

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR
WORCESTER, MASS.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

SESSION I

The Annual Assembly of the Church of Our Saviour to review the affairs of the Parish for the preceding year and to approve an operating budget for the current year was held in the Church Hall on Sunday, Jan. 23, 1972. The meeting, presided by Very Reverend Muron Dz. V. Gurjikian was called to order by the Parish Council Chairman Zarvin Kasparian at 1:10 P. M. there being fifty members present. This number is to constitute a quorum in accordance with the published invitation and agenda. Following opening prayer by our pastor, Hayr Soorp Muron Gurjikian, copies of the published "Annual Report" for 1971 were distributed to all members present.

AGENDA

1. Election of officers of the Assembly.
2. Reading of the minutes of the previous Assembly.
3. Report of the Pastor.
4. Report of the Parish Council.
5. Report of the Auditing Committee.
6. Reports of all organizations.
7. Approval of proposed 1972 budget.
8. Proposal and request for approval of an assessment of fifty cents (\$.50) per week per parish member for reduction of the Cultural Center indebtedness.
9. Election of Parish Council, Auditing Committee and Nominating Committee.
10. New Business.

In accordance with Item 1 of the Agenda, Mr. Kasparian then requested the Assembly to nominate candidates for a Chairman to conduct the meeting. There being offered the name of Mr. Harry Sogigian, the nominations were closed and by open vote Mr. Sogigian was unanimously elected.

Nominations for candidates to the office of Secretary were then requested. Mr. Bartevo Bagdasarian was nominated and upon closing of nominations was duly elected by open vote to become Secretary.

Mr. Kasparian then invited the newly elected Chairman and Secretary to the table to conduct the meeting and pursue the remainder of the agenda.

On favorable vote of the Assembly it was requested that the meeting continue without the reading of the minutes of the previous Assembly since they had already been approved prior to the closing of that meeting.

Chairman Sogigian then requested our pastor Very Rev. Muron Dz.V. Gurjikian to present his report. This was read in person from the pages of the "Annual Parish Reports" it being recorded there in both Armenian and English languages on pages 1 thru 5.

The Chairman then invited the Parish Council Secretary, Mr. Van Aroian to present a report of the Concil's activities. This was read from the "Reports" also and recorded therein on pages 6 & 7.

Item number 5 of the Agenda then called for a report of the Auditing committee which was verbally presented by Mr. Jack Bilzerian, their certification appearing on Page 11 of the "Reports". This review included an examination of the books and records of the Parish including the separate accounting of the Cultural Center Building Fund. Questions on the financial condition of the Parish were offered by the Assembly and clarified by both Mr. Kasparian, Chairman and Mr. Toromanian, Treasurer of the Council.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded,

It Was Voted:

To accept the reports of the Pastor, Parish Council and Auditing committee with commendation for a job well done and a round of applause by the members present.

Agenda Item No. 6 was temporarily withdrawn for a later time in the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7 calling for the 1972 proposed budget was then called for by the Chair. Mr. Zarvin Kasparian, Council Chairman then presented the 1972 Budget appearing on Page 12 of the "Report". The anticipated income was expected to be \$59,200.00 while the anticipated expenses were pegged at \$71,585.00. This represents a deficit anticipated to be \$12,345.00. It was explained that several items in the structure of the expenses portion of the budget were purposely valued at higher than expected costs which might be reduced in the course of the year due to the generous, voluntary services offered by members of the Parish. However, if this did not materialize, the Council would at least have the approval necessary to expend the required funds.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded,

It Was Voted:

To accept the proposed budget as specified in "Annual Reports 1971" Page 12.

An additional financial report on the condition of the Cultural Center Building Fund previously reported and certified by the Auditing Committee was approved by the Assembly. This appears on Page 13 of the "Report"

Item No. 8 of the Agneda was then offered by Mr. Sogigian to the members of the assembly with a request for a motion to be put upon the table.

