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Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church
Cambridge, Massachusetts

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

The annual parish assembly of the Holy Trinity Armenian Church was held on Sunday, February 26, 1978, in the Cultural Hall with our Pastor, Reverend Mamre Kouzouian, presiding. The meeting was called to order by Parish Council Chairman, Dr. Michael Kolligian. Mr. John Sousourian was elected Chairman of the day, along with Miss Arax Janjigian, Armenian recording secretary and Mrs. Nancy Kasarjian, English recording secretary. The minutes of the 1977 Parish Assembly was read. A motion was made to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded and passed. Chairman Mr. Sousourian asked the Parish Council nominees forward for introduction. Also introduced were the nominating and auditing committee nominees.

Motion was made that nominations be closed. Motion was seconded and passed. Mr. Sousourian reviewed instructions for casting of ballots. A ten minute recess was called for voting. Balloting will officially close at 3 p.m. The meeting was called back to order.

The secretary, Mrs. Kasarjian, read the last assembly's minutes which were accepted as read. Chairman Sousourian called for a review of our Pastor's report as written. June Carlon asked that any progress on Unity Committee be clarified. It was asked that this question be postponed until New Business was discussed. Motion was made, seconded and passed that we accept the Pastor's report.

Parish Council Report

Mrs. Grace Kapielian asked if the Ecole Bilingual school is going to renew their lease. Dr. Kolligian explained that the lease will be renegotiated in June.

Archie Kolligian asked if Arthur Apkarian, having moved to Detroit, is still eligible to be a diocesan delegate. Der Hayre Maksoudian explained that as long as he pays his dues and does not become a member of any other church, he can stay on as a delegate and finish his term. It was suggested that Mr. Apkarian officially resign from this position. Mr. Der Ananian suggested that a letter be written to Mr. Apkarian to clarify this matter. Der Hayre Kouzouian explained that Mr. Apkarian's case is not unique, but it needs clarification and since the Bylaws do not cover this, there will be clarification made. Mrs. Margaret Atamian asked if Mr. Apkarian has been informed of church business during his absence. Peter Talanian assured us that Mr. Apkarian has been kept up to date. Chairman Scousourian suggested we leave the matter in the hands of the delegates. The subject was closed by Chairman Scousourian.

Mr. Peter Arakelian was welcomed back after a long illness. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the Diocesan Assembly report be accepted as written.

Parish Council Yearly Statement

Income - Mr. Goshgarian made a motion that the Auditing Committee make a written examination statement to be included in the annual report. Motion was seconded and passed. (Note) On page 3 of the Annual Report, it is stated that all financial reports were audited by an auditing committee.

Disbursements - Mr. Der Ananian asked how the figure of Diocesan dues are arrived at. It was explained that a formula is used based on the size of the church, number of members, sacraments, number of priests etcetera.

The following are questions asked relating to the financial report. On page 17, what is the \$42,000 assessment? It is the increase in parish assessment for all parishes.

What real estate tax do we pay? It is tax paid on properties owned in other towns and the Parish House.

What is the total cost of the airconditioning installation? It is \$27,000. Four bids were considered.

What is the loan payment figure for? Six years ago \$25,000 was borrowed for work in Shahe Hall, new boilers, and work done in the Parish House.

Why are stipends for clergymen not itemized? It was felt it would be in bad taste to publicize the amounts but the figures would be given upon request.

What is a janitorial consultant on page 23? A consultant was brought from New York City who was knowledgeable in maintenance of church properties. Snowplowing and landscaping amounts were questioned. It was suggested that a small tractor to handle snow and grass be purchased. Manpower and time are a major consideration in such a purchase. Peter Zeytoonjian made a motion that the Parish Council look into the feasibility and pros and cons of the purchase of equipment for snow and grass removal. Motion was seconded but did not pass.

The ballots were closed officially at 3:05 p.m. Members of the nominating committee along with Arshod Der Hagopian, Charles Talanian, Souren Daniels, Ed Nahabedian and Phyllis Martin were asked to count the ballots.

Question was raised on Garo Yepremian banquet receipts. This is not a final total but merely as of December 31, 1977.

Mr. Goshgarian complimented the Parish Council on the quality of the reports.

