

ST. SAHAG AND ST. MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH, WYNNEWOOD, PA.
Parish Assembly Minutes
February 28, 1982

The Parish Assembly of the St. Sahag-St. Mesrob Armenian Church was called to order by Parish Council Chairman, Edward Ounjian, at 1:10 p.m. The opening prayer was offered by The Very Reverend Zaven Arzoumanian, Pastor and President of this Assembly. Attending were 97 members out of a total of 406 dues paid-up members for 1981.

Election of Assembly Officers: An additional nomination from the floor for Chairman of the Assembly was George Mangigian. Elected as Chairman of Assembly was Marcus Mamourian.

Since previously nominated persons, Hagop Kitabjian and Victoria Elvanian, were unable to serve as Secretary, nominations were taken from the floor. Malena Sarrafian was nominated and elected as Secretary of the Assembly.

Minutes of 1981 Parish Assembly: There was a motion that the reading of the 1981 minutes be dispensed with. This motion was seconded and passed.

Election of Parish Council: Margaret Ashekian withdrew her name from the ballot. Additional nominations for Parish Council candidates taken from the floor were Elizabeth Boyajian and Papken Megerian. All nominees were introduced to the Assembly.

Election of Auditing Committee: Additional nominations from the floor for the Auditing Committee were John Eskandarian and Araxie Richards.

A motion was made and passed that the above nominations be closed.

Following the elections, a ballot counting committee was formed, headed by the Nominating Committee, as follows:

Claudette Sarian
Elizabeth Berberian
Margaret Ashekian
Charles Garabedian
George Stapan
Arshavir Hagopian

Pastor's Report: The Very Reverend Zaven Arzoumanian gave his report. A motion was made and passed to accept Hyre Soorp's report with appreciation for his services and ability during the year.

Parish Council Report: Edward Ounjian, Chairman, read the Parish Council report covering activities of the Council through the year. He thanked the church organizations and the Pastor for their cooperation and support. In addition, he expressed appreciation to the Ladies Aid Society for their donation in the amount of \$4000.00, and to the Young Ladies Guild for their donation in the amount of \$1500.00.

Parish Budget - 1982: Rose Arpajian expressed concern regarding the listing of Soloist and Organist under the Salaries and Benefits in the Budget Expenses. It should be understood that the organist and soloist are not paid a salary. This information should be deleted in the future, and there should be a correction made immediately in the Mer Doon so that all parishoners are informed that no salary is paid. It was explained the expense shows this way because of the new bookkeeping set-up.

There was a question regarding the difference in the amount of the 1981 total dues received and the proposed dues income for 1982. It was explained that the actual 1981 dues reflected back dues for 1979 and 1980, which were received through the efforts of Hyre Zaven and Grace Ashekian.

There was a question of why our Diocesan dues were so high. This was explained that there is a set formula for assessment from the Diocesan Assembly and we must comply.

The considerable increase in Repairs and Maintenance expenses as compared with 1981 was questioned. The reason for this, as explained by Robert Hagopian, was the revision of the format as well as the proposed improvements. Also pointed out was the fact that the use of gas and electricity was decreased.

It was proposed that large increases or decreases be explained by a footnote and that background material is available, which would eliminate explanations during the meeting.

The listing 'taxes' and consultant fees' were questioned. It was explained the taxes were for the camp ground property and the consultant fees for Ray Waldron (Camp ground evaluation) and the Dennis DeHaven Report (Energy conservation).

A motion was made that the 1982 Budget be accepted as read. The motion was seconded and passed.

New Business: The proposal of life membership dues as an alternative method of paying dues was presented by Richard Boyajian (copy attached.) Richard reported 618 members of the church, of which 341 pay full dues, 65 pay the senior citizen rate, and 212 pay no dues at all. There were some questions regarding the proposal which were answered. It was suggested a membership drive be created to go after the non-paying persons. This life membership proposal will be presented to the Diocese to keep them informed of our additional project in collecting dues. A motion was made that the proposal of life membership as presented to this Assembly be accepted. This motion was seconded, discussed and passed. A motion was made that a committee be named from the assembly to contact those persons who are not dues paying members of the Church, and report to the next Parish Assembly. The motion was seconded and passed.

Membership Drive Committee was formed as follows:

George Devletian - Chairman
Richard Shakarjian
Araxie Richards
Abraham Abrahamian
Eleanor Hachadorian
George Mangigian

This committee would be under the supervision of the Parish Council and Pastor.

A resolution was made to continue the Sunday School Christmas Eve Pageant, which has been a beautiful tradition, as an annual affair.

Camp Ground Committee: A report was given by Steven Barsamian, copies of which are filed with the Parish Council. The Assembly was advised the rent for the property would be increased from \$375. to \$400 per month. Following some questions and answers, appreciation for a fine job done by the committee with a thorough and comprehensive report was expressed. The camp ground report was accepted as presented.

Auditing Committee: This committee report was given by John Eskandarian, with the recommendation that the bookkeeping system of each organization be uniform, and that the Bazaar and Special Affairs accounts be combined. He commended both Robert Paretchan and Robert Hagopian for having done such a fine job as treasurers. The Auditor's Report was accepted as presented.

Election results were reported by Claudette Sarian, Chairlady of the Nominating Committee, as follows:-

7 Elected to Parish Council:

1. Abraham Abrahamian (78)
 2. Malena Sarrafian (78)
 3. Aram Fayda (76)
 4. Simon Koumjian (73)
 5. Vahe Soghomonian (67)
 6. Noubar Markaridian (58)
 7. George Mesegian (48)
- Alternate - Albert Nilsen (47)

3 Elected to Auditing Committee:

1. Edward Ounjian (79)
2. Peter Manookian (61)
3. Migirdich Azadian (48)

3 Elected to Nominating Committee:

1. Elda Chamberlain (75)
2. Mary Hoplamazian (74)
3. Richard Boyajian (63)

The members of the Parish Council whose terms expired were unanimously thanked by the Assembly for a job well done.

There being no further new business on the agenda, a motion was made and passed the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Hyre Soorp at 3:35 p.m.

Malena Sarrafian

Malena Sarrafian,
Secretary

Marcus Mamourian

Marcus Mamourian,
Chairman

Rev Zaven Arzoumanian

The Very Rev. Zaven Arzoumanian,
Pastor and President