

Armenian Church of Our Saviour 1997 Annual Parish Assembly Minutes February 16, 1997

The Annual Assembly of the Armenian Church of Our Saviour was called to order on Sunday February 16, 1997 at 11:45 AM by Richard Maksian, the Chairman of the 1996 Assembly. The opening prayer was given by Fr. Aved Terzian.

Election of Assembly Officers

The Nomination Committee nominated George Migridichian as Assembly Chairman. His nomination was seconded by Bizer Simonian. No other candidates for Chairman were nominated and nominations were closed. The Secretary cast one vote for George Migridichian.

Several members declined nominations as Secretary of the Assembly. Pauline Agazarian nominated Gladys Andonian for Assembly Secretary. The nomination was seconded by Charles Sharigian. No other candidates for Secretary were nominated and nominations were closed. The Secretary cast one vote for Gladys Andonian.

Quorum

The Chairman requested a show of hands to indicate a quorum. 115 members were in attendance at this point of the meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was presented for review by the Parish Council. Scott Najarian made a motion to move item No. 9 on the agenda, New Business, to the No. 13 position. The motion was seconded by George P. Krikorian. After some discussion, the motion passed.

Zarvin Kasparian acknowledged and thanked Richard Maksian for serving as Assembly Chairman for the past two years.

Scott Najarian made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Zarvin Kasparian.

Louis S. Mikitarian, Parish Council Chairman, introduced a procedural change which would be used count votes taken during the assembly. Green cards would be used to indicate a "for" (yes)

vote. Red cards would be used to indicate an "against" (no) vote. One card of each color would be handed out to each dues paying member in good standing in attendance.

Nominations for Parish Council

The Chairman introduced Laura Purutyan, Nominating Committee Chairperson. Laura Purutyan presented the names of the Parish Council candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee.

They were:

Patrician Arakelian	Harry Dostourian
Karnig Durgarian, Jr.	Vahe Jardarian
Edward Kachajian	Joseph Strazulla
Elizabeth Avakian	

Laura Purutyan indicated that the number of nominees did not meet the Diocesan By-Laws requirement for two times the elected offices (five) and requested additional nominations from the floor. Many nominations were made and all were declined. Joan Handleman moved that nominations be closed. It was seconded by Elda Malesky. The motion passed. The Parish Council final ballot consisted of the names above.

Laura Purutyan presented the names of the Nominating Committee candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee. They were:

Richard Bedrosian	Barbara Davis
Pamela Sagarian	

Laura Purutyan indicated that the number of nominees did not meet the Diocesan By-Laws requirement for two times the elected offices (five) and requested additional nominations from the floor. Arpy Migridichian nominated George P. Krikorian. His nomination was seconded by Joan Handleman. Seth Bilazarian nominated Ruth Haddon. Her nomination was seconded by Arek Thompson. Many other nominations were made and all were declined. Scott Najarian moved that nominations be closed. It was seconded by Bizer Simonian. The motion passed. The final Nominating Committee ballot consisted of:

Richard Bedrosian	Barbara Davis
Ruth Haddon	George P. Krikorian
Pamela Sagarian	

Laura Purutyan presented the names of the Auditing Committee candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee. They were:

Karen Durgarian	George P. Krikorian
Norman Noorjanian	

Laura Purutyan indicated that the number of nominees did not meet the Diocesan By-laws requirement for two times the elected offices (two) and requested additional nominations from the floor. Many nominations were made and all were declined. Marilyn Markarian moved that nominations be closed. It was seconded by Joan Handleman. The motion passed. The final Nominating Committee ballot consisted of the names above.

Laura Purutyan presented the names of the Endowment Committee candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee. They were:

Gilbert Markarian Scott Najarian

Laura Purutyan asked if there were additional nominations from the floor. Edward S. Bilzerian moved that nominations be closed. It was seconded by Marilyn Markarian . The motion passed. The final Memorial Endowment Committee ballot consisted of the names above.

