

ST. GREGORY the ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN CHURCH
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

MINUTES of the FIRST MID-YEAR PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1998

Meeting called to order at 12:50 P.M. by Arnold Koresian. Deacon Aren opened with a prayer and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Assembly Chairman was Arnold Koresian and Assembly Secretary was Rose Tootooian, as they were elected to serve those positions at the February Parish Assembly Meeting. Mr. Koresian stressed the need to keep comments to a minimum, address the chair and to follow the outline of the agenda that were mailed to members previous to meeting. Roll call was taken by Charles Babikian of dues paying members. We have 94 paid members, of which 30 members were present. We needed 2/3 for proper quorum. George Nahabedian made motion to proceed with meeting. Seconded by Dr. Hrach Hitik.

Minutes of Parish Assembly Meeting held on February 8, 1998 were not read, as copies were mailed to members previous to meeting. George Nahabedian made motion to accept minutes. Seconded by Alice George.

REPORT of PASTOR:

Semi-Annual report submitted by Deacon Aren. Copy of report attached. Deacon Aren thanked Michelle Babikian, Parish Council Chairperson and her Parish Council members for their support this past year.

REPORT of PARISH COUNCIL:

Report was read by Michelle Babikian, Chairperson. Copy of report attached.

REPORT of TREASURER:

Rather than distribute copies of report, Garrick Abezetian, Treasurer, gave a verbal report by displaying the income and expenses (up to end of September, 1998) via computer screen. Martin Abezetian questioned if expenses for visiting clergy was included in report. Garry answered they were. Dr. Hitik questioned if Anniversary Dinner was included in report. Garry stated report was only up to end of September, 1998. George Nahabedian made motion to accept Treasurers report. Seconded by Dr. Hitik. Motion passed unanimously.

RESERVE FUND REPORT:

Report was presented by Haig Pedian. Funds are controlled by Merrill, Lynch. As of Friday, October 23, 1998, balance of fund was \$195,263.00. Principal is preserved at \$175,006.00. George Nahabedian made motion not to make any decision on Reserve Fund situation, as quorum was not present, and to wait til February, 1999 Parish Assembly Meeting. Dr. Hitik seconded. Discussion ensued. Charles Babikian made motion to move funds to a more safer, less risky stable fund. Zabelle seconded motion. Charles Babikian then amended his motion that we should sell funds on Monday, October 26th. Zabelle Abezetian seconded amendment. Vote was taken.

(10) YES
(14) NO

Motion was declared invalid. Arnold Koresian made motion to accept Reserve Fund Report. Seconded by Dr. Hitik. This matter will again be addressed at our Parish Assembly Meeting in February, 1999.

REPORT OF ORGANIZATIONS:

Sunday School report was read by Garrick Abezetian on behalf of Diane Abezetian,

Superintendent. Copy of Sunday School Report attached.
No other organization reports presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

2001 Committee. Linda Zakarian, Chairperson of 2001 Committee, was not present due to illness in family and was out of town. Report to be presented at February, 1999 meeting.

RESERVE FUND:

No further discussion.

MERGER:

Michelle Babikian, Parish Council Chairperson, stated letter was sent to St. James Armenian Church, inquiring if they were still interested in merger. To date, no reply has been received. Discussion ensued. Opinions were presented by parishioners on their feelings about merger. Dr. Hitik felt we were doing well, were progressing and should not merge. Matthew Klujian, Sr. felt we should hire an architect to make improvements, and possibly, add additions to church. Martin Abezethian suggested we should start preparing for the future, by looking for property now, and form a Building Committee of our young members.

ARMENIAN FEST:

Michelle Babikian stated our Armenian Fest held on August 8th and 9th was the most successful ever held. Profit was an outstanding \$37,051.82. At the suggestion of Agnes Pedian, the Assembly applauded our Diratzoo for his efforts in securing donations of \$6,000.00 to event.


DIOCESAN REPORT:


George Nahabedian, Diocesan Delegate, presented some of the highlights of the Diocesan Assembly. He emphasized the Diocesan Council, since 1982, has been unsuccessful in their unity plans with the Prelacy. George, along with Michelle Babikian, have been appointed to the Proposal Committee for the next Diocesan Assembly. Complete report of the Diocesan Assembly held in May of this year, by George Nahabedian, was published in the August, 1998 Loosavorich.

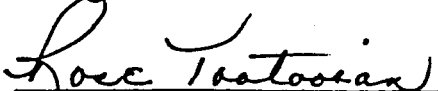
NEW BUSINESS:

Stewardship Program. Deacon Aren working on plan. He stated we have used the envelope system too long and is outdated. Deacon Aren will have more information by the February, 1999 meeting.

Dr. Hitik made motion to adjourn. Seconded by Dorothy Koresian. Before adjourning, Deacon Aren thanked Arnold Koresian, Assembly Chairman and Rose Tootooian, Assembly Secretary. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M. with the Hayr Mer led by Deacon Aren.


Rev. Dn. Aren Jebejian, President


Arnold Koresian, Assembly Chairman


Rose Tootooian, Assembly Secretary