

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING      JANUARY 23, 1977

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

The General Membership Meeting of the St. James Armenian Church of Richmond, Va. was called to order by the past chairman of the day, Noubar Boyajian.

Der Hayr opened the meeting with a prayer.

Nominations were opened for chairman and secretary for the day. Noubar Boyajian and Ann Goff were elected respectively.

Minutes of the 1976 meeting were read by the secretary and accepted.

The roll call was taken by Bedros Bandazian and 48 members were present, forming a quorum according to the Diocesan Constitutional By-Laws.

Der Hayr read his Pastoral Report in which he gave a brief resume' of the activities of the past year, including the Israeli Showcase, in which he was very much involved.

Noubar Boyajian then called upon the following organizations for their annual reports:

Women's Guild - secretary, Nectar Kantarjian, gave a report on the various activities. Mary Kricorian gave a financial report and presented 5,000.00 to the Parish Council on behalf of that organization. Two thousand dollars of the money earned at the bazaar will be kept aside for the future bazaars, as agreed upon by the Women's Guild and confirmed by the Parish Council.

ACYOA Jr.- Chairman, Chuck Ashjian, gave a report on one of the new organizations in the church. At present they have 10 members but hope to grow. One of the Jr. projects is preparing coffee each Sunday morning after church service. They have 70.00 in their treasury.

ACYOA Sr.- Susan Minasian gave the group's report. The Seniors have 638.00 in their savings account and 355.00 in the checking account.

Sunday School - Superintendent Roxie Kricorian reported 33 children registered for Sunday School. A film strip projector plus film strips have been acquired since last year. Roxie suggested a committee of four lay people be set up to devise programs and activities for the young children. Vigen Guroian suggested the Parish Council take this under advisement. Rose Soghoian and Stella Bandazian volunteered their services for this committee.

Choir - There was no formal report from the choir but Susan Minasian did state a program to recruit members was being started. Der Hayr mentioned that a man who has recently moved to Richmond and knowledgeable in the services has informed him of his willingness to serve and assist in this organization.

Bible Studies Group - This is another new activity started this year and presided over by Vigen Guroian. They meet Sunday morning at 10:30 in the educational building and approximately 12-15 attend. Anyone wishing to do so may join.

General Membership Meeting

-page 2-

Treasurer's Report - Bedros Bandazian gave the financial report for 1976 and the budget for 1977. He suggested an increase in our diocesan dues from 15.00 to 17.00 a year since this was the amount the parish is being assessed by the diocese for each member, and an increase in our pledge from 1.00 to 1.25 per member per week thereby making the minimum voting pledge 65.00 rather than 50.00. He made this into a motion, it was seconded and passed. As there was some question at last year's meeting as to how the diocesan dues were established, Bedros showed the members a chart received from the diocese explaining their formula. a motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report.

Armenian School - Bedros Bandazian gave a report on the Armenian School. He stated it was flourishing, just flourishing. They now have 44 members and a bank balance of 545.00 The AGBU will no longer donate any further funds to the school, so they are planning a few fund raising programs.

The nominating committee presented their slate for the Parish Council for the coming year. The nominees were: John Ashjian, Pete Greene, Philip Guzelian, Joe Lachowski and Tigran Amirkhanian. Nominated from the floor was Moses Tashjian.

Elected to the Parish Council were; Pete Greene, Joe Lachowski, John Ashjian, Tigran Amirkhanian and Moses Tashjian.

The nominating committee also submitted the names of Bedros Bandazian and Gerry Sharigian as diocesan delegate and alternate. Mrs. Shnorig Soghoian was nominated from the floor. Elected as delegate and alternate were Bedros Bandazian and Gerry Sharigian.

Old Business - none.

New Business - Virginia Bandazian suggested a second membership meeting be held after the Diocesan Assembly, as this was important and it concerned all of us and we should be kept informed as to what is happening at these meetings. Virginia Greene thought a meeting after services the Sunday following Mother's Day should be considered, to hear the Diocesan Assembly report.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 .

Der Hayr closed the meeting with a prayer.