Laura Purutyan presented the names of the Diocesan Delegate candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee. They were:

Paul Davis	Alma Der Kazarian
Thomas Garabedian	Michael Gulbankian, Sr.
Jay Kapur	Marilyn Markarian
Louis S. Mikitarian	Scott Najarian
Herman Purutyan	Agnes Sahagian
Robert Shamgochian	Asbed Zakarian

Louis S. Mikitarian explained that the number of delegates allowed by a parish is one delegate per 100 dues paid members in good standing. Since there are more than 400 members in good standing, five diocesan delegates are allowed. Arthur Yagjian, through a point of information, requested to know the number of dues paid members. Louis S. Mikitarian indicated that there were 426 dues paid members for 1996. Laura Purutyan asked if there were additional nominations from the floor. Edward S. Bilzerian moved that nominations be closed. It was seconded by Marilyn Markarian . The motion passed. The final Diocesan Delegate ballot consisted of the names above.

The Chairman proposed that the voting begin as soon as the final ballots are provided (approximately 5 minutes), that lunch and voting take place at the same time and that the meeting reconvene at 1:15 PM. This schedule was approved by the assembly.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 1:25 PM. The Chairman requested a show of yes (green) cards to note the current number of voting members present. 87 members were counted.

1996 Annual Assembly Minutes

The 1996 Annual Assembly Minutes were reviewed. The following changes were noted:

Page 3 of the 1996 Annual Report: Change "John Sagarian, Jr." to "John Sagarian, Sr.".

Page 13 of the 1996 Annual Report: The quote attributed to Zarvin Kasparian was not made by him.

Page 5 of the 1996 Annual Report: Edward S. Bilzerian indicated that the statement "The Diocesan Assessment represents the single largest budgeted expense item..." is not true and needs to be corrected.

Page 11 of the 1996 Annual Report: Edward S. Bilzerian noted the statement by Arpy Migridichian. After some discussion, he agreed that this should be discussed under Old Business.

Auditing Committee Report

Richard Dodakian, representing the Auditing Committee, explained the responsibility and process of the Auditing Committee.

Seth Bilazarian asked whether the special plate collections should be noted in the financial reports. Louis S. Mikitarian responded that special collections are not typically itemized in the financial reports, that all the special collections are forwarded or designated for the specific purpose and that the Parish Council can investigate the feasibility of listing those amounts in future reports.

Edward S. Bilzerian asked when the job description of the Auditing Committee was changed from only auditing to encompassing more tasks. Louis S. Mikitarian responded that due to the complexity of the financial reports, the Treasurer, with much assistance from the Auditing Committee, has been involved in the preparation and review of the reports. Zarvin Kasparian has stated that since 1973, the Auditing Committee has performed its duties in accordance with the Diocesan By-Laws. He suggested that outside professional help be considered if the financial records are so complicated that the Parish Council cannot compile the reports. He suggested that the Auditing Committee report be rejected because of the statement in the By-Laws. He requested that the word "prepared" be removed from the Auditing Committee report. He indicated that if the Auditing Committee is preparing the financial reports, there is a conflict of interest in that area.

Kap Maksian indicated that the Auditing Committee, as part of its review process, examines all the accounts and fundamental financial data maintained by the Parish Council and that the reports are generated based on this information. Edward S. Bilzerian said that the issue is that the Treasurer should prepare the reports and that the Auditing Committee should examine the reports. He agreed with Zarvin Kasparian that the church should have professional help to audit the books at the end of the year. He agreed that the word "prepare" should be eliminated from the Auditing Committee report. Zarvin Kasparian said that the reports belong to the Parish Council to prepare and present to the Parish Assembly. He said that he could not remember an Assembly which voted or granted the Auditing Committee the right to eliminate examination of the reports from its duties. Richard Dodakian stated that he, the Parish Council and Tom Garabedian worked together to prepare the reports and that it would be difficult for an outside organization to prepare and/or audit the reports in a timely manner.

Edward S. Bilazarian moved that the Parish Council look into outside auditors for next year's financial reports. Berjoohe Zakarian seconded the motion. Tom Garabedian stated that probably 80% of the Church's assets are in the memorial fund or the Church's reserve fund and are reported independently by the securities agent which handles those accounts. The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council, Auditing Committee and other subgroups should get together to solve these issues. Dorothy Yagjian stated that it would probably cost more than \$5,000 for an audit. Edward S. Bilzerian reiterated that the motion was to have the work of outside auditors investigated. The motion passed.

