

## 1987 PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 7, 1988

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Mr. Armen Zakarian, the 1986 Parish Assembly Chairman. Mr. Scott Paklaian, Parish Council Treasurer, conducted the verification of voters. Out of 93 paid members, there were 35 members present. Mr. Zakarian opened the floor for nominations for Assembly Chairman. Mr. George Nahabedian and Mr. Scott Paklaian were nominated and duly seconded from the floor. Mr. George Nahabedian was elected the Parish Assembly Chairman. Ms. Michelle Babikian ran unopposed and was elected Secretary of the Parish Assembly Meeting.

Der Vahram Hazarian then asked for a moment of silence for all the deceased members of our Parish. Der Hayr led us in prayer to begin the meeting.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza, the 1986 Parish Assembly Secretary, read the minutes from last year's meeting. Mr. Garo Dadian moved to accept the minutes as read, and Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded. The motion passed.

### PASTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Raffi Hazarian read the Pastor's Report in English on behalf of Fr. Vahram Hazarian. A copy of the report in both English and Armenian is attached.

### PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Mr. John Paklaian, Parish Council Chairman, presented the Parish Council report. (Copy attached).

Mr. George Nahabedian then asked the Assembly members whether they wished to have the reports of the Church organizations read. There was a consensus to hear the reports read aloud.

### LADIES' AUXILIARY

Ms. Violet Koresian presented the Ladies' Auxiliary report on behalf of Mrs. Ann Arevian, Chairlady. A check for \$3000.00, 60% of their total net income, was submitted to the Parish Council along with their report. (Copy attached).

### WOMEN'S GUILD

Mrs. Marge Sarkesian, Chairlady, presented her report. A check for the amount of \$2000.00 was submitted to the Parish Council with their report. (Copy attached).

### NAIRI CHOIR

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza, Chairlady, presented her report. A check for the amount of \$986.85 was submitted to the Parish Council. A copy of the report will be submitted soon.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Mr. George Nahabedian read the Sunday School report on behalf of Mrs. Sandy Hitik, Superintendent. (Copy attached).

## A.C.Y.O.A. JUNIORS

Mr. Joseph Utas, Chairman, presented the A.C.Y.O.A. Junior report, and submitted a check for \$605.89. (Copy attached).

## TREASURER'S REPORT

At this time, Mr. George Nahabedian called upon Mr. Scott Paklaian, the Parish Council Treasurer, for the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Paklaian requested the Assembly to look over the Treasurer's Report which had been distributed, and address any questions to him.

Mr. Arnold Koresian remarked that the Total Receipts from year 1986 to year 1987 were down a great deal, however, the Total Disbursements were not reduced with the same proportion. He suggested that we should have more money-making events. Mr. Matthew Klujian Sr. requested specific figures with respect to the Hall Rental income. Mr. Paklaian replied that the hall rental income for 1987 was \$2691.00.

Ms. Violet Koresian asked to correct the Assessments Totals under the heading of Disbursements to \$500.00 per month or \$6000.00 per year. Mr. Nahabedian reminded the Assembly that at this time we were discussing the Treasurer's Report and to direct our questions to this only. He reiterated the loss of \$6032.81 for 1987.

## RESERVE FUND REPORT

The Reserve Fund report was given to Mr. Scott Paklaian by phone as none of the members of the Committee were to be present at the meeting. Mr. Nahabedian presented the report, advising that the beginning balance was \$121,413.00 and the ending balance was \$123,552.05, earning an interest in 1987 of \$2,139.05, or approximately 1.67%.

According to Mr. Nahabedian's knowledge, the loss was due to the Black Monday Stock Market plunge. Our Reserve Fund money is in the Franklin Fund which deals primarily with the Stock Market. We therefore lost between 6-10% and gained interest of less than 2%.

Mrs. Sadie Marcantonio asked if the fund is still losing money. Of course Mr. Nahabedian replied that he could not answer this, and the members of the committee were not present. He suggested that the Parish Council contact Mr. Haig Pedian, a member of the Reserve Fund Committee, to inquire if the funds are still in the Franklin Fund and to take the best action possible to avoid any further losses.

## AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. John Mrofcza, a member of the Auditing Committee, presented the report. He advised that the Auditing Committee audited the books of the Parish Council and not of the various Church organizations. They audited the Parish Council's records, however did not check each and every transaction which is not the function of the Auditing Committee. He remarked that the amounts they have received as the ending and beginning balances of the Reserve Fund do not correspond from year to year, and this has been quite consistent.

Mr. Arnold Koresian questioned the amount of money deposited in the Esther Altounian Memorial Fund. Mr. Mrofcza replied that there is a minimum deposit requirement on this fund of either \$200.00 or \$250.00. That is the reason that the money collected in 1987 has not yet been deposited. These collections will be accumulated and deposited in 1988.

