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ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN CHURCH

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5 1984 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MINUTES

As Mr. Kaz Kazarian, Chairman of the 1983⁴ Parish Assembly, was not present to call the meeting to order, Mr. Walter Baronian called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. on Sunday, January 27, 1985. Der Vahram Hazarian led in prayer. Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza, Secretary of the 1983 Parish Assembly, was asked to take minutes until a new secretary had been elected for this meeting. Mr. John Mrofcza, Treasurer, conducted the verification of eligible voters. Mrs. Mrofcza said that 32 members of the total 95 paid members needed to be present in order to constitute a quorum. There were 47 paid members present. Mr. Mrofcza declared there to be a quorum.

Walter Baronian opened the floor for nominations for Assembly Chairman. The following individuals were nominated and duly seconded: Mr. Haig Pedian and Dr. Hrach Hitik. Dr. Hrach Hitik declined the nomination. As there were no other nominations, Mr. Pedian graciously accepted to chair the meeting. Mr. Pedian thanked all those members present for attending the meeting and then opened the floor to nominations for the office of Assembly Secretary. After several nominations from the floor were declined, Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza agreed to accept the responsibility of Assembly Secretary. ⁴

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza read the minutes from the 1983⁴ Parish Assembly. Mr. Michael Jack Hagopian moved to accept the minutes with the correction that wherever his name appeared in the minutes it should be noted his full name is Michael Jack Hagopian, not Jack Hagopian. Dr. Hrach Hitik seconded the motion. Mr. Haig Pedian called for a show of hands and the motion carried. Dr. Hrach Hitik thanked Mrs. Mrofcza on behalf of the assembly for a job well done.

REPORTS

Der Vahram Hazarian gave his annual report noting the number of sacraments performed, hospital visitations, home visitations, house blessings, etc. Mr. George Nahabedian gave Der Hayr's report in English. (Copies attached.)

Parish Council Report

Mr. Walter Baronian, Parish Council Chairman, gave the Parish Council Report. (Copy attached.) Mr. Haig Pedian commended Walter and the members of the Parish Council for an outstanding job this past year.

Ladies Auxiliary

Ms. Violet Koresian gave the report for Ladies Auxiliary Chairperson, Mrs. Ann Arevian. (Copy attached.) The ladies turned over \$3,600 to the Parish Council. Then Mr. John Mrofcza handed out gifts to individuals for their work in the parish on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Women's Guild

Mrs. Helen Babikian, Chairlady, delivered her report and turned over \$350.00 to the Parish Council. (Copy of report attached.)

A.C.Y.O.A. Jrs.

On behalf of the A.C.Y.O.A. Jrs., Mr. Charles Babikian gave their report. (Copy attached.)

Reserve Fund Committee

Mr. Pedian assumed the responsibility for not having formally met this past year with the other members of the committee, however, he vowed would be held this year. He assured the assembly that the fund did not suffer for the lack of a formal meeting. Dr. Hitik report the beginning balance going into '84 was \$69,560.00. Interest earned during '84 was \$7,335.64. The closing balance for '84 was \$76,886.24.

Nairi Choir

Mrs. Georgette L. Mrofca, Chairperson delivered the choir report. (Copy attached.)

Sunday School

Mrs. Linda Zakarian, Sunday School Superintendent, delivered the Sunday School report. (Copy attached.)

A.C.Y.O.A. Srs.

Ms. Cynthia Pakalian gave an informal report as Mr. Alan Dadian, Chairman was not present. Mr. Pedian asked Ms. Paklaian to see to it that a report was submitted by the Srs. as soon as possible.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. John Mrofca, Parish Council Treasurer, explained the report which had been distributed to the Parish Assembly. After answering various questions regarding the contents of the report to everyone's satisfaction, Mr. George Nahabedian moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Pedian thanked Mr. Mrofca for his hard work and conscientious attention to the church's financial affairs.

