

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY OF ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 10, 1980

Rev. Arnak Kasparian - President

Leon Nigohosian - Chairman

Arthur Otchy - Co-chairman

George Mekenian - Parliamentarian

Marilou Pinajian - Acting Secretary (in absence of Alice Shahinian)

Meeting Began: 1:40 P. M.

Number of Members in Attendance: 75

Father Arnak opened the meeting with a prayer.

Chairman Nigohosian opened with an introduction of the assembly Officers and thanked the members present for participating in this meeting. He also thanked Anna Zakar and her committee for serving lunch prior to Assembly.

At this time the chair called for a spokesman from the Nominating Committee and Andy Ouzoonian reported the Voter Verification. Verification was made by Albert Papazian. Andy Ouzoonian then read the slate of Nominee's as per the ballot appended hereto as Appendix A.

The chair entertained a Motion to accept the slate as read. The Motion was made by Michael Izmirly, seconded by Peter Jamgochian, and passed. With the slate accepted and no further discussion, the chair entertained a Motion to close the nominations. George Mekenian made the Motion and it was seconded by Michael Izmirly and passed. The chairman stated 2 P. M. would be the closing of the balloting. Joe Kalemkerian and Jack Ekizian assisted the Nominating Committee with the counting of the ballots.

The Secretary read excerpts from last year's Assembly minutes. The chair entertained a Motion to accept the excerpts as read. Moses Kazanjian made a Motion to accept these excerpts, which was seconded by Dikris Malool, and was carried

At this time chairman Nigohosian took a minute to thank all the people within the parish who have given so much time and effort to make St. Thomas the successful, ever-growing parish that it is. He also thanked Der Hayr and his family for their continued support and called on Der Hayr to give his report. Der Hayr stated by thanking everyone for the privilege of serving the Parish and read his report verbatim. During his report he offered a prayer for deceased members.

The chair then requested that Victor Arzoomanian present the Parish Council Report and the latter listed and commented on all the assignments and activities of the Parish Council, thanking all those responsible for their hard work and dedication. Victor Arzoomanian also referred to the problems in organizing and strengthening the A. C. Y. O. A. group. The chair then asked for any questions or comments on the Pastor's and Parish Council's Report. With no comments, George Mekenian moved to accept the reports, which was seconded by Charles Doudoukjian, and passed.

The chair then called upon Grace Hagopian to give the Auditing Committee Report. She stated that the Auditing Committee had audited all the books and records of the Parish Council and of the Church organizations and had found all entries properly recorded and substantiated. She read the report verbatim. George Mekenian recommended that monies turned over to the Treasury from an organization should be listed or called "transfers" rather than "expenses". George put this in the form of a Motion, which was seconded by Albert Victoria, and was passed.

Vahan Barsamian, Parish Council Treasurer, and Victor Arzoomanian, Parish Council Chairman, were called upon to give the Financial Report, which they did. The reported balance as of December 31, 1979, was \$55,833.41. The floor was opened to discussion and George Mekenian asked for clarification of Note 1 on the 1979 Financial Report and the actual 1979 Bazaar Income. Victor indicated the \$16,000. total did not include the additional \$11,000. held in the Bazaar checking account per Note 1 of the Financial Report. Susan Shamamian asked if the savings is invested in larger interest bearing account. Victor Arzoomanian advised that approximately \$40,000. is invested in 6 month notes with interest at about 9% - 10%. The rest of the cash is in a regular savings account.

At this time Victor reported on the 5 year extension of the present mortgage balance of \$101,000. at approximately 9 3/4% interest, which extension was necessitated because the original mortgage had a term of 15 years with a 20 year payout and matured in 1980. The chair entertained a Motion to accept the Financial Report. The Motion was made by Charles Doudoukjian, seconded by Mary Sanossian, and passed.

The Diocesan Assembly 1979 Report was given by George Mekenian. In the short discussion which followed, the question of what progress had been made toward unity was brought up by Arthur Otchy. George responded by stating additional meetings were to take place in March and April of this year and that unity was basically in the hands of the two Catholicoses.

The following organizational Reports were given by:

A. C. Y. O. A. - Peter Jamgochian - Liason
Armenian Language School - Sam Demirjian - Liason
Avak Society - Charles Doudoukjian - Liason
Choir - Edward Daghlian - Choirmaster
Couple's Club - Paul Pinajian - Chairman
Men's Club - Paul Kahaumjian - Corresponding Secretary
Sunday School - Louise Kalemkerian - Superintendent
Women's Guild - Alicia Demirjian - Co-chairlady

Those members reporting on their organizations and briefly described how many members they had, as well as how their organizations were progressing. There were no additional questions or comments on these organizations with the exception of the Women's Guild. There is a \$10,000. certificate of deposit which the Women's Guild have slated for kitchen renovation. It was pointed out to be against policy to hold that much money in one organization's treasury. This situation will have to be resolved between the Women's Guild and Parish Council.