The Chairman solicited comments to the financial pages of the Annual Report.

Page 72 - Edward S. Bilzerian questioned why the Earthquake Fund is maintained in a relatively low interest checking account. He moved that the Earthquake Fund moneys be placed in a higher interest account, such as a savings account. Tom Garabedian seconded the motion. Herman Purutyan said that the money was raised for earthquake relief and should be sent to the Diocese for that use. Fr. Aved explained that a motion had been made to move the money into a higher interest vehicle. Edward S. Bilzerian said that the money should be placed in a higher interest account or it should be dispersed. Charles Sharigian said that the earthquake money should be in a CD for a higher return. Michael Gulbankian said that the money was collected for earthquake relief and should be used for that purpose. Edward S. Bilzerian stated that he'd like to withdraw his motion. Scott Najarian said that the motion could not be withdrawn by the originator because it had been

seconded already but that the Assembly could vote to withdraw the motion. The Assembly voted to withdraw the motion.

Herman Purutyan moved to send the Earthquake Fund money to the Fund for Armenian Relief. Tony Barsamian seconded the motion. Arpy Migridichian asked whether the money could be earmarked for a specific purpose in Armenia. Tom Garabedian stated that the money was not originally intended for FAR or any specific project. Fr. Aved made the following points: (a) the money was not raised by donations alone, (b) the parish originally committed to raise \$1,000,000 for earthquake relief, (c) over \$600,000 had been raised so far, (d) the Primate asked our Church to retain the money left in the account to use as seed money for other earthquake fundraising events. He said that there may be a project in Armenia that can have the Worcester parish's name on it and that the church has been waiting for the Diocese's direction regardless of whether the moneys are maintained at our Church or at the Diocese. Edward S. Bilzerian asked when the last Earthquake fundraising event was. The response was that the last fund-raiser was in 1993. Fr. Aved said that whatever money is raised would be used to benefit Armenia. Edward S. Bilzerian said that the money should be left where it is or that it should be "wiped" off the books. Tony Barsamian said that the money should be used for a specific project, similar to the "Milk Fund". Herman Purutyan said that the goal of \$1,000,000 is unrealistic at this point and that the money should be dispersed to help Armenia. Eva Haroian said that the money should be retained, perhaps to generate more. Fr. Aved said that regardless, all moneys will ultimately be sent to FAR and would not be used for other purposes within our parish. The motion passed.

Arpy Migridichian moved that the money should be earmarked for a specific project within FAR. Ruth Haddon seconded the motion. Seth Bilazarian said that the money should be earmarked for a project within the earthquake zone. Scott Najarian said that a list of projects in Armenia which are candidates for earthquake relief funds is available. Berjoohie Zakarian said that the funds must be given to FAR for what is determined to be the best use with the Worcester parish receiving the appropriate credit. The motion was defeated.

Seth Bilazarian questioned whether the Investment Committee is too conservative with the Church's investments. Tom Garabedian referred to Pages 79-80 and indicated that the Investment Committee, through the Parish Council, changed some of the Church's investments in order to achieve a higher yield.

Jay Kapur asked what the average rate of return was for the Church's investments and how it compared with the general market returns. Tom Garabedian responded that the changes made to the investment accounts occurred between September and the end of the year and that three months is too short a period to get a good sense of the returns of the new investments. He said that 1997 will provide a better indication of what the returns will be.

Jay Kapur asked how the equity funds performed. Tom Garabedian indicated that the S&P 500 funds were expected to have higher returns. Edward S. Bilzerian said that it is proven that over time having money invested in various funds is better.

The Chairman asked the Assembly to review the reports page-by-page and to refocus on page 74. Zarvin Kasparian said the item "Service Fees - New England Region" should reflect \$1,200, not \$900. Kap Maksian said that the account was credited incorrectly and that the error would be corrected.