Auditing Committee

Ms. Violet Koresian, on behalf of the Auditing Committee, reported that they had in fact audited the Parish Council's books and found them to be in order. She noted that the Choir owes the Parish \$34. Choir acknowledged the oversight and agreed to reimburse the Parish Council. Mr. Mrofcza asked Ms. Koresian if the Auditing Committee had audited all the books of the various organizations. Ms. Koresian responded that the Auditing Committee only received the books from the Nairi Choir and found them to be in order except for the aforementioned outstanding debt. Mr. Pedian reminded the organizations that the Auditing Committee is to audit all the books of all parish organizations and then suggested a deadline on February 10th to submit them to the Auditing Committee.

Dr. Hrach Hitik again resolved to thank Mr. Mrofcza for an outstanding job as Treasurer. The Assembly responded with their applause.

1985 Budget

While John Mrofcza presented the proposed budget for 1985, members of the Nominating Committee handed out ballots for the upcoming elections.

Mr. George Nahabedian asked what percentage was used in preparing the budget. Mr. Mrofcza explained that based on the probability that there would not be as many money-making functions as there were last year (such as the overwhelming profits from the annual street picnic and the revenues realized from the parish's 20th anniversary celebration) it was necessary for him to show only a slight increase over last year's budget by 2%.

Dr. Hrach Hitik moved to accept the proposed budget of \$52,500 for 1985. Mr. Walter Baronian seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Mrofcza cautioned the assembly that we will all have to dig a little deeper this year if we hope to stay in the black.

At this point, Mr. Pedian turned the meeting over to Ms. Michelle Babikian of the Nominating Committee to conduct the elections.

Parish Council Elections

Based on the difficulty in presenting a slate for the vacating positions on the Parish Council, Ms. Babikian moved to reduce the number of Parish Council members from 9 to 7. Mrs. Pauline Nahabedian seconded the motion. Dr. Hitik asked which members were remaining on the council for 1985. Ms. Babikian explained that those individuals who yet had one more year to serve were: Nishan Babikian, Arnold Koresian, George Nahabedian, and Dr. Vahe Karachorlu. Those individuals whose terms were up are: Walter Baronian, John Mrofcza, Charles Babikian, Michael Jack Hagopian, and Mathew Klujian, Jr. It was suggested that Ms. Babikian's motion be suspended and the floor be opened for nominations before calling the motion to a vote. Ms. Babikian agreed and opened the floor for nominations for Parish Council.

Dr. Hrach Hitik nominated John Mrofcza. Ms. Violet Koresian seconded the motion. Mr. Mrofcza accepted the nomination, however, he expressed his hope that others would also agree to run and possibly serve on parish council as he has already been on for two years.

Dr. Hrach Hitik nominated Ms. Violet Koresian and Mrs. Agnes Pedian seconded the motion. Ms. Koresian declined the nomination.

Dr. Hitik nominated Mr. Kegham Parseghian. Mr. Khanjian seconded the motion. Mr. Parseghian accepted the nomination.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza nominated Mrs. Agnes Pedian. Mrs. Sadie Marcantonio seconded the motion. Mrs. Pedian declined the nomination.

Mrs. Agnes Pedian nominated Mr. Mathew Klujian, Sr. and Dr. Hitik seconded the motion. Mr. Klujian declined the nomination.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza nominated Dr. Hrach Hitik and Ms. Violet Koresian seconded the motion. Dr. Hitik declined the nomination.

At this point, Mrs. Mrofcza called the motion to a vote. The motion was restated to reduce the number of Parish Council members from 9 to 7. The motion carried by majority vote. Therefore the following slate for Parish Council was presented:

1. Charles Babikian*
2. Michael Jack Hagopian*
3. Peter Bedrosian*
4. Edward Pajian*
5. John Mrofcza
6. Kegham Parseghian

It should be noted that the first four individuals were approached by the Nominating Committee prior to the meeting and agreed to have their names presented before the Assembly.

While the votes for Parish Council were being tabulated, the Nominating Committee opened the floor for nominations for the Nominating Committee as they had no slate to present.

Dr. Hrach Hitik nominated Mrs. Silva Karachorlu. Mrs. Mary Somnese seconded the nomination and Mrs. Karachorlu accepted the nomination.

