

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held at the Holy Ascension Armenian Church, 1241 Barnum Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut on the 20th day of January, 1974 at 1:35 p.m.

There were thirty-seven paid members present.

Darwin Jamgochian was nominated and elected as Temporary Chairman of the meeting.

Nicky Taraian was nominated and elected as Temporary Secretary of the meeting.

Ralph Trapasso presented and read to the meeting the minutes of the 1973 Assembly.

Upon motion by Vartan Stambolian and seconded by Richard Najarian the report was accepted as read.

Mrs. Theresa Hairabedian presented to the meeting the minutes of the 1973 Assembly which were read by the Secretary.

Upon motion by Richard Najarian, Jr. and seconded by Sonia Trapasso the report was accepted as read.

Dr. Berj Hairabedian presented and read to the meeting the Parish Council report.

Upon motion made and seconded the report was accepted as read.

Mrs. Gladys Jevarjian questioned the Parish Council report on the Tannersville trip since she had it included in the Ladies Guild report as it was their project.

Upon motion by Edward Jevarjian and seconded by John Stambolian the report was accepted as read.

Mr. Richard Kalfayan presented and read to the meeting the Treasurer's report. A question was raised as to whether or not the Auditing Committee had given its approval as no one from the Committee was present. Mr. Kalfayan stated that the Committee had met the previous Wednesday and he believed the report had been accepted. Der Hayr proposed to contact the Committee by telephone and obtain an oral acceptance of the report. His suggestion was accepted by the membership. At that time Mr. Kalfayan handed in a copy of the report with his written approval indicated.

Ralph Trapasso suggested that since we were discussing finances at this time it would be proper to discuss the annual budget. ~~His motion was seconded by Der Hayr.~~

Various questions were raised concerning the expected rise in fuel costs, the collateral loan which had recently been paid off, and the balance on hand.

Theresa Hairabedian made a motion to accept the annual budget, seconded by Martha Khachadorian. The budget was accepted as read.

Der Hayr then presented his annual report which he considered as being only a quarterly report since he had previously been a part-time pastor.

He commended the Parish Council for the pleasant and cooperative manner in which they had worked together and gave due credit to Dr. Hairabedian for having been his "right hand" during this term.

At this time he said a prayer for Mrs. Sara Kalfayan, the mother of treasurer Richard Kalfayan, who had passed away a few weeks ago.

He indicated that he had had a pleasant association with the Ladies' Guild, that the Mr. and Mrs. Club has been very successful with Mrs. Ginny Kalfayan as their chairman, he thanked Mrs. Keghan Stambolian for her untiring work as choir leader, showed his appreciation for the work that Eleanor Szysk has done in the past with the Sunday School and to Theresa Hairabedian who has returned to the Sunday School.

Regarding the problems of the choir, Der Hayr said that he would like to see two more organists every Sunday who would be available without interruption.

Since we are on a limited budget and have no caretaker at the present time we have had many volunteer caretakers to whom Der Hayr gave his personal thanks.

He indicated that he would give his sermons according to the parish attendance. If the majority is Armenian speaking he will speak in Armenian, and in the alternative, English.

Der Hayr has made visitations to the sick and hospitalized during his term but admittedly could not do so during the week when he had not been living here.

He indicated at this time we have 425 addresses on our mailing list with another 100 or more coming in. He was disappointed that more people were not present at this meeting. He said that in fact there were two kinds of members, communicant members and contributory members, those who attend church and those who support it financially.

For the future, Der Hayr has proposed a need for lecture classes, such as Armenian history, church education, culture, and cooking. Armenian School will begin soon with a possibility of all day Saturday classes which will include luncheon.

He also said that the building project should go forward to give us a permanent roof over our heads.

He requested full cooperation of everyone, himself, Parish Council and the attending membership. He said that it is a hard road that he has to travel and that the parish members will be the ones that will make or break him, and that he feels that the input from the parishioners will make us a good congregation, and that it is possible to make the congregation come alive. He asked for a fair chance to accomplish this.

Upon motion by Andrew Taraian and seconded by Maureen Najarian the report was accepted.