Zarvin Kasparian said that the \$1.00 listed under Vacation Bible School should have been included under Miscellaneous Income. Tom Garabedian clarified the nature of the Vacation Bible School account.

George Migridichian requested an explanation of the Retroactive Clergy Vacation Allowance. Louis S. Mikitarian explained that three years ago, when Fr. Aved had accumulated unused vacation, there was no policy. The Parish Council at that time voted to compensate Fr. Aved for his current unused vacation and establish an unused vacation policy for the Pastor. The amount listed for Retroactive Clergy Vacation Allowance reflects unused vacation for 1992-1994. Edward S. Bilzerian asked how many weeks of vacation the amount represented. Jay Kapur responded that it represented seven weeks unused vacation out of a total of nine weeks. Louis S. Mikitarian said that the current policy is that the Pastor is entitled to 3 weeks vacation per year and that two of the weeks must be taken. Tom Garabedian said that he objects to the Parish Council spending the Church's money without the knowledge of the "Finance" Committee and feels that Fr. Aved should take all three weeks of his vacation. Louis S. Mikitarian said that the Parish Council's proposed budget includes the amount for unused vacation.

Steven Migridichian questioned the increases in Clergy Health/Life Insurance, Diocesan Assessment, Landscape Maintenance and Payroll Bookkeeping.

Clergy Health/Life Insurance - Louis S. Mikitarian explained that Health Insurance costs are increasing, that premiums are reviewed and adjusted twice a year. Regarding the Religious Institute insurance policy, he indicated that the Church is insured for approximately \$3.6 million and that the premiums are also increasing in that area. Edward S. Bilzerian suggested HMO coverage for the Clergy. Louis S. Mikitarian indicated that the Parish Council will check into other coverages. Edward S. Bilzerian asked how much the Church pays monthly. Louis S. Mikitarian responded approximately \$700 per month. Edward S. Bilzerian indicated that it would be \$350 per month for an HMO. Tom Garabedian suggested the Fallon Health Plan. Jay Kapur said that the Parish Council looked into the issue of health insurance a few years ago and discovered that two covered employees are required to qualify for the lower rates. He also indicated that the Diocese requires full coverage for the Pastor with no co-payments.

Payroll Bookkeeping - Louis S. Mikitarian explained that the bookkeeper was hired only for a portion of 1995 and that the figure has tripled for 1996 because the bookkeeper worked the whole year.

Landscape Maintenance - Louis S. Mikitarian said that the landscaping during 1996 was primarily performed by an outside firm and not donated, as was suggested.

Diocesan Assessment - Louis S. Mikitarian indicated that the Diocese formula for parish assessment is based on several factors including dues paying membership, pledges, collections and number of priests. This year, the Church's dues paying membership is lower so the assessment should be lower. Agnes Sahagian stated that the Church's Diocesan assessment is \$4,091 per month. George Migridichian stated that the Diocesan Council is reviewing and creating a new assessment formula. Edward S. Bilzerian requested an explanation as to how our parish's assessment is determined. Louis S. Mikitarian responded that during 1995 there were 560 dues paying members. During 1996, 47 of the 426 dues paying members paid the "senior citizen/hardship" dues amount of \$65. The parish was assessed approximately \$90 for each reported dues paying member. Edward J. Bilzerian questioned what the assessment would be for the coming year. Louis S. Mikitarian responded that it should be lower based on the reduced number of dues paying members reported for 1996. Charles Sharigian questioned how many parishes have one priest. Louis S. Mikitarian responded: 44. He further explained that many smaller churches are unable to pay their assessment which places additional burden on those churches which can.

Edward S. Bilzerian questioned how often the finances of the church are reviewed. Louis S. Mikitarian responded: several times during the year.

Bart Bagdasarian commented that on Page 75, the items Clergy Auto Allowance, Clergy Auto Insurance and Payroll Bookkeeping should be listed as general expense items and in particular, the first two items should not include the word "Clergy". He also said that if the bookkeeper is qualified, frequent auditing should not be necessary.

Jay Kapur commented that everyone is concerned with expenses and said that the Parish Council is doing a good job. He further stated that the budget is under \$300,000 and the Parish Council keeps expenses under control. He said that Youghakin donations should be increased and that more people need to become dues paying members.