Mrs. Helen Babikian nominated Dr. Hrach Hitik and Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion. Dr. Hitik accepted the nomination.

Mrs. SuSu Klujian nominated Mrs. Agnes Pedian, and Dr. Hrach Hitik seconded the motion. Mrs. Pedian accepted the nomination.

Mr. Michael Jack Hagopian nominated Mr. Walter Baronian. Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion and Mr. Baronian accepted the nomination.

Mr. Michael Jack Hagopian nominated Mrs. Pauline Nahabedian. Mr. John Mrofcza seconded the motion and Mrs. Nahabedian accepted the nomination.

Mr. John Mrofcza nominated Ms. Michelle Babikian. Dr. Vahe Karachorlu seconded the motion and Ms. Babikian accepted the nomination.

Mr. Nishan Babikian moved to close the nominations. Dr. Hrach Hitik seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The following individuals were presented to the Parish Assembly as the slate for the Nominating Committee:

1. Silva Karachorlu
2. Dr. Hrach Hitik
3. Agnes Pedian
4. Walter Baronian
5. Pauline Nahabedian
6. Michelle Babikian

While the ballots for the Nominating Committee were being tabulated, the slate was presented for Auditing Committee. Ms. Babikian presented Mrs. Mary Somnese. She then explained the duties of the Auditing Committee and opened the floor to nominations.

Mrs. Mary Somnese nominated Ms. Violet Koresian. Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion and Ms. Koresian accepted the nomination.

Mr. George Nahabedian nominated Mr. Matt Klujian, Jr. Mr. Arnold Koresian seconded the motion, however Mr. Klujian declined the nomination.

Mr. George Nahabedian nominated Mr. Armen Zakarian. Mr. Arnold Koresian seconded the motion and Mr. Zakarian was contacted by telephone as he was not present at the meeting, but agreed to accept the nomination.

Mr. George Nahabedian nominated Mr. Edward Pajian (please note the results of the Parish Council elections were announced during the nominating procedures for Nominating Committee and it was disclosed Mr. Pajian was not elected to Parish Council and therefore eligible to run for another position.) Dr. Hrach Hitik seconded the motion and Mr. Pajian accepted the nomination.

Dr. Vahe Karachorlu nominated Ms. Tilda Gircik. Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion and Ms. Gircik accepted the nomination.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza nominated Dr. Hrach Hitik* who declined.

Mr. Haig Pedian nominated Ms. Michelle Babikian*. Mr. John Mrofcza seconded the motion and Ms. Babikian accepted the nomination.

* At this point in the meeting both the results from the Parish Council and Nominating Committee Elections had been posted and it was disclosed that both Dr. Hitik and Ms. Babikian were not elected during the previous elections and were eligible to run for Auditing Committee.

There was a motion from the floor to close the nominations. It was duly seconded and the motion carried.

Parish Council Election Results

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|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Charles Babikian | 31 votes* |
| 2. Michael Jack Hagopian | 13 votes |
| 3. Peter Bedrosian | 29 votes* |
| 4. Edward Pajian | 24 votes |
| 5. John Mrofcza | 26 votes* |
| 6. Kegham Parseghian | 6 votes |

Nominating Committee Election Results

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Silva Karachorlu | 26 votes* |
| 2. Dr. Hrach Hitik | 20 votes |
| 3. Agnes Pedian | 28 votes* |
| 4. Walter Baronian | 23 votes* |
| 5. Pauline Nahabedian | 14 votes |
| 6. Michelle Babikian | 12 votes |