A Motion Was Duly Made and Seconded as Follows:

That the Parish Council implement a plan whereby an assessment of \$0.50 per week be levied upon each member of the Parish with the express purpose of having these funds to reduce our indebtedness on the Cultural Center Building. The monies thus contributed by the members shall be recorded in their Pledge Account to the Fund thereby increasing their total contribution. Monies paid to the Fund on this Assessment Plan will not affect any outstanding amount of the Members Pledge.

Followed then a discussion of this motion preceded by an explanation by Council Chairman Kasparian the reason for their recommendation for an assessment. Reference was made to a letter dated Dec. 28, 1971, made a part of these minutes, which clearly identified the need and explained the Council's position.

Upon a request from the Assembly to move the question,

It Was Voted:

To accept the above motion with an affirmative vote of 48 of the members present and 2 opposing.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded, Agenda Item No. 6 was activated.

It Was Voted:

To accept with gratitude the reports of all the Church auxiliary bodies recognized as follows:

Page 14 & 14a	Diocesan Delegates Report.
Page 15	Armenian School
Page 16 & 17	Sunday Church School
Page 18	Church Choir
Page 19	Library Committee Report
Page 20	Egeghetzaser Dignatz Mihootyoun
Page 21	Young Women's Guild
Page 22	Men's Club
Page 23	A.C.Y.O.A. Seniors
Page 24	A.C.Y.O.A. Juniors

THE Assembly Recommended:

That the Parish Council take the necessary steps to activate the Junior Choir.

Agenda Item No. 9. Elections are remanded to Session II which is scheduled for Sunday Jan. 30, 1972 at 10:00 A.M. with balloting to be closed at 1:00 PM and the session continued until ballots are counted and results posted.

Agenda Item No. 10 calling for new business was offered to the Assembly by the Chairman and the first consideration was:

A motion made and seconded as follows:

To make it mandatory upon this Parish to seek a person, preferrably a student Deacon to assist in Pastoral duties.

Discussion followed and comment was made by our Pastor that this matter has been discussed at length by the Council and continued effort is being made to locate and implement this area of our Church family.

The motion was voted:

Five members approved the motion
Forty-five opposed.

The Motion was not carried.

Next order of business was a recommendation by Mr. Kasparian that the Diocesan Delegates be instructed that at future meetings of the Diocesan Convention when a deficit budget is approved, that immediate steps be taken, at the same meeting, for a plan to defray the deficit portion. In this manner, the delegates will then be able to report if steps will have to be taken to provide additional funds from the Parish to the Diocese.

With reference to this recommendation, Very Rev. Muron DZ. V. Gurjikian suggested that perhaps the Diocese should prepare its budget in such form that Cultural events and programs be considered self-supporting and therefore not a part of the general expenses of the Diocese.

It was further recommended that both Mr. Kasparian's and Hayr Soorp's plans be submitted in writing as proposals to the next conventions agenda.

A proposal was made by Mr. George Herosian as follows:

That a plan be implemented whereby members of the Parish would be invited to loan sums of money (\$500. to \$1000.) each to the Parish for the purpose of defraying our note at Mechanics National Bank and the Mortgage at First Federal Savings in order to hasten the time of their re-tirement and thereby reduce interest charges. These monies would be submitted by the donors without interest charge and would be refunded at some future date by holding drawings, from time to time, and the winners would receive re-payment until all claims were satisfied.

The proposal was warmly received and Parish Council Chairman Kasparian, appointed Mr. Herosian chairman of a committee to undertake the proposal as outlined.

In the same vein and in hope of raising funds for the Center, Mr. Mihran Tufenkjian suggested that an annual affair be conducted on the anniversary date of the buildings dedication.

Mr. George Herosian, Chairman of the nominating committee then presented the names of candidates for election at next session of this assembly. Those candidates present at the meeting rose and were recognized. Sample ballot, a part of these records contains the list of Parish Council, Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee candidates.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded,

It Was Voted:

To adjourn and continue in Session II on Sunday next, Jan. 30, 1972 at 10:00 A. M.