Mrs. Gladys Jevanjian presented and read to the meeting the Ladies' Guild report which included four excursions and seven dinners for the year, the Tannersville project, activities in the International Institute in July and the paklava and bake sale at Trumbull Shopping Park.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the report was accepted as read.

Mr. Marty Azarian presented and read the Mr. and Mrs. Club report. A check in the amount of \$450.00 was given to Edward Jevarjian for the Building Committee and a check in the amount of \$450.00 was given to the Parish Council.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the report was accepted as read.

The Sunday School report was presented and read by Theresa Hairabedian. Sunday School membership is now 44 students with 8 teachers. Curriculum is supplied by the Diocese. A check in the amount of \$400.00 was given to the Parish Council.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the report was accepted as read.

Miss Nicky Taraian presented and read the report of the Choir. Membership has increased to a dozen members with Mrs. Keghan Stambolian continuing as choir leader and Sara Megerdechian as soloist. Der Hayr added to the report that the Sunday School chairman will assist Randy Arakelian and Vresh Yapoojian who will attend their classes and begin training the youngsters as future choir members.

Upon motion by Richard Najarian and seconded by Maureen Najarian the report was accepted as read.

Mrs. Theresa Hairabedian read the report of the Pledge Committee with a suggestion that a figure of \$132.00 per couple had been discussed and would be a fair amount. This figure included \$100.00 per couple with \$32.00 as dues.

Upon motion by Gladys Jevarjian and seconded by Richard Najarian the report was accepted as read.

Mr. Edward Jevarjian presented the report for the Building Committee. From June 1973 to date the building fund totalled \$3773.12, and including today's donation of \$450.00 it has increased to \$4223.12. The account is with the Fairfield Savings Bank in Norwalk.

He indicated that there were two new prospects, but he could not reveal them at this time since he had not yet discussed them with other members of his committee but would report to us in the future.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the report was accepted.

Mr. Dikran Najarian then presented the report of the Nominating Committee. There were Parish Council members whose terms had expired but were available to accept two more years if elected. The following names were added to those eligible for re-election:

Vartan Tarpinian; Andrew Taraian; and Darwin Jamgochian.

The outcome of the election was as follows:

George Maljanian	26 votes
Robert Jezairian	21 votes
Darwin Jamgochian	18 votes
Perry Shigirian	16 votes
Vartan Tarpinian	13 votes
Andrew Taraian	4 votes

Election of the Nominating Committee ^{for 1975} was then held. The following persons were elected:

Dikran Najarian Jr.
Berj Khachadorian
Martin Azarian

Election of the Auditing Committee was then held. The following personal were elected:

Martin Moomjian
Mrs. Ann Khachian
Samuel Jevardjian

The last item on the Agenda was matters to be considered at the Annual Diocesan Convention. In order not to lengthen the meeting, Der Hayr requested that anyone who wished to do so could write to him directly regarding matters they wished to be brought up at the Convention.

In the area of New Business, Chairman Darwin Jamgochian questioned investments and recommended savings certificates and/or other ways to invest our money.

Upon motion made by Sonia Trapasso and seconded by Theresa Hairabedian it was

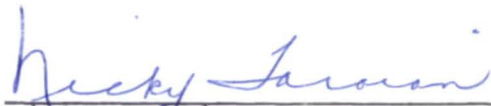
RESOLVED that the Parish Council look into savings certificates and any other profitable way to invest money at the highest possible interest rate.

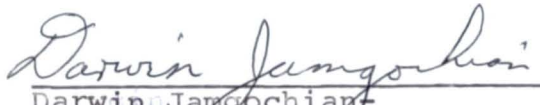
Miss Nicky Taraian suggested some sort of activity or assistance to be given to the older members of the parish who have not been attending church. After discussion, it was agreed that Der Hayr would begin communication with articles in the Pari Loor. Anyone who would be interested in transportation, etc. would contact Der Hayr directly.


At this time, Mrs. Theresa Hairabedian commended Der Hayr and Yeretskin Grace for their work in preparing the Pari Loor.

Upon motion by Richard Najarian and seconded by Maureen Najarian the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Dated the 20th day of January, 1974.


Nicky Taraian- Secretary
of the Meeting..


Darwin Jamgochian
Chairman of the Meeting..


Rev. Loren Anakhanian
President