Motion made and seconded and passed that we accept the proposed budget of \$192, 000 shown on page 27.

The following reports were accepted as written:

Cultural Committee

Senior Women's Guild

Women's Guild

Trinity Men's Union

Friends of Holy Trinity 1000 Club

Chelsea Women's Auxiliary

Lynn Salem & Peabody Women's Auxiliary

Armenian School

Church School

Choir

ACYOA seniors & Juniors

Erevan Choral Society

Trinity Young Couples

Mrs. Harotunian recommended that the Parish Council look into the feasibility of a 50 year celebration for the Chelsea Women's Auxiliary.

Motion made we accept the reports as written. The Parish Council was once again thanked and complimented on the efficiency of the reports.

New Business

Chairman John Sousourian asked Mr. Diran Zahigian to comment on the Pilot Program of a Regional Diocesan Assembly made up of ten New England Churches. This committee includes the pastors, executive committees of the Parish Councils and Diocesan delegates. The first meeting was held in Providence in September of 1977. This was followed by several other meetings but many questions still remain to be resolved.

In answer to a parishioner's request for an explanation on the Unity dialogue of the Armenian church in the United States. Der Hayre Kouzouian explained the Unity proceedings to date. He briefed the Assembly on the history and the outcome of the Unity conversations within our diocese and the dissident group.

Parish Council Chairman, Dr. Kolligian gave thanks to retiring Parish Council members for their support and efforts in the past two years.

Mrs. Alice Nahabedian asked for some information concerning a Youth Director for our church. She felt that the poor membership in our ACYOA groups would greatly benefit from an appointment of this kind and that this search should be top priority for the Parish Council.

Der Hayre Kouzoulian explained to the parishoners that upon his arrival at our parish, he made many personal telephone calls to the young people to encourage them to join the ACYOA. For some time the effort was successful but once again the attendance went down. Der Hayre feels much of the problem lies with the parents whose responsibility it isto encourage their children to become interested in church youth activities. A young man from St. Vladimir Seminary in New York was approached and interviewed but after three meetings, he chose to take a leave of absence from church work.

A motion was made byDiran Zahigian to open the voting directly after church. This was ruled out of order since the meeting must be in session before voting can begin.

Miss Gertrude Nahigian suggested we open the meeting directly after church to allow voting to take place followed by a recess of one hour for lunch. The meeting could then be resumed. This suggestion would be brought to the attention of the Parish Council. A few parishioners expressed their desire for another Parish Assembly during the year, preferably after the Diocesan Conference to bring the membership up to date on church matters. This suggestion will also be brought up for discussion by the Parish Council.

June Carlon suggested the possibility of a reduction of dues for students to encourage their membership in our church. A motion was made, seconded and passed to lower the dues from \$25 to \$15 for students only from the ages of 18 to 25 years of age. A motion was made and seconded by George Oskoian for a proposal to amend the bylaws of our Diocese to permit absentee ballots of paid members who by reason of physical incapability or for extended absence due to other residence cannot be present.

Mrs. Grace Kapielian presented a similar request in writing for an ammendment to the bylaws to allow absentee balloting. After

some discussion by the parishoners, Der Hayre Kouzouian gave an explanation of the possible outcome from such a motion if adopted. The motion was thereupon unanimously defeated.

Mr. Archie Kolligian on behalf of the Nominating Committee presented the results of the balloting.

Parish Council

Dr. Paul Barsam
Anita Hedison
Charles Nahabedian
Donald J. Tellalian
Peter Zeytoonjian

Auditing Committee

Armine Der Hagopian
Gertrude Nahigian
Diran Zahigian

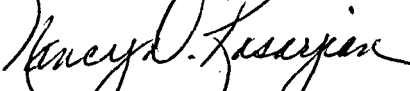
Nominating Committee

John Davagian
George Haroutunian
Archie Kolligian
John Sousourian
Peter Talanian

A total of 143 ballots were cast.

Der Hayre Kouzouian expressed his appreciation to the retiring Parish Council members, to the new members and the officers of the day. The meeting was adjourned following the closing prayers by Der Hayre Maksoudian.

Respectfully submitted,



NANCY KASAHJIAN
Recording Secretary