

MINUTES OF THE 1990 PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH
FAIR LAWN, N.J.

The Parish Assembly of St. Leon Armenian Church, 12-61 Saddle River Road, Fair Lawn, N.J. was called to order at 12:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 4, 1990 by Chairman of Parish Council Charles Pinajian.

Opening pray was given by Der Hayr.

There were 70 eligible voters present.

Elected from the floor were the following officers of the day:

Chairman Joseph Basralian

Secretary Florence Gulkasian

The Chairman appointed Ted Takvorian as parliamentarian

The 1989 minutes were accepted.

REPORTS OF ORGANIZATIONS:

SENIORS:

Manuk Capan reported he has been chairman for 8 years. They are working hard, to raise money and have \$3,671.00 in their treasury. He thanked the Pastor, Parish Council and the entire parish for their support and urged all Senior Citizens in the parish to join the St. Leon's Seniors' organization.

PARISH COUNCIL:

Correction made by Charles Pinajian-Only one chairman for the food festival this year was Leon Hovsepian. Charles also thanked everyone for working with him on Parish Council this year.

CHURCH SCHOOL:

Barbara Hovsepian reported they had a covered dish supper this week. The children raised \$375.00 for Unicef and thanked Ruth & Sarkis Bedevian for supporting a party for this cause.

CHOIR:

Berj. Fere djian encouraged people to join the choir. Vazken Ohanyan again urged parishioners to sing and pray with the choir during Badarak.

ARMENIAN SCHOOL

MaryAnn Mozian reported there will be a dance on Feb. 10th. Tickets are going well. Mr. Avedis Chaparyan has sold 150 tickets for the dance. Question raised for Armenian conversation language lessons be given for college students. Anyone interested please contact MaryAnn. They must have at least 10 students with tuition set at \$100.00 each in order to form such a class.

ACYOA JRS.

No questions were raised. Their report was included in the Annual Report booklet.

ACYOA SENIORS

Lynda Chagachbanian reported this was their first year. They have been very active and doing well. A new executive committee was elected recently.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Helen Mazoujian encouraged new members, have good programs this year. Dues are \$6.00 per year. A few more young members have joined. Attendance has been better.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Barbara Hovsepian would like to see more monies donated for Scholarship Funds. The Lucy Tutunjian fund is used to send children to St. Nerses and St. Vartan Camp. Parish Council has allocated monies for St. Vartan. The Parish Council announces the availability of Scholarships through the Iradoo and all who wish to apply should do so in writing for consideration by the Parish Council.

AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

Andrea Halejian reported all organizations books were in satisfactory order.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Report was accepted as presented.

Der Hayr spoke about his hope to continue on with his PHD degree. However, due to extraordinary demand on his time in his pastoral ministry lacks adequate time to pursue studies. He has taken a year's leave of absence, to evaluate his situation and available options. He started his studies in 1984 and finished the required courses in 1986. Since then he has been unable to prepare for his comprehensive exams, and needs 2 full days per week for at least one year to prepare.

Sarkis Bedevian recommends to have Parish Council appoint a committee to seek a solution to the problem. This item will be considered under new business.

1990 BUDGET:

1. Question was raised on 1990 budget, not to have Clergy Stipend, employee salaries, pensions, insurance all bunched together. Motion was made to change and break-down each category. Motion was defeated.

2. Sarkis Bedevian questioned the Bazaar Account. On the Financial Report it shows a profit of \$37,000. This amount should be put into an Escrow account, so St. Leon will be assessed correctly by the Diocese. The checking account amount on the Financial Report and Money on Hand also should be corrected, a difference of \$3,000. It was also mentioned that the 1989 budget is just a guide line-with only being off 5%. Motion to adopt the 1990 budget as presented was seconded and passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

In the absence of Chairman Sarkis Gabrielian, Sarkis Bedevian presented the proposal of the Building Committee: Plans were changed this year due to the circumstances created in the aftermath of the earthquake in Armenia. It is recommended by the committee to go on with Phase I to improve the front of the church only. This included expansion of the front with bathroom and elevator.

Phase II will be on hold , with Phase III drastically modified and combined with Phase I. This project is

estimated to cost about \$350,000. Last year it was approved by Parishioners to go into Phase I and II if we had a pledge of 75% of the cost. Sarkis reported that \$250,000. has been pledged at the present time. It was moved, seconded and passed that Parish Council call a Special Parish Assembly meeting as soon as possible with a detailed written report on this matter, for proper consideration by the Parish Assembly.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ted Takvorian proposed to have Parish Council set up a Feasibility Study Committee of at least seven members with a view to seek a solution in enabling Der Hayr to continue with his studies. The Committee is to conclude its mandate in three months and present its proposal to the Assembly. This committee will consist of Parish Council members and Parishioners-at large. Motion carried.
2. Motion was made by Jon Royland to propose a Diocesan By-Laws amendment to allow absentee ballots at Parish Assemblies under special circumstances. Der Hayr read the article from the Diocesan By-Laws concerning the procedure to introduce amendments for consideration by the Diocesan Assembly. Motion was made, seconded and passed to have the proposal in writing and include it on the agenda of the Special Assembly to be called by the Parish Council.
3. Recommended by Nubar Jessourian-passed to have church secretary on hand at our Parish Assembly to run off any reports if needed.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Chairman-Leon Hovsepien presented the slate for Parish Council, Nominating and Auditing Committees. There are five vacancies to be filled on the Parish Council, and three each on the Nominating and Auditing Committees. The floor was opened for nominations from the floor. There being none, the current Nominating and Auditing committees passed out the ballots and the following election results were presented:

Parish Council

Thomas Ashbahian

Ted Takvorian

Arda Kiljian

Berj Ferejdjian

Paul Pinajian

1st alternate-Edward Pechdimaldji

2nd alternate-Araxie Moundjian

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sarkis Gabrellian

Andrea Halejian

Vicken Jessourian

Alternate-Dorothy Karamian

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Amy Vartoukian

Robert Ishkhanian

Florence Gulkasian

Alternate-William McMahon

Following the benediction by Der Hayr, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Florence Gulkasian
Florence Gulkasian-Assembly
Secretary

February 4, 1990

Arshen Aivazian
Rev. Arshen Aivazian
Assembly President

Joseph Basralian
Joseph Basralian
Assembly Chairman