

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SPECIAL PARISH ASSEMBLY OF 1978 - JULY 6

A special Parish Assembly of the Armenian Church of Westchester was held on July 6th, 1978, at St. Andrew's Church Hall in Hartsdale, New York, at 8:30 p.m. After an opening prayer by Der Karekin, the Parish Council Chairman, Ed Essayan, welcomed the 37 members and explained that this meeting was called to report the progress made in the search for a Church site.

First, the possibility of buying a portion of the St. Nersess Seminary property in New Rochelle was discussed at length. Two meetings had been held with a joint committee. Representing St. Nersess were Fr. Arnak Kasparian and Nubar Dorian; representing the Armenian Church of Westchester were Fr. Karekin Kasparian, Ed Essayan, Judge Vincent Gurahian, Apkar Omartian and Ara Shimshidian. Two possible divisions of the property were then pointed out and the two acre portion at the south side was thereafter known as Parcel A and the two acre portion at the north side with the cemetery was thereafter known as Parcel B.

Various restrictions, advantages and disadvantages were mentioned and George Guendjoian then made the following motion: An offer of \$50,000 be made for Parcel B subject to the cemetery portion being available for the construction of a Church building; if not, then an offer of \$60,000 be made for Parcel A. In addition, the Committee is authorized to work out necessary incidental details of ownership and use of the property including fee title or lease hold. This motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Mention of the other properties in the White Plains area was made and Judge Vincent Gurahian made the following motion: The Parish Council be authorized to continue its search for other properties and report back to the Parish Assembly. This motion was unanimously passed and after some dialogue another expanded motion was made by Judge Gurahian: The Parish Council be authorized to continue investigating other properties and make offers subject to the approval of the Parish Assembly. This second expanded motion was also unanimously passed.

Ed Essayan announced the need for a picnic chairman and stressed the importance of the pledge system. The meeting was then adjourned at 10:15 p.m. with Der Hayr's prayer.

Ed Essayan
Chairman

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Dorian
Recording Secretary