Mr. Mrofcza stated that a budget is a forecast of the new year's revenues and disbursements. The Auditing Committee tried to work out reasonable figures to present a balanced budget. They tried to do the same for 1987, but were not successful. He hoped that they would be successful for 1988.

A typographical error was noted on the 1988 Budget. The Total Receipts and Disbursements for the 1988 Budget should be \$47,600.00.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Nahabedian called upon Mr. Nishan Babikian and Mr. Arnold Koresian as members of the Nominating Committee to conduct the elections of the Parish Council, Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee.

Mr. Koresian reported that they have no candidates for the office of Parish Council as everyone asked by his committee refused. There were 4 Parish Council members whose terms have expired:-

Ms. Violet Koresian  
Mr. Edward Pajian

Mr. John Paklaian  
Mr. Harry Serayderian

The Nominating Committee then proceeded to elect 4 members to the Parish Council. Only two of the outgoing Parish Council members, Mr. Paklaian and Ms. Koresian, requested that their names be retained on the slate of candidates.

The floor was then opened for nominations from the Assembly. A total of 6 more candidates were nominated from the floor, bringing the total to 8 candidates as follows:-

Mr. John Paklaian  
Ms. Violet Koresian  
Mr. Alan Dadian  
Mrs. Stephanie Hagopian  
Mrs. Marge Sarkesian  
Ms. Cynthia Paklaian  
Mrs. Mary Sommese  
Mrs. Pauline Nahabedian

Ms. Michelle Babikian moved to close the nominations, seconded by Mrs. Marge Sarkesian. The motion passed.

Der Vahram urged that the nominees for the Parish Council be sincere in their desire to work for the Church.

The Nominating Committee proceeded in order to elect 4 of the candidates. The result of the election was as follows:-

**	Mr. John Paklaian	-	31 votes
**	Ms. Violet Koresian	-	30 votes
**	Mr. Alan Dadian	-	29 votes
**	Mrs. Stephanie Hagopian	-	26 votes
	Mrs. Marge Sarkesian	-	6 votes
	Ms. Cynthia Paklaian	-	4 votes
	Mrs. Mary Sommese	-	7 votes
	Mrs. Pauline Nahabedian	-	3 votes

The Nominating Committee then opened the floor for nominations for candidates for the 3 existing positions on the Nominating Committee. Six candidates were nominated from the Assembly:-

Ms. Cynthia Paklaian  
Mrs. Shooshan Paklaian  
Mrs. Silva Karachorlu  
Ms. Michelle Babikian  
Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza  
Mrs. Marge Sarkesian

Ms. Michelle Babikian moved to close the nominations, seconded by Ms. Cynthia Paklaian. The motion passed.

The Nominating Committee continued with the election. The results were as follows:-

**	Ms. Cynthia Paklaian	-	16 votes
	Mrs. Shooshan Paklaian	-	15 votes
**	Mrs. Silva Karachorlu	-	23 votes
**	Ms. Michelle Babikian	-	23 votes
	Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza	-	15 votes
	Mrs. Marge Sarkesian	-	6 votes

The Nominating Committee then opened the floor for nominations for candidates for the 3 existing positions on the Auditing Committee. Six candidates were nominated from the Assembly:

Mr. John Mrofcza  
Mr. Arnold Koresian  
Mr. Nishan Babikian  
Mrs. Mary Sommese  
Ms. Cynthia Paklaian  
Mr. Sam Sommese

Ms. Michelle Babikian moved to close the nominations, seconded by Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza. The motion passed.

The Nominating Committee proceeded with the election. The results were as follows:-

**	Mr. John Mrofcza	-	30 votes
**	Mr. Arnold Koresian	-	30 votes
**	Mr. Nishan Babikian	-	27 votes
	Mrs. Mary Somnese	-	5 votes
	Ms. Cynthia Paklaian	-	1 vote
	Mr. Sam Somnese	-	0 votes

With this, the elections had all been completed.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. George Nahabedian began the subject of Old Business with the news that he had, as Diocesan Delegate, proposed a bid to the 1987 Diocesan Assembly that the St. Gregory Armenian Church Parish of Chicago would host the 1994 Diocesan Assembly. However, he expressed that upon looking at the attendance today of 35 members out of a total paid membership of 93 members, he was discouraged. He suggested that perhaps the Parish Assembly members present today should decide to reconsider and withdraw this bid to host the Diocesan Assembly in 1994. He did not feel that we had enough manpower to handle it effectively.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza responded that our Parish should begin to think of the future rather than the present. She likened the Diocesan Assembly to the Nairi Choir's successful hosting of the National Choir Association Convention in 1986. She advised that the Nairi Choir members worked very hard and were very successful even though their numbers were few. She stated that we should be positive, accept the bid and build from there. She also suggested that a committee be formed to begin the preliminary groundwork. It was felt that it was too early at this time to form a committee.

