were appropriate.

Both Mrs. Ojin Chakamian and Paul Arslanian raised the question of the reason for the decreasing membership? Especially since Parish Council had expressed the goal of 200 members at the last Parish Assembly. Kevork Arslanian explained Parish Council, during the course of the year, had many duties and hoped for better membership in 1975.

The 1975 budget was presented by Parish Council treasurer, Ralph Chakerian. The proposed budget for 1975 is \$31,800.00. The stewardship program was explained which is sponsored by the Diocese. Ralph went on to explain that the Parish Council puts no pressure on its members, it is left up to each individual member to determine how much to give for membership dues. Ralph explained that operating expenses for the Cultural Hall is \$6,000; even if it is not rented it could still cost the same. There was only \$300 income from rentals either by parishioners or organizations. The Parish Council uses the money each month received from Pasquale to cover the operating expenses. The Parish Council announced that it has again signed a contract for 1975 with Pasquale Catering. A motion was made and seconded to pass the proposed budget as presented. Motion passed.

The Ladies Auxiliary had nothing to report except that they are always willing to help when ever asked.

The Women's Guild reported about New Year's Eve. Much discussion took place on this topic. More organizations of the Church should be involved was the

major area of suggestions. The Guild is making plans for next New Years Eve, the parishioners' final request was to hold an all church-affiliated organizational meeting.

Church School reported that they felt the the Acolyte training program was very successful. The parishioners felt that there should be more Church learning experience during the actual Badarak. A suggestion of the formation of a Junior Choir of Sunday School children. The children are learning sharagans during assembly.

While the subject of a Jr. Choir was brought, parishioners felt our own Church Choir needed strengthening. This was tabled until the Choir report.

Building Committee reported in 1974 the balance on the mortgage for the Cultural Hall was \$77,000 and presently is \$49,000. There is \$15,000 outstanding in Building Committee pledges. Dick Aurslian reported that Food Fairs were very helpful financially this year.

Mona Karoghlanian explained although locally the Chapter has not seen much progress, on the National level a revised form of the original constitution has been submitted for approval by the Primate and Diocesan Council.

Fr. Diran gave the Choir report explaining it is in the reorganizational stages at present; explaining that Mr. Armand Kazaros is the Choir Leader. Fr. Diran felt the Choir is in better shape today than it has been in the past two years since he assumed pastoral duties here; however, many parishioners feel there is still much work to be done in this area. There should be encouragement of past choir members and new ones, regular choir rehearsals—addition of deacons and also need for an organist.

The Diocesan Delegate was not there to give his report.

At this point, the Nominating Committee presented the slate for the 1975 Parish Council election with eight candidates to fill six empty seats: Florence Karoghlanian, Jack Hacherian, Bob Abdalian, Rose Azarian, John Borazanian, Jim Vendetti, Armen Arslanian, and Zaven Keoshguerian. The nominations were closed. There was a motion and a second that we waive the two candidates per opening to the eight members willing to run. This motion passed. Secret ballots were distributed with the following results:

1.	Florence Karoghlanian	25	votes
2.	Jack Hacherian	31	"
3.	Bob Abdalian	24	"
4.	Rose Azarian	27	"
5.	John Borazanian	23	"
6.	Jim Vendetti	19	"
7.	Armen Arslanian	20	"
8.	Zaven Keoshguerian	26	"

Florence Karoghlanian, Jack Hacherian, Bob Abdalian, Rose Azarian, John Borazanian, and Zaven Keoshguerian are the members elected by secret ballot to serve two-year terms for the St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church Parish Council.

The three members nominated for the Nominating Committee are: Elmas Meketarian, Paul Arslanian and Bob Bagdasarian. A motion was made and seconded to accept these three members to serve next year. A secret ballot vote was taken with the following result:

1. Elmas Meketarian 27 votes
2. Paul Arslanian 29 "
3. Bob Bagdasarian 29 "

A motion was made and seconded that the same three persons remain on the Auditing Committee: Richard Aurslanian, Grace Arslanian, and George Sakian. The following was the result of the secret ballot vote for Auditing Committee:

1. Richard Aurslanian 29 votes
2. Grace Arslanian 29 "
3. George Sakian 29 "

Discussion took place on the relocation of the Martyr's Monument, the unanimous feeling of the members present was to keep where it is more private except more care should be taken of area around monument.

Discussion took place on whether ads should be sold for the Paros, a vote was taken and the parishioners felt that Paros donation system as done in the past was sufficient.

Future ideas brought up were Armenian Blood Bank, the Bicentennial Celebration of ethnic groups at Cleveland Public Library. Also, Kevork Arslanian explained to the Parish about the United Martyr's Day Committee's plans for Martyr's Day.

Also, Kevork reminded everyone of the beautiful landscaping around the property and added that it would be in the Paros that donations would be accepted in memory of loved ones towards the scrubs now planted.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. with a benediction by Fr. Diran.

Respectfully submitted,

Mona Karoghlanian
Mona Karoghlanian
Secretary of the Day

Fr. Diran Papazian

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
President

John Borazanian

John Borazanian
Chairman of the Day