Under new business was the approval of the Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund. George Mekenian described the purpose of the fund, as well its administration and assets. There would be a Board of Directors consisting of the pastor (president ex-officio) and four lay persons. The Board would have full responsibility for the fund, but would be subject to the Parish Council. Proposed By-Laws (appended hereto as Appendix B) were presented to the Parish Council prior to the Assembly and were so approved by the Parish Council. It was explained by George Mekenian that the Board of Directors would be subject and subordinate to the Parish Council in the same manner as the other church organizations and that any undistributed income of the Fund would be held as income and, if after two years such income had not been disbursed, would be transferred to and treated as trust principal. He also pointed out that the principal could be used for grants and that there were no restriction to using only the Funds income, but that such use of principal required Parish Council approval. After a short discussion, the chair entertained a Motion to approve the Caspar M. Kasparian Memorial Fund and its By-Laws. Yerezgin Violet Kasparian made a Motion to accept this proposal, which was seconded by Louise Kalemkerian. A vote was taken and the Motion was unanimously carried.

Also, under New Business was a discussion regarding the heating system. Charles Doudoukjian, as liason to the Avak Society, was concerned since many members were not attending because it was too cold. Albert Victoria responded, stating the Building

Committee was looking into a hot water baseboard system. The Parish Council is aware of the problem and are trying to resolve it.

Victor Arzoomanian reviewed the proposed 1980 budget with the assembly during which clarifications were made regarding categories or figures. The proposed budget was amended to include an additional \$1,800.00 anticipated increase in the mortgage payments arising from the higher interest rate under the extension. The chair entertained a Motion to accept the proposed budget for 1980 with the amendment. Peter Jamgochian made the Motion to accept the budget which was seconded by Mary Sanossian. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

George Mekenian, then proposed the amendment of the Charter of the Building, Equipment, and Grounds Committee, as follows:

1. The name of the Building, Equipment and Grounds Committee be changed to Board of Trustees for Building, Equipment and Grounds.
2. The provisions for the composition of the Board of Trustees provide for a number of persons ("members-at-large") equal in number to the number of Diocesan Delegates, which persons are nominated by the Nominating Committee for the Parish Assembly and elected by the Parish Assembly for a term of four (4) years, their terms being consecutive and they being elected every four (4) years, beginning in 1984, so that their elections will alternate, every two years, with the elections of the Diocesan Delegates, provided, however, that notwithstanding the foregoing, the first election of the members-at-large will be the 1981 Parish Assembly and the terms of those then elected as members-at-large will be only three (3) years, after which the normal terms for members-at-large shall be four (4) years.
3. The present Charter of the Building, Equipment and Grounds Committee will remain in full force and effect until the 1981 Parish Assembly.
4. There will be no limit as to the number of terms that any member of the Board of Trustees may serve thereon.

The proposed Charter is appended hereto as Appendix C.

George Mekenian moved for the adoption of the revised Charter, with the above explanation, the Motion being seconded by Victor Arzoomanian, and carried.

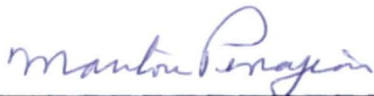
Susan Shamamian recommended that a member of the Building, Equipment and Grounds Committee be appointed as a record-keeping officer for the Church and same was approved.

Veretzgin Violet questioned the problem of vandalism. Al Victoria said he was in touch with the Tenafly Police and they will patrol the area more frequently. The church sign was damaged but no insurance claim was submitted.

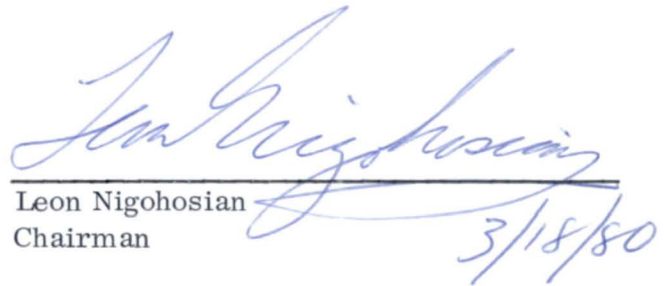
At this time the chair called for a Report on the Voting and Andy Ouzoonian stated there were 122 ballots cast and read the following results (see appendix D).

George Mekenian then congratulated chairman Nigohosian on the successful meeting and Der Hayr held a closing prayer.

The Assembly was adjourned at 4:30 P. M.



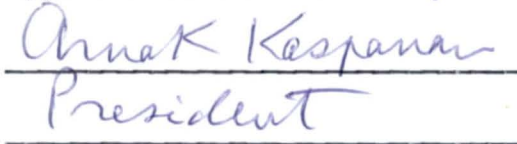
Marelou Pinajian
Acting Secretary



Leon Nigohosian
Chairman

3/18/80

Approved and Ratified



President