

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. GREGORY OF NAREK ARMENIAN CHURCH
CLEVELAND, OHIO

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1978

The Annual Parish Assembly of St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church was called to order at approximately 1:30PM on Sunday, February 12, 1978. Fr. Diran opened the meeting with a prayer. Parish Council Chairman, Robert Bagdasarian, welcomed all parishoners. Roll call of the eligible voting members was taken by Mrs. Florence Karoghlanian with the results of 54 eligible voters. Since this did not constitute a quorum, a motion was made and seconded that the assembled 54 members be considered a quorum; this motion was passed.

Later it was brought to our attention that, according to our by-laws, 1/3 or 50 members construct a quorum, therefore we realize that it was unnecessary to have had this motion.

Dick Aurslanian and Wanda Venditti were elected the Chairman and Secretary of the Day, respectively.

Wanda Venditti read the minutes of the 1977 Parish Assembly meetings. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed.

Fr. Diran thanked all Parish Council members for all their help this year. Also he referred to his written report and said he would have a few words at the closing of the afternoon. It was commented upon on how thorough and efficient the report was made.

Sam Mirakian asked the following question, has Parish Council or any member or members of, or anyone on behalf of Parish Council interviewed or discussed with any clergyman, concerning the post of Pastor of the Cleveland parish, and if so, when was he interviewed and what is his name? Robert Bagdasarian answered the question. Rev. Fr. Haigazoon Melkonian was interviewed. Sam Mirakian asked what was the outcome. Robert Bagdasarian reported that the interview was with the permission of the primate and Fr. Diran was informed. A full report was made to the primate. This took place in September, 1977.

Ralph Chakerian, Treasurer, asked the figures on the Annual Report be corrected. Under the 1978 Projected Budget, Membership Pledges from \$10,500 to \$11,700.00. Pastor's Stipend from \$9700.00 to \$9850.00. Insurance from \$1500. to \$2550. Total from \$43,500.00 to \$44,700.00. Mona Karoghlanian made a motion to accept the corrected budget. Sam Mirakian seconded. The motion passed.

Mrs. Ojin Chakemian reported the Auxiliary held seven meetings and are doing

their best. However, transportation is still a problem.

On behalf of Sara Bagdasarian, Alice Hacherian reported there is \$2426.27 in the Women's Guild checking account, with 36 paid members.

Janet Arian reported all is in order in the Church School, however, teachers are needed.

Florence Karoughlanian reported the hall has been paid in full. Sam Mirakian asked how much is still due from pledges. The amount reported was \$3300.00. It was also necessary for Parish Council to advance the money to meet earlier payments. Ralph Chakerian also suggested instead of directing the money back to Parish Council, a savings account should be started for the next building project.

Robert Bagdasarian reported as of now we do not have an ACYOA, however, there is a teen youth group that will organize as ACYOA in 1978.

Fr. Diran commented on behalf of the choir members. All were commended for their dedication and loyal service. Several Parish Members agreed on the beautiful music we have in our church.

Mona Karoughlanian asked for help and understanding with the producing and distribution of the Paros. Also a detailed breakdown was given by Mona of the Paros, so more could be understood of the putting together of the monthly issues. Also, Alice Hacherian was thanked for her tremendous help. It was reported the Paros is mailed to 375 addresses with a \$150.00 deficit. 40 of these copies go to Armenia, Jerusalem and churches throughout the diocese. Grace Arslanian proposed a mailing committee.

Robert Bagdasarian could not attend the convention as Diocesan Delegate. Mr. Kevork Arslanian also could not attend. However, Mr. Arslanian reported a budget of about \$552,000.00 by the diocese and urged we have obligations as parishoners. Florence Goekjian reported that Fr. Diran brought and gave each Parish Council member a very complete report from the Diocesan Assembly, convened in Providence, Rhode Island.

Jack Hacherian reported there will be some dramatic increases from the diocese. Assessments are growing and will be effecting our operating budget. Perhaps this Parish could ask for special consideration.

