

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH
CLEVELAND, OHIO
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1977

The Annual Parish Assembly of St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church was called to order at 1:15 p.m. on Sunday, February 6, 1977. The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Fr. Diran. Parish Council Chairman, Robert Bagdasarian, welcomed the parishioners. Roll call of the eligible voting members was taken by Mrs. Florence Karoghlanian with the result of 43 dues paying members present. Since this did not constitute a quorum, a motion was made and seconded that the assembled 43 members be considered a quorum; this motion passed unanimously.

Sam Mirakian and Mona Karoghlanian were elected the Chairman and Secretary of the Day respectively.

Miss Karoghlanian read the minutes of the 1976 Parish Assembly, which reported all the activities of 1975. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed.

Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor of the Parish, asked if anyone had any questions, which he would be glad to answer. He stated that he would give his message at the end of the Assembly when the report would have been gone through and everyone would be refreshed and remember their questions at that time.

Robert Bagdasarian, Parish Council Chairman, thanked Jack Hacherian, Florence Karoghlanian, Grace Arslanian, Ralph Chakerian, Armen Arslanian, Paul Arslanian, Mona Karoghlanian, Chuck Semarjian, John Borazanian and Jim Venditti for their help as Parish Council members this year.

Ralph Chakerian, Parish Council Treasurer, explained how the St. Vartan Stewardship program operated. It was stated that In Lieu of Flower donations listed in memory of Kerop Chalabian should have appeared as Kerop Karoghlanian. Kerop Chalabian is still alive, therefore, Parish Council owes him an apology. In discussing the 1977 Proposed Budget, Kevork Arslanian made a motion that for a one year trial basis, Fr. Diran be asked to use his own car and Parish Council make proper adjustments and sell the Parish car. The \$2,500 would be set aside for a period of one year. Charlie Arpajian seconded the motion. Nazer Arslanian felt that this was not the proper place to make a decision and should be left up to the Parish Council. After much ensuing discussion, the motion on the floor was brought to a vote. Motion passed with twenty in favor and twelve opposed.

Fr. Diran received half of the Pastor's stipend as proposed by the Diocese. This amounts to a \$300 increase, which changed the 1977 Proposed budget to \$41,450.00. Nazer Arslanian questioned the unbalanced budget as seen on Page 12 of the Annual Report and recommended using \$2,045.10 of the surplus income from 1976 to balance the budget. Ralph said this can be done and he would review it. John Borazanian made a motion to accept the 1977 Proposed Budget as present. Florence Goekjian seconded the motion, which later passed.

Mrs. Zarouhi Arslanian, Vice Chairman of the Ladies Auxiliary, stated that they have not held meetings the past two months due to inclement weather. And as always, transportation is still a major problem.

On behalf of the Armenian Women's Guild, Grace Arslanian, reported they look forward to a year full of activities.

Church School Superintendent, Janet Ariyan, made a plea for the members to come forward and volunteer as substitute Sunday School teachers.

Dick Aurslanian, Building Committee Chairman, reported there is only a \$9,000 balance left on the mortgage of the Cultural Hall. He stated the Building Committee hopes that everyone will fulfill their pledge obligations as soon as possible.

Mona Karoghlanian, last A.C.Y.O.A. Chairman of the Cleveland Chapter reported on the activities of the National organization. She hopes there will be a reactivation of the local chapter as the A.C.Y.O.A. has much to offer.

The Church Choir did not present a report.

Nazer Mirakian delivered the Diocesan Delegates report. He stated that he is a member of the Budget Committee. Nat explained that there are 50 parishes and by the end of 1977 that figure will be increased by seven. Therefore, with so many parishes, we must generate membership to increase monies. Also, Mr. Mirakian stated that he felt each parish should strive to be self-sufficient.

At this point, the Nominating Committee, which consisted of Mrs. Sandra Aurslanian, Mrs. Vergin Arslanian and Mrs. Thelma Bagdasarian, presented their slate of three candidates with four more being nominated from the floor to fill the six vacancies on Parish Council: John Borazanian, Jack Hacherian, Florence Karoghlanian, Dr. K.K. Goekjian, Florence Goekjian, Armen Arslanian and Margaret Yeranian were the candidates running for Parish Council. Secret ballots were distributed with the following results:

1. John Borazanian	37 votes
2. Jack Hacherian	40 "
3. Florence Karoghlanian	39 "
4. Dr. K. K. Goekjian	39 "
5. Florence Goekjian	39 "
6. Armen Arslanian	21 "
7. Margaret Yeranian	23 "

Armen Arslanian is considered the alternate Parish Council member in the event that for some unforeseen reason a member cannot fulfill his obligation, Armen will be asked to step in and fulfill the term of office.

