



**ST. JOHN'S ARMENIAN CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT
ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MINUTES
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1999**

I. INVOCATION AND CALL TO ORDER

The Parish Assembly ("Assembly") was called to order by the Chairman of the 1998 Assembly Ms. Gloria Korkoian at 1:45 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. John's Church. The minutes were recorded by Mrs. Dolly Matoian, Secretary of the Parish Council, until the Secretary of the Day was elected. Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian offered the Invocation. Mrs. Korkoian welcomed the parishioners.

II. VERIFICATION OF THE ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERS AND QUORUM

Ms. Korkoian read the Diocesan By-laws' definition of what constitutes a quorum: the presence of 1/3 of the eligible voters or 50 members shall constitute a quorum, and decisions should be rendered by majority vote. She stated that there were clearly more than 50 members present.

Ms. Korkoian reviewed the Rules and Regulations governing Membership and the Parish Assembly as outlined on page 2 of the 1998 Annual Report. Only paid members may speak or vote. Three 3" x 5" cards were presented to each parishioner upon registering, showing eligibility; those cards were to be presented upon receiving ballots. Balloting would close at 3:00 p.m. Ms. Korkoian then introduced Mrs. Pamela Dayinian, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, to preside over the elections.

III. ELECTIONS

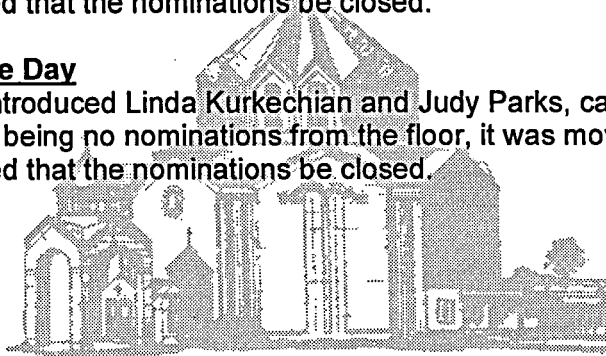
Mrs. Pamela Dayinian, Chairman of the 1998 Nominating Committee, provided voting instructions to the membership. Three 3" x 5" cards of different colors were explained: one card displayed for voting, one card for the Chairman and Secretary of the Day ballot, and the third card for the Parish Council, Nominating Committee, Auditor and Diocesan Delegates ballot. A motion to dispense with the reading of the profiles of each candidate was made, seconded, voted upon and carried.

Chairman of the Day

Mrs. Dayinian introduced Carlos Fucinari and Michael Matoian, candidates for Chairman of the Day. There being no nominations from the floor, it was moved, seconded, voted upon and passed that the nominations be closed.

Secretary of the Day

Mrs. Dayinian introduced Linda Kurkechian and Judy Parks, candidates for Secretary of the Day. There being no nominations from the floor, it was moved, seconded, voted upon and passed that the nominations be closed.



Ballots were distributed, and the voting process was explained thoroughly. Mrs. Dayinian instructed the Monitors to collect the appropriate card when each completed ballot was received. All ballots were called in when completed, and voting for Chairman of the Day and Secretary of the Day was completed.

Partial Election of Parish Council Members (5)

Mrs. Dayinian introduced the following candidates for Parish Council:

Dr. Vigen Darian
George Derderian, Jr.
Alberta Godoshian (incumbent)
C. Gary Javizian
Dr. Harry Joboulian
Kent Johnson
Robert Kurkechian
Laura Negosian Moreton (Lucassian)
Lazarus Surabian
Marie Vanerian

Upon Mrs. Dayinian's request for nominations from the floor, the following individuals were nominated:

Jane Hovsepian (declined)
Janice Torosian (incumbent/accepted)
Mary Ryan (accepted)

There being no further nominations from the floor, a motion to close nominations was made, seconded, voted upon and passed.

Auditing Committee (1)

Mrs. Dayinian introduced two candidates as follows:

Paul Andonian
John Bahadurian

There being no nominations from the floor, a motion to close nominations was made, seconded, voted upon and passed.

Nominating Committee (5)

Mrs. Dayinian presented the following candidates for Nominating Committee:

Elizabeth Amboian
Harry Amirkanian
Rosemary Bagdasarian Darian
Agnes Dourjalian
Mihran Hoplamazian
Judy K. Hovnan
Cheryl Joboulian
Yvonne Korkoian
Lucy Merzian
Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian

There being no nominations from the floor, a motion to close nominations was made, seconded, voted upon and passed.

Diocesan Delegates (7)

Mrs. Dayinian presented the following candidates for Diocesan Delegate:

Sara Andonian
Elizabeth Aprahamian
Howard Atesian
Roseann Manoogian Attar
Richard Baylerian
Violet Cholakian
Edward H. Korkoian
Kathy Mekjian
Sirvart Mezian
Richard Norsigian
Dr. Dennis R. Papazian
Dr. Edward G. Sarkisian
Andrew Tarpinian
Dr. Gary Zamanigian

Upon Mrs. Dayinan's request for nominations from the floor, the following individuals were nominated:

Vincent Baylerian (accepted)
Jane Hovsepien (accepted)

There being no further nominations from the floor, a motion to close nominations was made, seconded, voted upon and passed.