Dr. Goekjian suggested we try to raise the monies here instead of asking for this consideration. He suggested we realize our part, raise the money and continue. Martha Hacherian reported "Mission Accomplished" in producing the Armenian Directory. Copies are now on sale.

Elections

The 54 voters was increased to 55 by one late comer. Later in the afternoon one voter left early returning the voting number back to 54.

The Nominating committee consists of Alice Bagdasarian, Paris Panosian and Jennie Kapoudjian.

The following Parish Council members will continue in office;

John Borazanian
Florence Goekjian

Dr. K. K. Goekjian
Jack Hacherian

Margaret Yeranian
Florence Karoghlanian

Leaving Parish Council Office will be;

Grace Arslanian
Chuck Samarjian

Paul Arslanian
Ralph Chakerian

Robert Bagdasarian

The Nominating committee nominations also from the floor were taken with voting by secret ballot with the following results:

Sue Mirakian 39
Ted Arslanian 25

Eileen Hacherian 37
Mickey Bagdasarian 31

Lucille Andonian 21

As there were no names brought to the Assembly, the nominations for Parish Council were taken from the floor with voting by secret ballot with the following results:

Sam Mirakian 47
David Kapoudjian 19

David Andonian 50
Mona Karoghlanian 10

Krekor Ghazarian 32

Before the nominations were closed on the above, Ralph Chakerian commented on the technicality of office and voting for new church members. Section 7, Page 9, in the By-Law Book was referred to and read. Florence Goekjian made a motion we waive this requirement of time and proceed with the election. Fr. Diran also explained his understanding that in some small parishes there are times when these rules can have some flexibility, for the good of the Parish in cases of emergency with the verification of the primate.

For the Auditing Committee, the nominations were also taken from the floor, with voting by secret ballot with the following results:

Dick Arslanian 47
Thelma Bagdasarian 34

Margaret Samarjian 33
Jennie Kapoudjian 42

Old Business

Paul Arslanian showed concern and questioned where the money would come from if not for the Nationalities Festival and the Hall rental.

New Business

Mr. Garbis Balderian asked for the floor for a few minutes and told everyone he is 80 years young and he has been active in this church for 53 years. The entire assembly sang "Happy Birthday". Mr. Balderian also announced that he has willed his home to the church.

Mr. K. Arslanian suggested we look into the possibility of being represented as a

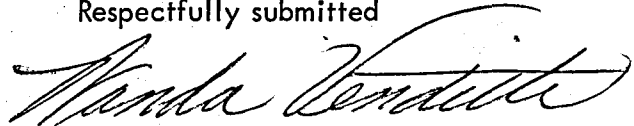
nationality in the Cultural Gardens in Rockefeller Park in Cleveland. Florence Goekjian reported that Sandy Kucinich, the Mayor's wife is involved in this program and could be contacted for more details. Martha Hacherian volunteered to look into this and get more details.

Jack Hacherian suggested we hire a part time secretary. After much discussion, a motion was made to empower the Parish Council to look into the matter of hiring, and hiring if necessary a part time secretary. The motion was seconded by Sam Mirakian. The motion passed.

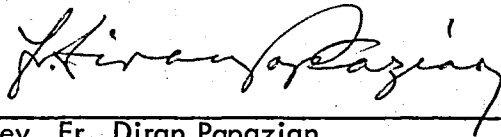
Fr. Diran thanked everyone for helping and attending today. Also he went on to say there is much more help needed and that all services can be coordinated to work together for the same purpose. It is to be remembered that when you try to do the right thing, eventually it turns out for the good. This was based on a St. Paul saying. The Parish also sang "Happy Birthday" to Fr. Diran as February 12 is his birthdate.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:20PM, with benediction said by Fr. Diran.


Respectfully submitted



Wanda Venditti
Secretary of the Day



Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian
President



Dick Aurslanian
Chairman of the Day