

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH
RICHMOND, VA

- General Membership Meeting -
January 27, 1985

The 1985 General Membership Meeting of the St. James Armenian Church was called to order at 12:55 p.m. by Jack Tootelian, chairperson of the 1984 Parish Assembly.

The meeting was opened by a prayer by Reverend Arsen Barsamian, followed by a moment's prayer for parish members who deceased in 1984.

Since the roll was not ready to be called, secretary Liz Baronian, read the minutes of the 1984 Parish General Assembly meeting.

The roll was then called by John Ashjian. It was determined that of 79 paid members, 35 were present.

Dianne Velegris, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers as follows: John Baronian, chairman of the day and Becky Greene, secretary of the day. Since no other nominations were made, Michael Vranian made a motion to close the nominations and then nominated John Baronian as chairman of the day, which was seconded by Alice Darhanian. It was unanimously passed. Michael Vranian then made a motion to accept Becky Greene as secretary of the day. Azniv Amirkhanian seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Chairman, Jack Tootelian, then asked the newly elected officers to take their respective chairs.

Chairman, John Baronian, then proceeded with the business of the day according to the agenda. The following officers gave their respective reports:

Pastor Report

Reverend Arsen Barsamian gave his report. (see enclosed)

Parish Council Report

Chairman, Gerry Sharigian, gave his report and stated that unfortunately in 1984, most meetings has not met its quorum. A special thanks was given to those persons who worked so hard throughout the year for the church and its activities. (see enclosed)

Women's Guild Report

In absence of the Chairlady, Mrs. Shnorhig Soghoian, the secretary, Mrs. Varteni Barsamian, gave the organization's report. (see enclosed)

Sunday School Report

Chairlady, Roxie Kricorian, gave her report. In closing an account, a check in the amount of \$148.94 was presented to the church. (see enclosed)

Armenian School Report

Chairman, Bedros Bandazian, gave his report and treasurer, Stella Bandazian, gave the financial report. (see enclosed)

Choir Report

Chairman, Robert Thomas, gave his report. He asked that a budget be allocated for the choir for books, seminars, etc. A special thanks went to Araxie Manoukian for her continued participation in the choir, and to Diana DerHovanessian for donating her time in substituting as organist. (see enclosed)

Cultural & Educational Committee Report

No one was present at the meeting, therefore a report was not given. (see enclosed)

Building Committee Report

John Baronian gave the report for the Building Committee. He reported that two contracts had been signed to begin construction and to order the equipment. The renovation cost of the interior and exterior, as well as the new equipment, were estimated at \$145,000.00. (see enclosed)

1984 Food Festival Report

Co-chairman, Sam Baronian, gave the report on the food festival and presented the church with a check for \$10,649.02. This event is sponsored by the Women's Guild. (see enclosed)

Boy's Club Report

Chairman, Gerry Sharigian, gave his report. (see enclosed)

Endowment Fund Report

Chairman, Pete Greene, gave his report. (see enclosed)

Oriental Rug Sale Report

Chairman, Michael Vranian, gave his report and informed the members that a check for \$23,429.06 was presented to the church as income from the 1984 rug sale. (see enclosed)

ACYOA Report

Chairman, Raffi Barsamian, gave his report. At this time the parish members gave a special thanks to Raffi and Steve Barsamian for the continued participation in the ACYOA and as altar boys. (see enclosed)

Anoush Dance Group Report

Co-chairlady, Melanie Kerneklian, gave her report. (see enclosed)

Baseball Team Report

No one was present at the meeting, therefore a report was not given. (see enclosed)

Chairman, John Baronian, called on the Nominating Committee to proceed with the elections of the day. The following is the list of candidates and the election results of the Parrish Council, Nominating Committee, Auditing Committee and the Candidate for the Diocesan Delegate.

Parish Council

Virginia Abernathy. . . .16
Bedros Bandazian. . . .22
John Baronian29
Alice Darhanian13
Ron Greene.29
Phil Guzelian6
Henry Magarian.17

Nominating Committee

Virginia Bandazian. . . .12
Barkev Baronian13
Margie Baronian18
Varteni Barsamian24
Anne Norris21
Elizabeth Tootelian . . .10

Auditing Committee

John Ashjian.19
Sam Baronian.29
*Roxie Kricorian1
Paul Mazmanian.15
Joyce Soghoian.2

Candidate for Diocesan Delegate

Virginia Greene32
Gerry Sharigian1

*Roxie Kricorian declined as candidate before the voting began.

The new Parish Council members are : Bedros Bandazian, John Baronian, Ron Greene, Henry Magarian, and Virginia Abernathy, Virginia Abernathy's term will be for one year, as replacement for a resignation in 1984.

The new Nominating Committee members are: Margie Baronian, Varteni Barsamian, and Anne Norris.

The new Auditing Committee members are: John Ashjian and Sam Baronian.

The candidate elected for the Diocesan Delegate was Virginia Greene.

John Ashjian, treasurer, submitted the Parish Council's 1984 Financial Report and the 1985 Proposed Budget. Bedros Bandazian made a motion to allocate approximately \$2,500.00 to the 1985 budget for a new sound system on the stage and in the church hall. Liz Baronian seconded the motion and it was accepted by all. Ron Greene made a motion to accept the 1985 Financial Report and the 1985 Budget. Nebe Boyajian seconded the motion. It was unanimously passed.

The following are suggestions made by parish members and will be reviewed and voted upon by the Parish Council during the new year.

Church Maintenance

Better maintenance and cleaning is needed in and around the church. This would include cleaning before and after church functions, as well as, setting up in advance chairs, tables, etc. that are needed. The Parish Council is to consider forming a "Maintenance Committee".

Increasing Church Membership

It was suggested that a "Welcoming Committee" be formed to approach the Armenian families in Richmond (new to the community

and old) and inform them of our activities in hopes that they will become active in our church. It was also suggested that we notify the newsletters of out-of-town Armenian communities of our monthly functions.

Women's Guild

Mrs. Shnorhig Soghoian had previously told the other members of the organization that she is unable to continue being chairlady. The group needs reorganization and decisions need to be made in the very near future.

Appearance & Lighting of Stage

It was suggested that something be done about the poor appearance and lighting on the stage. The Parish Council is to check with the possibilities and cost of correcting this problem.

Calendar of Events

It was suggested to form a "Calendar of Events" and include it in the Sevan. This will help inform members of coming events.

Ventilation in Church Hall

It was suggested to check the ventilation in the church hall. Some members indicated that smoke bothers them.

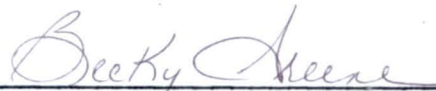
Paris Dedeian made a motion to close the meeting. It was seconded by Virginia Greene, and the motion was unanimously passed. Reverend Arsen Barsamian gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



Rev. Arsen Barsamian



John Baronian, Chairman



Becky Greene, Secretary