Kevork Arslanian, Nazer Mirakian, Florence Karoghlanian and Robert Bagdasarian were nominated for Diocesan Delegate, two to be chosen to serve four-year terms. Secret ballots were distributed with the following results:

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| 1. Kevork Arslanian | 26 votes |
| 2. Nazer Mirakian | 19 " |
| 3. Florence Karoghlanian | 13 " |
| 4. Robert Bagdasarian | 22 " |

In an emergency, Nazer Mirakian is considered the first alternate and Florence Karoghlanian is the second alternate.

The following members were nominated for the Nominating Committee: Alice Bagdasarian, Jennie Kapoudjian and Paris Panosian. Secret Ballot were distributed with following results:

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| 1. Alice Bagdasarian | 38 votes |
| 2. Jennie Kapoudjian | 38 votes |
| 3. Paris Panosian | 36 votes |

The following members were nominated to the Auditing Committee: Kathy Arslanian, Dick Aurslanian and Margaret Semarjian. Secret ballots were distributed with the following results:

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| 1. Kathy Arslanian | 38 votes |
| 2. Dick Aurslanian | 38 votes |
| 3. Margaret Semarjian | 37 votes |

OLD BUSINESS: The following two topics were discussed last year at the Parish Assembly:

At the Organizational Meeting in October, it had been discussed to employ either a part or full time paid youth director. At that time everyone seemed in favor of this, however it was felt it should be brought to Annual Assembly. Dick Aurslanian made a motion that Parish Council at its own discretion consider hiring a part-time paid youth director. Nazer Arslanian seconded the motion. The general feeling was any money spent on the youth is well spent. There were two opposing votes and forty in favor, motion passed.

On the subject of bringing Armenian families to relocate in the Cleveland area. Bob reported that we have processed the paperwork for Krikor Ghazarian and we have another young man waiting to hear from us. Dick Aurslanian will form this committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob reported that the Cultural Hall is receiving much wear and tear due to our exclusive contract with the caterer, which is about 35% of our budget. If for some reason, our agreement with Pasquale terminates our budget will need a supplement. If we offered Bingo to the general public, it could bring us a generous profit while offering a past time and less abuse to our Hall. It would have to be well planned with the involvement of parishioners. Rose Yeranian made a motion for the Assembly to grant Parish Council permission to pursue this endeavor. Armen Arslanian seconded the motion. This motion passed with a majority vote and four opposing votes.

Nazer Arslanian made a motion to raise the minimum membership dues to \$25 per member. Martha Hacherian seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

There was a motion for paid advertisements to appear in the PAROS to defray expenses for printing. This motion was defeated. Jack Hacherian made a motion then not to allow to have paid advertisements in PAROS except a special consideration ne given to the printer, Kwik-Kopy, Inc. Martha Hacherian seconded the motion. Motion passed 16 in favor of no advertisements and nine were opposed. In the past it was noted that a special letter is sent to the PAROS mailing list to ask if they still choose to receive the PAROS. This suggestion will be taken under consideration.

Nazer Arslanian stated that he felt a smaller Parish Council would serve the best interests of our community. He also suggested a Mid-year Membership Meeting. Ralph Chakerian made a motion that the 1978 Parish Council be reduced from the present eleven members down to nine. Nazer Arslanian seconded the motion. There were twenty votes in favor and nine opposing. This motion passed.

Kevoork Arslanian thanked Fr. Diran and the Parish Council for Church Services. He made a plea for better Church attendance. Also, he stated that he felt it was time that a new telephone directory be published.

Fr. Diran in his Pastor's message stated that it was a new year and let us take new paths. He thanked all those retiring Parish Council members and welcomed the newly elected ones. Der Diran stated that the 1977 Parish Council will meet many new challenges and hopefully will take many new strides during the course of the year. He went on to say that Church attendance and finding qualified Parish Council candidates are two of our major weaknesses. We were reminded by Fr. Diran that we are co-workers with God and should have hope, faith and charity for the new year.

A motion was made by Rose Yeranian and seconded by Jack Hacherian to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Adjournment came at 5:40 p.m. The meeting was closed with the benediction by Fr. Diran Papazian.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mona Karoghlanian

Mona Karoghlanian
Secretary of the Day

Diran Papazian

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
President

Sam Mirakian 3-6-77

Sam Mirakian
Chairman of the Day