

**St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church  
Chicago, Illinois**

***Minutes of the Parish Assembly  
February 5, 1995***

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p.m. by Mr. Arnold Koresian. Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian led the attendees in prayer.

Roll call was taken by Mr. Matthew Klujian, Jr. There were 37 paid members present of the total membership of 105 people. Mr. Arnold Koresian declared that there was a quorum based upon the Bylaws regarding a proper quorum.

Nominations for Assembly Chairman for 1995 were opened. Mr. Arnold Koresian and Mr. Armen Zakarian were nominated. Mr. Koresian declined his nomination, leaving Mr. Armen Zakarian as the sole nominee. Mrs. Alice George made a motion to close the nominations, which was seconded. The motion passed unanimously and Mr. Zakarian was elected Assembly Chairman. Mr. Zakarian opened the floor for nominations for Assembly Secretary. Mrs. Marilyn Dadian was nominated by Mrs. Agnes Pedian and seconded by Miss Michelle Babikian. Mrs. Dadian accepted the position of Assembly Secretary.

The minutes for the 1994 Parish Assembly were read by Mrs. Nancy Weiss. Fr. Paren made reference to the statement that the Choir presented a check for \$300.00 to the Parish Council when in fact, no check was ever disbursed. Mr. Zakarian noted that no change would be made to the minutes, however, it should be recorded to read that the Choir intended to present a check. Mr. Nahabedian moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Dolores Tootoian. By majority vote, the minutes were accepted.

**Report of the Pastor**

Fr. Paren gave a detailed, inclusive report of his activities at St. Gregory in 1994. The report was accepted by the Assembly.

**Report of the Parish Council**

Mrs. Agnes Pedian read the 1994 Annual Report to the Parish Council. Meetings had been held on the last Tuesday of each month during the year. Nineteen new dues paying members were added. Major purchases included an air-conditioning unit for the Rectory and the Vestibule. A summary of 1994 activities was presented. In conclusion, special thanks were given to several Church organizations, the Loosavorich staff and Church Secretary, Violet Koresian.

## **Report of the Reserve Fund**

Mr. Armen Zakarian read the report for the Reserve Fund in the absence of Mr. Haig Pedian, the Chairman of the Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund as of December 31, 1994 was \$144,677.00, reflecting a decrease in value of \$7,631.00 from 1993. Mr. Pedian's report and the Merrill Lynch statement are attached.

## **Report of the Church Organizations**

Ladies' Auxiliary - Miss Violet Koresian read the report of the Ladies' Auxiliary. A check in the amount of \$3,000.00 was presented to the parish council. A copy of the report is attached.

Women's Guild - Mrs. Silva Karachorlu, Chairperson, read the Women's Guild report. Mrs. Karachorlu then presented a check in the amount of \$2,325.00 to the Parish Council. A copy of the report is attached.

Nairi Choir - Miss Michelle Babikian read the Choir's report of activities in 1994. Miss Babikian presented a check for \$211.78 to the Parish Council. A copy of the report is attached.

There were no other Organizational Reports.

## **Report of the Auditing Committee**

Mr. Arnold Koresian presented the Auditing Committee report and made the following recommendations: 1) All checks disbursed should be accompanied by a receipt, 2) Ledger accounts should be balanced on a monthly basis. A motion to accept the report was made, seconded and carried.

## **1995 Budget**

The financial report was reviewed by the attendees and the Parish Council addressed questions concerning the 1995 Budget. Specifically, Fr. Paren responded to the budgeted increase for pledges. A pledge system was proposed in the budget to increase the annual donation per member. For the members currently paying \$75.00 per year the dues would be increased by \$200.00 and for those currently paying \$25.00 would be increased by \$100.00 under the new dues-pledge system. A motion was made by Mrs. Alice George to accept the proposed budget and seconded by Mr. Garo Dadian. A vote was taken resulting in a tally of 24 For and 1 Opposed, the budget was passed.

## **Elections**

The Nominating Committee presented candidates for Parish Council, Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee. In each case, additional nominations were sought from the floor. Ballots were passed and collected by Roll Call.

Mr. Arnold Koresian was elected to the Auditing Committee for a 3 year term.

The following individuals were elected to serve on the Parish Council:

Zaven Dadian (29)  
George Nahabedian (23)  
Agnes Pedian (23)  
Gregory Tootooian (22)

The following individuals were elected to serve as the Nominating Committee for 1995

John Paklaian (30)  
Pauline Nahabedian (29)  
Alice George (24)

## **Old Business**

Mr. Armen Zakarian opened the floor to Old Business. Hearing none, he moved on to New Business.

## **New Business**

A motion was made to dissolve the Reserve Fund Committee, and place the responsibilities of the moneys in the hands of the Parish Council. The motion was seconded. An amendment was made to the motion to retain Mr. Haig Pedian in an advisory capacity for the management of the fund. It was seconded. This amendment was passed unanimously. The motion was carried: 17 in favor, 4 opposed. A motion was made to invest the Reserve Fund moneys with less concern with the interest but more concern for the preservation of principal. The motion was carried 18 in favor, 3 opposed.

Representing the Parish Council, Hayr Soorp opened a discussion on the Church's smoking policy. A motion was made to stand by the 1993 Parish Council decision which designated the entire area of the Church facility, excluding the Cultural Hall, as a non-smoking facility. An amendment was made to the motion to include the Hall also as a non-smoking area. The vote tallied 13 For and 11 Against. The Chairman ruled, however, that the Bylaws require 3/4 in favor for approval when a prescribed quorum is lacking. Subsequently, the motion was passed (18 to 4) to uphold the existing policy.

Mr. Mathew Klujian, Sr. moved to maximize the rental potential of the Hall. The motion was carried with 22 For and 2 Against.

## Closing

Hayr Paren acknowledged the unnecessary length of this meeting and pledged to minimize meeting times in the future. He also extended a special thank you to Mr. Garo Dadian for his many years of service on the Parish Council. Congratulations were extended to the newly elected Parish Council members. Mr. Mathew Klujian, Jr., who was not reelected was thanked for his services on the Council. Lastly, on the behalf of the Church, Hayr Soorp presented Mr. Armen Zakarian with a book for his four years of serving as Parish Council Chairman.

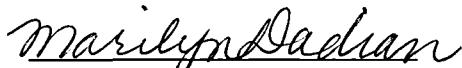
Mrs. Agnes Pedian explained that Miss Violet Koresian was offered and accepted the Parish Council's invitation to act as Church liaison. This was applauded by the Assembly attendees.

The meeting closed with a requiem prayer for all members who passed away in 1994.

Mr. Nahabedian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Marilyn Dadian. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. Hayr Paren offered the closing prayer.



Fr. Paren Avedikian  
Assembly President



Marilyn Mardigian Dadian  
Parish Assembly Secretary



Armen Zakarian  
Parish Assembly Chairman