Vahe Jardarian stated that a replacement for the custodian needs to be made and that part-time cleaning maintenance is not sufficient. Louis S. Mikitarian stated that the full-time custodian was dismissed during the year and that there is a part-time custodian and a cleaning service. The cleaning service performs its duties on a weekly basis and the overall custodial costs are less than they were with a full-time custodian.

Seth Bilazarian expressed a concern that there is no Youth Director/Assistant to the Pastor.

Harry Sogigian questioned what happened with the Stewardship Committee. He suggested that another Stewardship Committee be formed with a more effective way of functioning. He stated that the recent correspondence that had been mailed to the parish did not constitute stewardship. Louis S. Mikitarian stated that the dues letter sent to the parishioners was sent by the Parish Council, not by the Stewardship Committee. He added that a committee needs to be formed to address the issue of increasing church membership. Harry Sogigian responded that dues payment is not stewardship and that other methods must be pursued. The Chairman commented that in the 1994 Annual Reports, the Stewardship Committee was reported as one of the standing committees. Mrs. Rose Aslanian said that if a Stewardship Committee is formed, shouldn't it report to the Parish Council. Louis S. Mikitarian responded that when the Stewardship Committee was originally formed in 1994, it was started by the Parish Council with the hope that the leadership of the committee would pass to other committee members. After several meetings, none of the committee members came forward to chair the committee and the Parish Council was unable to

continue to lead the committee, and therefore it disbanded. Harry Sogigian said that a procedure of person-to-person contact must be pursued by a Stewardship Committee.

George Migridichian commented on Pages 77, 78, 81 and 82:

On Page 82, "Alice Piligian" should be changed to "Parouz Piligian" and should be moved to the Memorial Endowment Fund.

On Page 82, \$200 should be subtracted from the "Parouz Piligian" Pending Memorial Fund. The George Herosian and Andrew and Helen Michaelian funds should be listed under the Memorial Endowment Funds.

Kap Maksian said that the Drs. George and Christine Asdourian fund should be listed under the Memorial Endowment Funds.

Vahe Jardarian asked whether there would be replacements for the Office computer and copying machine. Louis S. Mikitarian responded that there are no plans to replace the computer, that the copying machine has gone through twice its expected life span in terms of number of copies and that there are no plans to replace the copying machine. The church maintains a service contract for the copying machine. A new copier would cost in the \$20,000 - \$30,000 range. The church does not appear to have the funds to purchase a new copier.

Charlotte Calfaian referred to Page 81 of the Annual Report and said that the amount listed for James and Elizabeth Calfaian is incorrect. Kap Maksian indicated that the incorrect amount had been identified is being corrected to \$7,500.

Harry Sogigian stated that Mary Chakemian is not listed among the Memorial Funds on Page 82. Kap Maksian said that the Memorial Fund moneys can be spent and that the amount listed under Mary Chakemian's name has already been spend and therefore is no longer listed.

Steve Sahagian noted the correction to the Piligian fund listing on Page 82 which had been previously identified.

Pauline Agazarian said that the name "Yeranoosh Abrahamian" should be changed to "Yeranoohi Abrahamian".

Berjoohie Zakarian questioned several Memorial Endowment funds/amounts that should have been listed as benefiting the Sunday School. Kap Maksian said that next year a new format will be presented for the Memorial Endowment Funds which will indicate the designated purpose for the interest earned from those funds.

Tony Barsamian moved that the Financial Reports be accepted. The motion was seconded by James Sarkisian. The motion passed.

Adoption of 1997 Operating Budget

The Parish Council distributed a revised proposed budget. Louis S. Mikitarian said that this revised proposed budget should be the basis for the budget discussions.