Mr. Nahabedian suggested that we table this matter until next year, and this will be added to the agenda for Old Business for the 1988 Parish Assembly meeting.

Mrs. Stephanie Hagopian said that we should not concern ourselves very much with something that is 6 years in the future. We should be attempting to increase our Church membership now. She also stressed the importance of the Loosavorich Newsletter, which she believes should be continued in order to effectively communicate with all the members of the Church.

Mr. John Paklaian responded that the Parish Council is now looking into the possibility of hiring a part-time secretary (2 days per week) for the Church, who would be able to handle the secretarial duties. This person would also be able to be instrumental to the Loosavorich staff.

Ms. Violet Koresian informed us that not many of the questionnaires which had been distributed to the Church members had been returned to the Parish Council. The ones that had been turned in were done during the week of the meeting, and there was not enough time to analyze them. She urged all members who had not returned their questionnaires to do so as quickly as possible. She advised that if anyone needed any further information, they should see one of the Parish Council members.

Der Vahram Hazarian requested some information on a Special Meeting regarding our Parish Priest which was referred to in the reading of last year's minutes. Mr. John Paklaian advised him that this meeting did not take place. Der Vahram advised that he had not been informed of any meeting of this type, and stressed that according to the Bye-Laws, if such a meeting is to take place, the Primate must be advised accordingly. Mr. John Paklaian again replied that this meeting did not take place. However, he asked that if the Parish Assembly still wished to have this meeting, someone should entertain a motion at this time.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The first order of business on the agenda was the Purchase of New Heating and Air Conditioning Units. Mr. John Paklaian presented the Parish Council's report. He said that the boiler is very old, 24 years old, and that it has broken down several times this past year due to a leak in the boiler.

The Parish Council received three proposals as follows:-

#### CAMPUS HEATING & AIR-CONDITIONING:

They would remove the old boiler and put in 4 smaller ones to each warm a certain part of the Church. Cost: \$9995.00.

#### NORTH SUBURBAN HEATING & AIR-CONDITIONING:

Proposed to replace the boiler as it now stands, and they gave us 2 prices:

- \$11924.00 if they did not change the pumps-
- \$12734.00 if they changed everything-

#### JACOB'S BOILER:

Proposed to replace the boiler and service the 3 existing pumps. Cost: \$10925.00.

Mr. Paklaian advised that the air-conditioning unit is not being addressed at this time, as the boiler seems to be a greater problem. Mr. Paklaian also advised that the money needed for this project would have to come from the Reserve Fund.

Mr. George Nahabedian suggested that perhaps the entire heating and cooling unit be replaced at the same time in order for it all to working properly, and not to require any more money later.

More discussion followed. Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza then moved to reactivate the Renovation Committee, consisting of Mr. Nishan Babikian, Mr. Walter Baronian and Mr. John Mrofcza, to look into the needs of the heating and air-conditioning units and gather the proposals for a presentation to the Parish Council by April 1, 1988, in order to call a Special Parish Assembly meeting by May 1, 1988, to request removal of funds from the Reserve Fund for this project. Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion. More discussion ensued.

Mr. Paklaian stressed that the boiler has a leak and it has been plugged to keep it functioning properly. This problem is immediate and April is very far away. He said that the situation is very unstable.

Therefore, he advised that the Parish Council must do whatever is necessary at the time to keep the boiler functioning.

The motion was then put to a vote and it passed.

The next topic on the agenda was the Proposal of a Cloak Room for the Large Hall. This was proposed by Mr. Matthew Klujian Sr. As he was not present at this time, it was decided that the Parish Council would contact him and work with him and the Renovation Committee with regard to this matter.

Mrs. Mary Dadian moved that the Parish Council should issue a directive to all members/parishioners which lists the costs for all the Sacraments in order for everyone to have this information readily available. Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion was then put to a vote and passed.

Mrs. Georgette Mrofcza made a suggestion to the Parish Council that since we all enjoy discussing Church-related matters which concern us, the Executive Bodies of all the Church organizations should meet occasionally to discuss these concerns.

Ms. Violet Koresian stated that our Church's 25th Anniversary will be celebrated in 1989, and a committee should be formed soon to begin planning this event.

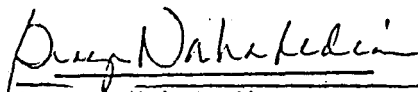
As there was no further new business, Mrs. Marge Sarkesian moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Nishan Babikian seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer by Rev. Father Vahram Hazarian at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Babikian  
Secretary - 1987 Parish Assembly Meeting  
St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church  
Chicago, Illinois



George Nahabedian  
1987 Parish Assembly Chairman