

MINUTES - ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The Annual Parish Assembly of the Church of Our Saviour, Worcester, Massachusetts convened on Sunday, January 31, 1982 in the church hall immediately after church services.

The polls were opened at 11:15 a.m. for balloting for members of the Parish Council, Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee. The polls were closed at 12:30 p.m. and a lunch was served to all present by the Senior Ladies Auxiliary.

At 1:10 p.m. the Co-Chairman Gilbert Markarian called the Assembly to order with Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor presiding. Der Hayr led the assembly in prayers after which the Chair was turned over to Mr. Vahan Pogharian, who called for nominations and election of officers for the Assembly. Mr. Vahan Pogharian was elected Chairman and Mr. Gilbert Markarian was elected Secretary of the Annual Assembly.

It was noted that there were 86 members in attendance.

The Chair asked if there were any items of "New Business" that any members wished to add to the agenda. Two proposals were made:

1. A recommendation from the Auditing Committee to increase the size and alter the terms of office for this committee; and
2. A proposal from Mr. Haroutune Kasparian to study the feasibility of an everyday Armenian School.

The assembly voted to add both items to the agenda.

Since all in attendance had copies, the reading of the minutes of the previous assembly were waived after noting a correction to be made to include the name of Mr. Asbed Zakarian as having been elected to the Parish Council.

The report of the Pastor was read by Reverend Father Kochakian who in his comments stressed his concern for the enrollment of children in both the language and church schools. He urged all to support these endeavors and to insure attendance of their children.

The reading of the Parish Council Report was also waived and the Chair called for discussions and questions on a page by page review since all in attendance had copies. A question was raised as to what constituted "church treasures" on inventory which had been made.

Der Hayr explained that they were the vessels, candlesticks, altar appointments, pictures, chalices, Gontags and other ancient documents and church records which had been collected and placed in the archives. He also informed those present that the Aivososki painting had been appraised again. Mr. Zarvin Kasparian assured all that these items are listed in insurance policies that are being

Mr. Aslanian expressed his appreciation and thanks to all of his Committee members, to the ladies who helped prepare and serve the lunch and to Mr. Ramon Hovsepian who had developed a new system that expedited the tally of the ballots.

On behalf of the Assembly the Chair thanked Mr. Aslanian and his Committee for a job well done.

The Chair then called for "New Business". The first item was a proposal suggested by the Auditing Committee which was offered as a motion as follows:

The Auditing Committee shall consist of four members who will serve for two years and half of whom will be elected in alternate years. At the first election which is today, the two that receive the highest votes shall serve for two years and the two that receive the next highest votes shall serve for one year. Next year and each year thereafter two of the four members will be elected for two year terms.

The motion was seconded and approved by the assembly.

The second item of new business was a suggestion that:

A committee study the feasibility of sponsoring a daily Armenian School in Worcester.

This suggestion was made by Mr. Haroutune Kasparian and supported by Mr. Kenneth Krikorian. After a brief discussion, the Assembly asked Mr. Kasparian to select a committee and to conduct the study and submit a report to the Council.

There being no further business before the Assembly, it was moved we adjourn and the reading of the minutes be waived to permit the Secretary time to prepare them in due form.

The Assembly voted to adjourn at 4:20p.m. with a closing prayer and blessing from Der Hayr Kochakian.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Fr. Garabed D. Kochakian

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian
Pastor and President

Vahan L. Pogharian

Vahan Pogharian
Chairman

Gilbert Markarian
Gilbert Markarian
Secretary

ADDENDA TO THE SECOND PARAGRAPH, FIRST PAGE OF MINUTES SHOULD READ:

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During the review of the Church School Report, Mrs. Arlene Manos stressed the need for parent participation as well as the critical need for assistance in conducting nursery age student classes. There is a curriculum however, there is a shortage of teachers. There was also some lengthy discussion on the "human resources" available to the parish and the enrollment in our Church School, Armenian School, etc. It was felt that this should be of continuous concern and a motion was made that "the Parish Council conduct a survey on a continuing basis on our human resources". Motion was seconded and approved by the Assembly.

During the review of the ACYOA Seniors report, Mr. Scott Najarian asked that consideration be given to students over age 18 on payment of church dues. He was invited to attend a Parish Council meeting to state his proposal.

During the review of the Library Committee report, Mr. Ken Krikorian suggested the committee be involved with the preservation of our treasures, a part of which is our library, and also with those involved in the preparation of our 100th. Anniversary observance.

The Chair asked for and received from the Parish Assembly approval of all reports as submitted.

The Chair called on Mr. William Aslanian to report the results of the balloting, There were 164 ballots cast and the results were as follows:

PARISH COUNCIL

Ghevont Hagopian
Anne Hovenesian
Leon Kachadorian
Zarvin Kasparian
John Sagarian
Abraham Sivazlian
Stanford Hagopian-Gerber 1st. Alternate

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rose Aslanian
Alice Papazian
Anne Pogharian
Charles Sharigian
Rosanna Sogigian
Seth Arakelian 1st. Alternate

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Herbert Alexander
Bart Bagdasarian, Jr.
Edward J. Bilzerian
Ruth Kaprelian
Norman Noorjanian 1st. Alternate

purchased by the church. In further explanation of the figures shown on pages 18, 19, 20 & 21, Mr. Zarvin Kasparian offered charts which disclosed that while some \$56,000 had been added to the Church Treasury this year that only some \$1400 was realized from everyday church activities, the balance of some \$54,600 resulted from the sale of the Mrs. Thompson-Thomasian property and interest on our Church Reserve Fund.

The "Restricted Funds" consist of:

Church Reserve	\$100,000
Thompson-Thomasian	34,825
Nanigian	15,000
Manooshian	1,000
Shapazian	1,000
Paelian	500
Bulbulian	250
Hooloian	1,147
	<hr/>
	\$153,722

Mr. Kasparian also stated that the Parish Council wished to acknowledge the services of Mrs. Marion Aharonian and Mrs. Tina Bilzarain who were involved in the sale of the Thompson-Thomasian property and who served without any fee in this transaction.

There ensued a lengthy discussion on membership and a count as to how many dues paying members there were in 1980 and 1981. Final figures were not available at this time since the Council was still receiving monies for 1981 dues. The voting list for the balloting this year consisted of over 500 names. The need for accuracy by all Parishes in these figures was stressed since they are a part of the formula for assessments as well as determining the number of Diocesan Delegates.

The Chair called for a report from the Auditing Committee. Mr. Barteve J. Bagdasarian, Jr. stated the books had been audited and found in good order. He also stated that a standardized record system was being worked on with the Council to facilitate future audits.

The Assembly voted to accept the report of the Parish Council which also included the financial statements.

The Chair called for discussion of the proposed 1982 Budget. It was noted that no income is anticipated from Baptisms and Funerals. This results from a policy adopted by the Parish Council not to charge for these services which is in keeping with the Assembly's wishes expressed last year. The Assembly voted to approve the actions of the Council in this regard and to urge the Council to continue its study regarding fees for services and sacraments to Church members. After a brief discussion the budget was approved as presented by the Council.

The Assembly then reviewed reports from the Senior Ladies Auxiliary, the Avak Group, the Ekmalian Choir, Armenian School, Sunday Church School, Cultural Organization, Library Committee, Women's Guild, Church School Parent's Association, ACYOA Seniors and ACYOA Juniors.

Mr. Aslanian expressed his appreciation and thanks to all of his Committee members, to the ladies who helped prepare and serve the lunch and to Mr. Ramon Hovsepian who had developed a new system that expedited the tally of the ballots.

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