Following benediction by Very Rev. Muron Dz.V. Gurjikian, meeting closed at 4:00 P. M.

SESSION II

Second session of the Annual Assembly took place in the Church Hall in accordance with the Agenda Item No. 9 on Sunday Jan 30, 1972, at 9:55 AM. Deacon Simon Zakarian representing Very Rev. DZ. V. Gurjikian sealed the ballot box. Present were Chairman Harry Sogigian and members of the nominating committee as follows: George Herosian, Chairman, Rose Aslanian, Secretary, Manase Jardarian, Ramon Hovsepian. Unable to attend to-day was member Berjouhi Zakarian.

The polls closed at 1:00 PM and following a collation the members of the nominating committee and selected assistants retired to count and tally the ballots.

At 3:20 PM the meeting resumed and was called to order by Chairman Harry Sogigian, Presiding was Hayr Soorp Muron and twenty-two members were present.

Mr. Sogigian requested chairman of the nominating committee, Mr. George Herosian to take the floor and present results of the voting.

Mr. Herosian thanked his Committee profusely as well as those assisting to-day and extended special thanks to Mrs. Rose Aslanian and Mrs. Anne Kabian for ably preparing the collation. He also thanked all those who had graciously submitted their names for consideration on the ballot. Further remarks were made concerning a system of tallying the votes which proved highly efficient and steps will be taken to submit the plan to subsequent committees undertaking this task.

The tabulated results of the voting were read by Mr. Herosian as follows:

Total number of votes cast was 172.

In descending order of votes received for office of Parish Councillor, listed as read:

Charles Garabedian,	121 Votes	Declared Elected
Gilbert Markarian,	114 Votes	" "
Leon Kachadorian,	107 Votes	" "
Peter Nalbandian,	92 Votes	" "
David Adishian,	74 Votes	" "
George Megrdochian,	72 Votes	" "
Haroutune Kasparian,	70 Votes	
Francis Najarian,	58 Votes	
Andrew Surabian,	58 Votes	
Ara Heroian,	53 Votes	
Kazar Kazarian,	47 Votes	
Pogharian, Vahan,	45 Votes	

For Nominating Committee, the results are as follows:

Charles Sharigian,	95 Votes	Declared Elected
George Sogigian,	91 Votes	" "
Ruth Kaprelian,	86 Votes	" "
Berjoohe Zakarian,	86 Votes	" "
George Migridichian,	85 Votes	" "
Richard Mshooshian,	78 Votes	
Manase Jardarian,	73 Votes	
John Balian,	69 Votes	
Carnig Alexanderian,	60 Votes	
Leo Farnagian,	41 Votes	

For Auditing Committee, the results are as follows:

Anne Demirjian,	109 Votes	Declared Elected
Jacob Bilzerian,	97 Votes	" "
Henry Shooshan,	94 Votes	" "
Roger Bogosian,	74 Votes	
Arakel Naroian,	66 Votes	
Barbara Nalkranian,	41 Votes	

Certified copies (2) of the tally sheets will be submitted by the Committee, one to be made a part of these minutes and the other to be submitted to the Diocesan Council for approval.

It was further stated that each of the candidates listed on the ballot would be notified immediately of the voting results. Those having the qualifying votes for the various offices would be told of their victory pending Diocesan approval.

A recommendation was made by the Nominating Committee that the Parish Council consider a method of combining the two sessions of the Annual Assembly in one day.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded,

IT WAS VOTED : To accept the report of the Nominating Committee as submitted.

Minutes of the meetings, Session I and II were read by the Secretary and following corrections,

IT WAS VOTED: To accept them as recorded herein.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded,

IT WAS VOTED: To adjourn.

Following benediction by our Pastor, Very Rev. Muron Dz. V. Gurjikian the meeting closed at 3:50 P.M.

Muron Dz. V. Gurjikian

Very Rev. Muron Dz. V. Gurjikian,
President

Harry Sogigian
Harry Sogigian, Chairman

Bartev Bagdasarian
Bartev Bagdasarian, Secretary