Tom Garabedian said that annual dues be increased to \$200 per person and proposed that a list of amounts given by each member be published. He said that in order for the Church to grow, it must spend money and increase its revenues. He moved that the amount listed for Pledges be increased to \$100,000 and that the Item Assistant to the Pastor be created under Expenses with the amount of \$21,000. Agnes Sahagian volunteered to chair the Stewardship Committee in hopes that it will lead to a increase in membership. John Toromanian stated that in 1981 there were 633 dues paid members and that a Membership Committee can canvas people in order to acquire church members. Zarvin Kasparian stated he was in favor of having an Assistant to the Pastor to relieve Fr. Aved to participate in some youth activities. Richard Dodakian said that in order to achieve \$100,000 in dues, the minimum dues per person would have to be increased. John Toromanian stated that in 1981, out of 633 dues paid members, 79 were retirees (paying a reduced minimum dues amount) and that the remainder were regular dues paying members. Seth Bilazarian said that the youth need to be supported. Charles Sharigian said that people need to be pursued in order to get new members. George Migridichian said that the Stewardship Committee should pursue this issue. Kitty Dodakian said that there are families whose children attend Sunday School who do not pay dues. The motion was voted upon and defeated.

Zarvin Kasparian said that if income is less than expenditures, the Church must strive to increase its income. He moved that a \$5,000 expense item be designated for the purpose of engaging a person, preferably clergy, to assist the pastor so that the pastor can spend more time on youth activities. Louis S. Mikitarian responded that funds on the expense side of the proposed budget have been included under Visiting Clergy Expense so that Fr. Aved will be able to spend more time on Sundays in Sunday School. Fr. Aved said that he understands the parish's concern that he is

unable to do everything. He explained that any deacons which are produced by the Seminary are assigned to a parish which has no priest and that there are no deacons projected as available for two years. He wants to have a priest to perform services on certain Sundays so that he can spend time with the youth. He said that preliminary arrangements have been made with Rev. Fr. Krikor Maksoudian. He said that our parish could not afford a second priest, even if one were available. Zarvin Kasparian asked how many times Father Maksoudian would visit our Church. Fr. Aved responded that he may come as many as 15 Sundays and may also be asked to train Sunday School teachers. Zarvin Kasparian suggested that \$4,500 is not enough to compensate the visiting clergy for the proposed number of visits. Seth Bilazarian said that no youth programs will benefit from a visiting priest. Der Hayr responded that the parish had two Assistants to the Pastor in 4 1/2 years and that although they were somewhat beneficial to the youth activities while they were assigned to Worcester, there is little of substance to show for their time here since they have departed. He said that the church does encourage children to participate in Camp St. Vartan and other youth programs. He said that the youth need to be encouraged by everyone, not only the pastor. Scott Najarian said that the parish needs a youth director, not another assistant to the pastor - someone who will be able to tell the parish how to attract the youth to the Church. He said that he is familiar with the programs at other churches around the Diocese and that some are doing better than Worcester is in this area. He said that our parish has neglected its youth and that in order to get more dues paying members, young people have to be attracted to the parish. Kap Maksian asked Scott Najarian whether the small parishes have youth directors. Scott Najarian responded that many churches have a youth director or a youth committee that spends many hours on youth problems. Kap Maksian asked Scott Najarian if our church could get feedback from these other churches. He said that in our parish he has talked to many of the youth and they say they are too busy to be involved. Scott Najarian said that interest has to be created to achieve an excitement to attract youth in our parish. Kap Maksian asked if the parish can get information about attracting youth. Scott Najarian responded that the parish still needs a youth director and feedback from other parishes to excite the youth. In other parishes, the youth director is typically not a member of the clergy. He said he has seen results in other parishes. He added that without active youth participation, church membership will decline. Eva Haroian asked whether the parents encourage their children. Scott Najarian said that most teenagers rebel in those years. He said that his parents and the clergy did encourage him in his teen years. Eva Haroian said that parents should encourage and participate and get involved. Kap Maksian commented how few parents of Sunday School children were present at the assembly. Tom Garabedian said that this is school vacation week and that meetings such as this should not be scheduled at the same time as school vacation if parents are expected to attend. Kitty Dodakian said that last year's experience of scheduling the

meeting on another date proves that the meeting date is not the issue. Cynthia Houmère said that last year's meeting was rescheduled due to the delay of the Auditing Committee report. The assembly voted on the motion and the motion passed.

