

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PARISH ASSEMBLY  
OCTOBER 14, 1984

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A Special Parish Assembly was held at St. James Armenian Church on October 14, 1984, at 1:00 PM.

Meeting was opened with a prayer by the Pastor, Rev. Fr. Karekin Kasparian. This was then followed by a few opening remarks by the Pastor regarding the traditional practice of our people in building churches.

Chairman of the Parish Council, Dr. Jack Hachigian, then conducted the meeting by opening with a few announcements of coming events, namely, the Bazaar to be held on October 20 and 21, and the Harvest Ball to be held on November 10th. Mary Azarian was then invited to announce that a Shopping Spree is scheduled on October 27th with a bus ride to Pennsylvania, Armenian Dance classes planned for November and December, and Armenian Cooking Classes planned after the first of the year. Hagop Cetinkaya was then invited to say a few words on behalf of the 50/50 Club.

Der Hayr then proceeded to read from the By Laws what constitutes a quorum. It was then determined that a quorum for this Special Parish Assembly does exist.

The Chairman then proceeded with the presentation of the Report of the Building Fund Raising Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto. The first item presented was an update of the Sale/Lease Back. Chairman stated the sad news that the Congress passed and the President signed a bill into law in August, 1984, which essentially removes a sale/lease back arrangement for non-profit organizations. The Fund Raising Committee has taken this new law into consideration and has determined that it does not seem possible to proceed further with this arrangement.

The Chairman then reviewed the General Plan for Church Facilities, namely, Phases I, II and III, and reviewed the financial plan for Phase I only, as stated in the report. Based upon various factors and advice from various sources, the Chairman announced that the anticipated Time Schedule to begin building a Church was advanced to the Spring of 1986 and the Consecration of the Church was advanced to the Spring of 1987. It was stated that the anticipated Community Giving will amount to \$500 yearly per member for each of the two years 1985 and 1986. It was further stated that provided Phase I is approved by this Assembly, then a more complete and comprehensive plan of the Time Schedule for the church will be presented at the next regular Parish Assembly. It was also pointed out that approvals of plans and specifications are subject to approval by the Primate and Diocesan Council, and the Town Planning Board. Thus, allowing one year for the building and consecration of the new Church, it was anticipated at this time that this will be accomplished by the Spring of 1987. The Chairman then thanked Der Hayr and members of the Committee for the hard work and time they have devoted in planning and preparing the report. Garo Bashian then made a motion which was seconded by George Davidian, to accept the report as presented. The floor was then opened for questions following this motion. Motion was then put to a vote which was passed unanimously.

The Chairman then made a motion on behalf of the Parish Council that this Special Parish Assembly accept the fund raising proposals of the Fund Raising Committee, specifically, to accept the recommendation that each dues paying member of St. James Armenian Church contribute \$500 in 1985 and \$500 in 1986 to the building fund to the

best of their ability. Lillian Boyajian then stated that this motion, if accepted, be on the condition that this Special Assembly accepts Phase I, namely, the building of the new Church. This proposal was then accepted and made part of the motion. Another proposal was then made by Mrs. Ishkanian, to modify this motion further by changing the "\$500/year per member" to read, "average of \$500/year per member." Edward Essayan then suggested further to modify this to read, "average minimum of \$500/year per member," but then withdrew his suggestion. It was then agreed to incorporate the phrase, "average of \$500/year per member" to the already revised motion. The original motion with the two modifications stated previously was then seconded and taken to a vote. Vote was 77 members for the motion and 2 against the motion. After noting some misunderstanding of the motion by a few members, it was suggested and accepted to recall the vote on this motion. The motion was then restated for the benefit of all present and a recall vote was taken on the motion. Motion was then passed unanimously with one abstention.

The Chairman then proceeded with another motion on behalf of the Parish Council - that this Special Parish Assembly authorizes the Parish Council to proceed with Phase I of the Fund Raising Committee's Report, and for St. James to proceed to hire an architect and develop plans and specifications to build a new Church. The final approval to expend funds to build shall be decided at the next regular Parish Assembly, or as soon thereafter as is possible. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously with one abstention.

The Chairman then made another motion on behalf of the Parish Council, that to implement the foregoing motions this Assembly authorizes the Parish Council to form a Building Committee under the jurisdiction of the Pastor and Parish Council to carry out the mandate of the Parish Assembly. Motion was seconded and passed Unanimously.

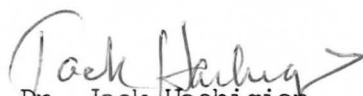
The Chairman then finally proceeded with another motion on behalf of the Parish Council, that this Parish Assembly authorizes the expenditure of funds from the Building Fund, the amount of which shall not exceed \$40,000, for the purpose of obtaining building plans for the Church. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously with one abstention.

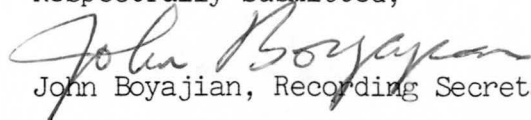
The floor was then opened for new and old business. The Chairman commented that anyone should feel free to express their opinions and suggestions on the plans and specifications to the Building Committee, who will take them into consideration.

Der Hayr then proceeded with closing remarks and gave heartfelt thanks to the members of this Committee for preparing the report and to the vote of confidence by the members of this Special Parish Assembly in approving the various motions stated above. Der Hayr then closed the meeting with a closing prayer, which was followed by the singing of the Hayr Mehr by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Rev. Father Karekin Kasparian, Pastor and President

  
Dr. Jack Hachigian  
Assembly Chairman

Respectfully submitted,  
  
John Boyajian, Recording Secretary