While the ballots for the Auditing Committee were being tabulated Mr. Pedian proceeded with Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Hitik inquired about the acquisition of the organ. Mrs. Mrofcza gave a breakdown of the money collected and spent to purchase a new Hammond 820 organ. Monies collected over and above the cost will be turned over to the Parish Council. Mrs. Mrofcza thanked everyone as she had mentioned in her report for their support in raising funds and a special thanks to the Hagopian family for all their help in securing funds and the organ itself.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza asked what the disposition was of the motion made and carried at last year's meeting (1983 Parish Assembly) to formalize the following committees: Membership Committee, Publicity Committee and Cultural Committee. Mr. Baronian responded that that Loosavorich Committee has been in effect serving as the Publicity Committee and has been doing a very thorough job thanks to the dedication of its members. He also commented that although the Parish Council had not officially formed the other committees, many cultural events were sponsored this past year as reported in his Parish Council Report. Mr. George Nahabedian said that if the Parish Council is under mandate to see that these committees are formed, then that should be one of its objectives for this coming year. Members of the Parish Council will take action on the formulation of the other two committees during this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Michael Jack Hagopian mentioned that steps should be taken to increase our insurance coverage in light of the purchase of a new organ. Mr. Mrofcza responded

that presently we are carrying \$407,300 insurance coverage on the building and \$100,000 on personal content subject to the \$250 deductible. The Parish Council is aware and is taking steps to update the inventory of the church in order to properly review the present insurance coverage.

Baylozian Will

It was reported that the Parish Council is taking steps to try to settle this matter once and for all.

Mr. Mathew Klujian, Sr., inquired as to the amount of money we are sending to Jerusalem for the purpose of supporting the schools. George Nahabedian responded that we only send monies to Jerusalem when Jerusalem comes to us and we raise funds at a special fund-raiser.

Reserve Funds

Mr. George Nahabedian expressed concern over the existence of various reserve funds controlled by church organizations. As an example, he mentioned that the Organ Fund set up by the Choir had a balance, and that the Ladies have a long-standing "kitchen fund". He said that having all these little funds defeats the purpose of the Parish's Reserve Fund. Mr. Nahabedian was seeking the Parish Assembly's approval to allow the Parish Council the right to dissolve all other existing reserve funds. These monies added to the actual Reserve Fund would then earn interest at a much higher rate. After a brief discussion, Mr. Nahabedian then moved to call for the dissolution of all other existing reserve funds. Mr. Arnold Koresian seconded the motion. The motion carried by majority rule. It should be noted, that all monies received will be deposited in the Reserve Fund.

Auditing Committee Election Results

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|----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Mary Sommese | 19 votes |
| 2. Violet Koresian | 13 votes |
| 3. Edward Pajian | 31 votes* |
| 4. Tilda Gircik | 22 votes* |
| 5. Armen Zakarian | 32 votes* |
| 6. Michelle Babikian | 6 votes |

1989 Diocesan Assembly

Mr. George Nahabedian, our Diocesan Delegate, moved that this Parish Assembly direct the Parish Council to make a bid to host the 1989 Diocesan Assembly. Dr. Hrach Hitik seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mathew Klujian, Sr. called for the church to concentrate more on revenues. He commented that the hall was to have been a source of income, but it does not seem to be rented out very much. It was mentioned that part of the problem is that the kitchen facilities do not accommodate catering. Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza moved to charge the Parish Council with the responsibility of organizing a Remodeling Committee, made up of representatives of the various church organizations, to review changes to better the operations of the parish and that that committee report back to the assembly no later than 6 months from this date to give their findings and recommendations. Mr. Edward Pajian seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Relief to Ethiopia

Mr. Pedian asked if this issue had been addressed, being that we are a people who should strive to help needy individuals. Mr. Baronian responded that in fact our organizations did collect and sent \$400 to the Ethiopian Relief Fund.

Mr. George Nahabedian suggested that if anyone had any concerns they wished to have expressed before the Diocesan Assembly, to please let him know no later than the beginning of April as the submission deadline is April 13th.

Mr. Nahabedian then read a directive from the Diocese regarding the 70th Anniversary Observance of the Genocide. The Diocese is organizing a program on April 23rd to be held in Washington, D.C. The Diocese is willing to pay for the participation of one survivor from each parish to attend this commemoration and have asked for each parish to submit a list of survivors.

Mr. Arnold Koresian moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Cynthia Paklaian seconded the motion. The motion carried. Der Vahram led in closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Haig Pedian

Haig Pedian
1984 Parish Assembly Chairman

Mrs. Georgette L. Mrofcza

Mrs. Georgette L. Mrofcza
1984 Parish Assembly Secretary

Attachments