Ms. Korkoian announced that 292 registered members were present at the meeting. She also announced that any new items to be placed on the Agenda as New Business must be written, signed and presented to the Chairman of the Day.

While awaiting the preparation of ballots, the Mrs. Korkoian proceeded with the Agenda.

IV. PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian stated that in the almost three months since his arrival, he had been welcomed and assisted by the St. John's community. His transition from the Diocesan administrative position of Chancellor to Parish Pastor had been extremely heartening and uplifting. He thanked the present Parish Council for their support and for making arrangements for his easy transition to the Detroit community. He pledged unflinchingly to endeavor to serve this community for the glory of God and this Church.

Der Hayr explained that there are many new and exciting ideas he hopes to bring to the community. He also plans to work on Diocesan projects, such as the Pilgrimage to Jerusalem for a global celebration in the year 2000, 1700th anniversary of the Armenian Church in the year 2001, etc. He hopes to bring the Parish's attention to seven areas of concentration: Worship, Education, Enhancement of Armenian Heritage, Work with the Komitas Choir and Deacon Rubik Malian, Culture, Community Service and Social

Ministry. He encouraged good, effective communication through the Torch Bearer, Sunday bulletins and the establishment of a web site.

V. ELECTION RESULTS – OFFICERS OF THE DAY

Mrs. Dayinian announced the election results for Officers of the Day:

Chairman of the Day – Michael Matoian
Secretary of the Day – Linda Kurkechian

The 1999 Officers took their positions. On behalf of himself and Miss Kurkechian, Chairman Matoian thanked the Assembly for their support.

In consideration of the delay in preparing ballots, Dr. Edward Sarkisian moved to extend the deadline for voting to 3:30 p.m. The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed.

VI. MINUTES OF THE 1998 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Chairman Matoian invited questions regarding the 1998 Minutes. Copies of the 1998 Minutes were available prior to the meeting in the Church Office for all parishioners.

A motion was made by Harry Jaboulian to dispense with the reading of the 1998 Annual Parish Assembly Minutes and to ratify them as the official record of the 1998 Parish Assembly. The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed.

VII. 1998 ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman Matoian stated that Reports would not be read and all questions would be answered by the Parish Council or appropriate auxiliary members. Chairman Matoian then offered the Assembly an opportunity to ask questions on each section of the Report.

Dr. Dennis Papazian questioned why the ACYOA report lists 32 members, but the organization's representatives recently stated that there is very little involvement. ACYOA Chairman John Lucassian responded that many people became dues paying members in an effort to participate in the 1998 Sports Weekend in Detroit, but a majority of those members are not actively involved in ACYOA.

Violet Cholakian asked why the ACYO Juniors are not called the ACYOA Juniors. Rev. Fr. Garabed responded that the ACYO Juniors do not have a national organization. He further elaborated that the Diocese's Department of Youth Ministry is beginning to concentrate on youth activities, so we may soon see the name evolve to the ACYOA Juniors.

There being no further questions regarding the 1998 Annual Report, Dr. Edward Sarkisian made a motion to approve the Report as presented. The motion was seconded, voted upon and carried.

VIII. 1998 PARISH COUNCIL REPORT ON NEW ENDOWMENT FUND POLICY

On behalf of the 1998 Parish Council, Janice Torosian proposed the following Endowment Fund Policy, which was distributed to the Assembly upon their registration:

1. A donation to St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit is accepted as an endowment, if there is a donor restriction requiring that the principal remain intact, in

perpetuity with St. John's Armenian Church of Greater Detroit. Donor designation of income on endowment funds may only be for the support of St. John's Armenian Church and/or the Church auxiliary organizations.

2. Donations of stock and real estate are immediately sold at fair market value.
3. For all donations classified as endowments, records will be maintained, clearly indicating the donor and amount of donation.
4. A summary of the endowment fund will be included in the Annual Report.

When questioned by Dr. Dennis Papazian, Ms. Torosian stated that there is no minimum amount required when establishing an endowment fund. Dr. Papazian then suggested that the Parish Council consider setting a minimum amount.

Following an inquiry by Sarah Andonian, Ms. Torosian noted that the proposed policy completely addresses the Church's policy on Endowment Funds.

Zaven Dolik made a motion to accept the proposed policy. The motion was seconded, voted upon and carried.

IX. REVIEW OF 1998 FINANCIAL REPORT

Chairman Matoian invited questions regarding the 1998 Financial Report.

Harry Amirkian requested an explanation for the transfer of \$118,891.90 to the Diocese. Parish Council Chairman Edward Korkoian responded that the transaction represented a transfer of Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedekian's Endowment Fund to the Diocese.

