

SAINT JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH.....RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.....MARCH 14, 1990

The 1990 General Membership Meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by the Parish Council chairman, Bedros Bandazian.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by our pastor, Very Rev. Oshagan Gulgolian. John Ashjian, treasurer, called the roll. The total number of voting members was 89 with 43 present which constituted a quorum.

Nominations were open for chairman and secretary for the day. John Baronian was elected chairman and Virginia Greene, secretary.

John Baronian called upon the secretary to read the minutes of the 1988 Membership meeting. There being no corrections to the minutes, they were approved as read.

Samuel Baronian Jr. requested that a revision be made as to the agenda and asked that the treasurer's report be given at this time. The treasurer, John Ashjian, went over the financial report from the forms that were mailed to the members and asked for any questions. It was suggested that in the future a proposed income budget be included in his report along with the proposed expense budget. He reported a proposed expenditure of \$83,664.00 for the coming year. After much discussion as to how we would meet this budget, a vote was taken to accept the budget with 39 yeas and 2 no's.

Samuel Baronian Jr. wished to report that the Parish Council had recommended the increase in dues for voting members. He mentioned that the annual dues would be increased to \$200.00 for 1990, \$225.00 for 1991 and \$250.00 for 1992. He also pointed out that we must realize that our Diocesan dues are costing us \$75.00 per member therefore the Senior Citizen dues of \$75.00 would be eliminated. He then asked for a motion to approve the proposal. Rob Norris made the motion to increase the dues and it was seconded by Charlie Evranian. The vote was 29 for and 2 against. Sam Baronian Sr. suggested sending a list of voting members to the members along with the financial report in the following year.

John Baronian then called upon Hayr Soorp if he would like to say a few words and since he was not our pastor in 1989, no report was required of him. Hayr Soorp thanked everyone for inviting him to be our Parish Priest and stressed the importance of everyone working together and supporting the church organizations. He also mentioned that he was planning to have a bookstore in the church hall that will carry not only books, tapes but gift items, etc and would be open each Sunday. He called to the attention of all the members that the library is open to anyone who desires to use it and only needs to inform Hayr Soorp.

The chairman asked if there was any questions on any of the organizational reports that were previously mailed to all members. There being none, he called upon the Parish Council chairman, Bedros Bandazian to give his report.

Bedros gave a detailed informative summary of all the activities of the Parish Council during this very difficult year. He stressed the fact that we must work together in order to carry on the church's activities.

The election of the Parish Council, Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee followed. The slate of officers was presented as, for Parish Council:

Virginia Abernathy.....27 *

Bedros Bandazian.....20

Barkev Baronian,.....25 *

Samuel Baronian Jr.....21 *

Alice Darhanian.....3

Ron Greene.....38 *

Henry Magarian.....9

Joyce Soghoian.....18

Those elected to the Parish Council were Virginia Abernathy, Ron Greene and Samuel Baronian Jr.

The candidates for the Nominating Committee were: Nebe Boyajian

Nebe Boyajian.....18

Virginia Greene.....23 *

Anne Norris.....27 *

Gerry Sharigian.....20 *

Isabelle Vranian.....20

Dr. Michael Vranian.....13

Those elected to the Nominating Committee were: Virginia Greene, Anne Norris and there being a tie between Gerry Sharigian and Isabelle Vranian, Isabelle withdrew her name and Gerry Sharigian was the other elected members of the Nominating Committee.

The Auditing Committee candidates were:

Azniv Amirkhanian.....21

Dale Baronian.....25 *

Charles Evranian.....21 *

Paul Mazmanian.....15

There being a tie between Charles Evranian and Azniv Amirkhanian another vote was taken and those elected were Dale Baronian and Charles Evranian.

Jack Tootelian asked for the floor to make an observation as to the pastoral account. He stated that there was a CD in the amount of \$90,000 from the sale of the Parish House which was earning 8% interest which roughly amounted to \$72,000.00 a year, the interest of which is being sent to the treasurer each month and the \$600.00 is being used to offset Hayr Soorp's monthly apartment rent and utilities. He suggested that if there was enough monies coming in from general funds, to then leave the interest in place and let it compound as well. This issue was left to the discretion of the Parish Council.

John Baronian, chairman of the day, then thanked the Parish Council for the difficult task that they underwent involving not only not having a priest but keeping up all activities in a normal fashion.

Ron Greene, who is in charge of the Special Funds of the church was called upon to give his report. After doing so, which was also included as part of the financial report he mentioned that he wished to formulate a better system of the Endowment Fund.

There followed an open discussion on any topic anyone desired to bring up which was maining membership which was of main concern to the majority. Various suggestions were made on how to pursue this further.

Congratulations to the new members of the Parish Council, Nominating Committee and the Auditing Committee were made by John Baronian and offered support to the Parish Council and our new Priest.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Nebe Boyajian and seconded by Dianna DerHovhannessian. Hayr Soorp closed the meeting with a prayer at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Virginia Greene*