

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH OF WESTCHESTER

HARRISON, N. Y.

M I N U T E S

of the

TWELFTH ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

FEBRUARY 3, 1985

The Twelfth Annual Parish Assembly of St. James Armenian Church of Westchester commenced at 12:45 P.M. on February 3, 1985, with Reverend Father Karekin Kasparian's Opening Prayer. Since last year's Assembly Chairman, Mr. Ed Dorian, was not present to conduct the selection of the day's officers, Ms. Ann Der Boghosian, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, took the floor.

Ms. Der Boghosian started out by thanking the three other members of the Nominating Committee: Florence Omartian, Aida Pisani, and Malcolm Shadoian. She also gave thanks to Bennie Tepikian, for taking pictures of the Parish Council candidates; and to all the candidates who consented to run for office. It was pointed out that double the required number of candidates were on the ballot, and that this showed an increasing dedication and involvement on the part of St. James parishioners.

The Nominating Committee, through Ms. Der Boghosian, then stated that they wished to place for nomination Judge Vincent Gurahian as Chairman of the Parish Assembly, and Elizabeth Derderian as Secretary. Additional nominations from the floor were invited; as there were none, the motion was made to close the nomination and it was unanimously carried.

The Nominating Committee submitted ten Parish Council candidates, five of whom were to be selected by the Assembly. The candidates were: Paul Bashian, Grace Cassidy, Al Darien, Torkom Demirjian, Alice Kaladjian, Garo Kapikian, Vahe Missirian, Avadis Sakalian, Krikor Salbashian, and Richard Varadian. As there were no nominations from the floor, on motion made and seconded nominations for Parish Council were closed.

The Auditing Committee candidates numbered six, three of whom were to be elected. The candidates were: Mary Azarian, Rose Darien, Ethyl Dorian, Astrid Hagopian, Rose Jaboolian, and Gale Perzigian. There were no additional nominations from the floor and motion was made and seconded to close the nominations for Auditing Committee.

The Nominating Committee's nominees numbered eight, of whom four were to be elected. The candidates were: John Babakian, Annette Bashian, Ann Der Boghosian, Diane Davidian, Anita Essayan, Malcolm Shadoian, Alice Shimshidian, and Florence Omartian. There being no additional nominations from the floor, on motion made and seconded the nominations were closed.

Ms. Der Boghosian then made some remarks regarding balloting. Only bona-fide 1984 members would be eligible to vote. Regarding voting, each paid member would sign the roster, and then cast his/her ballot. She stressed the importance of voting only up to the number of candidates to be voted in, and not more than that, since that would render the ballot invalid.

Judge Vincent Gurahian notified the Assembly that ballots and reports would be available during the half-hour recess, during which a quick lunch would also be provided. The ballots were to be cast during this period. This recess was called at 1:00 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 P.M. Judge Gurahian asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the last Parish Assembly. As there were none, a motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes as they appeared in the annual report.

The minutes of the Special Parish Assembly of October 14, 1984, were then considered and as there were no additions or corrections, they were also accepted as they appeared in the report.

The Pastor's Report was given by Reverend Karekin Kasparian, and was accepted as read.

At this point Judge Gurahian ascertained and announced that fifty-nine members had cast ballots.

The Parish Council report was given by Jack Hachigian. He thanked Bennie Tepikian for voluntarily stepping down to even out the ballot, and also for volunteering to take pictures of families in the church to be posted on our "family album" bulletin board. He also thanked Ed Essayan for preparing the day's lunch.

Dr. Hachigian advised the Assembly that from three years ago, membership went up by 20%, and the number of stewardship dollars went up by 150%.

He then invited George Davidian, co-chairman of the Building Committee, to give a report. Mr. Davidian gave the names of the committee members: Ed Dorian, Apkhar Omartian, Ed Essayan, Garo Bashian, Ara Shimshidian, Jack Hachigian, Anahid Birnbaum and Ohan Bas. Co-chairmen are George Davidian and Ed Dorian, with Ed Essayan as secretary. The Building Committee has four subcommittees:

- 1) Legal - chaired by Ara Shimshidian
- 2) Architectural Review - chaired by Ed Essayan
- 3) Fund Raising (no chairperson yet)
- 4) Publicity (no chairperson yet).

He also announced that the Building Committee recommended the selection of Apkhar Omartian as architect; and that the Legal Committee will now proceed to draw up a contract.

Having completed the Building Committee report it was announced by Jack Hachigian that the Parish Council has accepted the recommendation of the Building Committee to appoint Apkhar Omartian as architect.

The motion was made to accept the reports of the Parish Council and the Building Committee, and they were accepted unanimously.

Judge Gurahian then gave the Diocesan Delegate Report. Important points he mentioned were: 1) regionalization of the Diocese; 2) resolution to continue the high rise concept; 3) resolution to mark 1985, the 70th Anniversary of the Genocide, with special events. The report of the Diocesan Delegate was accepted as presented.

The reports of the Church organizations were next on the agenda. Judge Gurahian requested that the Assembly refer to them in the annual report. These reports included: Choir, Sunday School, Armenian School, ACYOA Seniors, ACYOA Juniors, Women's Guild, and Avaks. These were all accepted as submitted.

The report of the Auditing Committee was next considered and accepted as received.

Mr. Avadis Sakalian gave the annual Financial Report. He mentioned that actual 1984 operational income was approximately \$20,000 more than budgeted. The biggest profitmakers were the bazaar and the rug sale. Mr. Sakalian stated that the 1985 budget was being kept to a minimum in order to make available more money for the Building Fund. During this report, it was also pointed out that although the bill for insurance premium had not yet been sent out by the insurance company, we were assured of coverage for 1984. The financial report and the operational budget for 1985 were both accepted by the Parish Assembly.

New business was the next item. Judge Gurahian recognized Jack Hachigian. Dr. Hachigian explained that three years ago it was agreed that any excess money from the operating budget was apportioned as follows: a) 50% - building fund; b) 25% - contingency; c) 25% - capital budget. This apportionment was overridden last year, as it was voted for 100% of any excess money from the operating budget to be put into the building fund. Dr. Hachigian, on behalf of the Parish Council, made the motion again to place 100% of this year's surplus into the building fund. This motion was approved by the Assembly.


The Parish Council made a second motion for \$10,000 to be appropriated to the Building Fund for fund raising purposes, ("seed money"), if needed, over and above the architectural funds, as provided in the Special Assembly. This motion was carried without opposition.

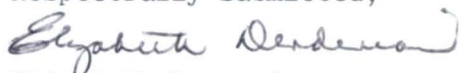
As there was no more new business, Reverend Father Karekin Kasparian made some announcements regarding upcoming special Church events and expressed his appreciation to all workers, outgoing officers, as well as heads and members of all committees and organizations. At this point the Nominating Committee returned with the results of the election. Der Hayr announced the names of the following officers elected:

- Parish Council - Paul Bashian, Al Darien, Alice Kaladjian, Avadis Sakalian, Richard Varadian.
- Auditing Committee - Mary Azarian, Rose Darien, Ethyl Dorian.
- Nominating Committee- Annette Bashian, Ann Der Boghosian, Anita Essayan, Alice Shimshidian.

The Twelfth Annual Parish Assembly was adjourned at 2:45 P.M. with Der Hayr's Closing Prayer.

  
Reverend Father Karekin Kasparian  
Pastor and President

  
Judge Vincent Gurahian  
Assembly Chairman

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Elizabeth Derderian  
Assembly Secretary