Arthur Yagjian moved to accept the 1997 Operating Budget as amended. The motion passed.

Old Business

No Old Business was raised.

Annual Report of the Pastor

Annual Report of the Parish Council

Annual Reports of the Church Organizations

Dorothy Yagjian moved that the assembly dispense with the reading of the reports. The motion passed.

Louis S. Mikitarian indicated that the Parish Council Report overlooked the work donated by Seth Derderian of Joseph's Lock and Safe for changing of the Church's exterior locks. He thanked Joan Waukeen for the donation of her interior decorating consulting on the Cultural Center renovations. He thanked Jay Kapur for planning and implementing the renovations.

New Business

a. Bingo Status. Louis S. Mikitarian expressed the Church's appreciation to the Bingo Committee, especially Bart Bagdasarian and John Toromanian, for the over \$1 million raised for the Church by the Bingo program. He stated that due to the resignation of John and Bart, the declining membership of the Bingo Committee, and declining Bingo attendance, after many meetings and much discussion, Bingo had been deactivated. He said that the Bingo license is still valid and could be reactivated, that it expires in October of 1997, that the Parish Council wanted to leave the final decision of whether to terminate Bingo up to the parish and that more help on the Bingo Committee would be required in order for it to function properly. George Migridichian said that competition from casinos are partly at fault for the dwindling Bingo participation. He suggested abandoning Bingo. Louis S. Mikitarian said that if a motion to terminate Bingo permanently is passed, approximately \$96,000 in the Bingo savings account will become part of the general church account.

Berjoohie Zakarian moved to terminate Bingo. The motion was seconded by Patricia Arakelian. George Migridichian expressed his thanks to the Bingo Committee. The motion passed.

Kap Maksian suggested that the members of the Bingo Committee be recognized by way of a plaque. Alice Papazian suggested that a plaque be worded to recognize all Bingo Committee members and not specifically by name. Patricia Arakelian said that Jesus would not approve of a plaque for Bingo workers. Bart Bagdasarian stated he was against any recognition of that sort.

Other Business

Marilyn Larkin said that she did not think the Women's Guild report should be accepted. She said there were many errors and the signature on the report was not hers. Louis S. Mikitarian said that every organization chair had the opportunity to review and sign their reports. Agnes Sahagian said that she signed the report with Marilyn's signature since it was turned in unsigned.

Tony Barsamian suggested that the Church purchase a walk-in refrigerator and ice maker.

Tom Garabedian suggested that the "Regular" Investment Account and "Special" Investment Account be combined. Louis S. Mikitarian said that the Parish Council had already approved this procedural action and that it was in process.

Election Results

Laura Purutyan of the Nominating Committee announced the results of the elections:

Parish Council:

Patricia Arakelian	Elizabeth Avakian
Harry Dostourian	Vahe Jardarian
Edward Kachajian	
1st Alternate: Karnig Durgarian, Jr.	

Nominating Committee:

Richard Bedrosian	Barbara Davis
Ruth Haddon	George P. Krikorian
Pamela Sagerian	

Auditing Committee:

Karen Durgarian	Norman Noorjanian
1st Alternate: George P. Krikorian	

Memorial Endowment Committee:

Gilbert Markarian
1st Alternate: Scott Najarian

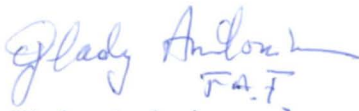
Diocesan Delegates:

Michael Gulbankian, Sr.	Jay Kapur
Louis S. Mikitarian	Agnes Sahagian
Asbed Zakarian	
1st Alternate: Herman Purutyan	
2nd Alternate: Thomas Garabedian	

Fr. Aved expressed his thanks and appreciation for the Parish Council and for all the hard work of the parish. He congratulated all the newly elected individuals and also George Migridichian, Chairman of the assembly and Gladys Andonian, Secretary of the assembly.

Arthur Yagjian moved to adjourn the meeting. The assembly was adjourned at 5:30 PM following by the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gladys Andonian
Assembly Secretary



George Migridichian
Assembly Chairman



Rev. Fr. Aved Terzian
Pastor