Mr. Korkoian further explained that the fund was established to commemorate Fr. Paren's 25th Anniversary as a Clergyman. Fr. Paren set certain provisions for the fund, such as its purpose of supporting social and educational concerns. Upon his resignation, Fr. Paren's request to transfer the endowment fund to the Diocese was denied by the Parish Council. Once he became Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. Korkoian received Fr. Paren's second request for the transfer. After reviewing the request, following required protocols and consulting with the Church's Pastor at that time, the Very Rev. Fr. Baret Yeretjian, the Parish Council honored Fr. Paren's request.

Following questions by Dr. Dennis Papazian, including a request to review Fr. Paren's Endowment Fund document, Chairman Matoian stated that further deliberation of the issue required either a formal motion or off-line discussions.

A motion to accept the 1998 Financial Report was made by Lucy Merzian, seconded, voted upon and carried.

X. ELECTIONS - CONTINUED

In further consideration of the delay in preparing ballots, Dr. Edward Sarkisian moved to extend the deadline for voting to 4:00 p.m. Following an explanation of the delay, the motion was seconded, voted upon and passed.

Pamela Dayinian announced that technical difficulties had caused a delay in preparing ballots. She went on to explain the voting process. Votes were then cast for Parish Council, Auditing Committee, Nominating Committee and Diocesan Delegates.

XI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 1999 BUDGET

Chairman Matoian invited questions regarding the 1999 Budget. There were no questions posed by the Assembly. Dr. Edward Sarkisian made a motion to approve the 1999 Budget. His motion was seconded, voted upon and carried.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

The following New Business was addressed.

Motion to Eliminate Nominations From the Floor at Annual Parish Assemblies

Chairman Matoian stated that this motion contradicts Roberts Rules of Order. He then requested that the originator of the motion further explain the intent. The issue was closed when no one came forward. (Mary Negosian later came forward and motioned to consider the issue as New Business; her motion was seconded, voted upon and defeated.)

Motion to Reopen Discussion of Fr. Paren Avedekian's Endowment Fund

Dr. Dennis Papazian's motion was seconded, voted upon and defeated.

XII. CLOSING REMARKS

On behalf of the parishioners, Mary Ryan thanked Edward Korkoian for his service to the Church as Chairman of the Parish Council.

Mr. Korkoian then presented his closing remarks. He detailed the Parish Council's accomplishments during a year of transition. He thanked the many parishioners who served their Church and encouraged further involvement by all. He also thanked the Church staff for their contributions to the Church, as well as Chairman of the Day Michael Matoian and Secretary of the Day Linda Kurkechian.

Fr. Garabed Kochakian invited Vincent Baylerian to pay tribute to Edward Korkoian for his service to the Church and dedication as Parish Council Chairman for the past six years. The Assembly then gave a standing ovation to Mr. Korkoian.

XIII. ELECTION RESULTS

Chairman Matoian asked the Chairman of the Nominating Committee to announce the election results. Pamela Dayinian announced that there was tie in the Parish Council election. While the top five vote recipients were to be elected, Mary Ryan and Marie Vanerian tied for 5th place. The Assembly then voted their choice among the two ladies to fill the 5th Parish Council position. Mrs. Dayinian then announced the election results and congratulated the new members of the Auditing Committee, Nominating Committee and Diocesan Delegates.

Auditing Committee

Paul Andonian

Nominating Committee

Elizabeth Amboian

Mirhan Hoplamazian

Yvonne Korkoian

Lucy Merzian

Yeretzgin Rosalie Papazian

Diocesan Delegates

Howard Atesian
Vincent Baylerian
Edward Korkoian
Kathy Mekjian
Richard Norsigian
Edward Sarkisian
Gary Zamanigian
Alternate: Roseann Manoogian Attar

Once the ballots were tabulated Mrs. Dayinian announced the results of the Parish Council Election.

Parish Council

C. Gary Javizian
Dr. Harry Jaboulian
Kent Johnson
Robert Kurkechian
Mary Ryan
Alternate: Marie Vanerian

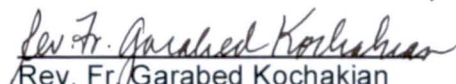
Fr. Garabed Kochakian asked the Nominating Committee Chairman to return all ballots to the sanctuary in order to maintain the integrity of the voting process.


XIV. PRAYER FOR THE DECEASED AND BENEDICTION

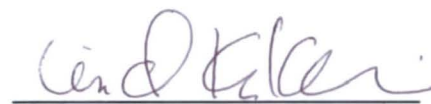
Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian offered the Prayer for the Deceased and read the names of the parishioners who died in 1998. He concluded with the benediction.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The Parish Assembly adjourned at 5:20 p.m.


Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian
Pastor


Michael Matoian
Chairman of the Day


Linda Kurkechian
Secretary of the Day

3/31/99
Dated: