

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

March 13, 1994

## INVOCATION

The parish was led in prayer by the Very Reverend Father Nareg Berberian.

## VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m by Parish Council Chairman, Carol Garabetian. A roll call of eligible voters was taken by Aram Topjian, indicating 39 parish members out of 68 members were present.

## ELECTION OF ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

Nominations were taken for Chairman and Secretary of the 1994 Annual Parish Assembly. John Baronian was elected Chairman, Pamela Mazmanian was elected Secretary.

## READING OF THE 1993 ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Pam Mazmanian read the minutes of the 1993 annual meeting. The minutes were approved with the following corrections. Sam Baronian was elected for 4 years and Jack Tootelian was elected for three years to serve on the Finance and Endowment Committee during the 1993 Parish Assembly.

## 1993 FINANCIAL REPORT and 1994 BUDGET

Tigran Amirkhanian presented the 1993 financial report. It was accepted by the Assembly.

There was discussion regarding membership dues and the percentage of dues paid to the diocese. It was noted by Jack Tootelian that the dues paid to the diocese, as reported for 1993, was an amount based on 1992 membership dues.

Gerry Sharigian made a motion that the 1993 financial report and 1994 budget be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

## PASTOR'S REPORT

A written copy of the report (enclosed) was read by Father Nareg Berberian. It was accepted by the Assembly.

## REPORT OF PARISH COUNCIL AND CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

The following reports are enclosed: Chior, 2Ladies Guild, Sunday School, ACYOA and Parish Council.

The reports were acknowledged.

Parish Council Chairman, Carol Garabetian, stated that 1993 presented challenges. She acknowledged the dedication and support received from many people during the past year.

The work and commitment of Azniv Amirkhanian and the teachers of the Sunday School who significantly increased participation in the Sunday School; Lilly Thomas and the Ladies Guild for their work in facilitating the church community and sponsoring numerous functions; the dedication of the Parish Council, which consisted primarily of novice members who continued working in the absence of a Parish Pastor; and Arpi Bouroujian and others sponsoring the ACYOA for their work with the youth were applauded.

The Assembly took time during the meeting to silently reflect upon our loss and the contributions Virginia Greene made for many years to St. James Armenian Church.

## ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS, DIOCESAN DELEGATE, NOMINATING AND AUDITING COMMITTEES

There was discussion regarding an increase in the number of Parish Council members from the current 5 members to 7 members, as in previous years. The assembly approved a motion to increase the size of Council to seven persons.

Candidates for 1994-1996 included:

*Parish Council:* Mark Ashjian, Bedros Bandazian, John Baronian, Levon Bouroujian, Victoria Jamgochian, David Livingstone, Rob Norris and Gerry Sharigian.

*Nominating Committee:* Dorian Barsamian, Arpi Bouroujian, Carol Garabetian, Alice LeVay, Azniv Amirkhanian and Joyce Soghoian.

*Auditing Committee:* Sam Baronian, Nebe Boyajian, Paul Mazmanian and Jack Tootelian.

Members elected are as follows:

*Parish Council:* Bedros Bandazian, John Baronian, Rob Norris and Gerry Sharigian. Tigran Amirkhanian, Henry Magarian and Aram Topjian will complete their second year as Parish Council members elected at the 1993 Assembly.

*Nominating Committee:* Carol Garabetian, Azniv Amirkhanian and Joyce Soghoian.

*Auditing Committee:* Sam Baronian and Nebe Boyajian.

In accordance with the parish by-laws, Azniv Amirkhanian, as the runner up in the 1993 Parish Assembly election, is the Diocesan Delegate to serve the remaining 3 years of the term left open upon Virginia Greene's death.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Bedros Bandazian made a request for clarification on the purpose of the Finance and Endowment Committee to which he, Sam Baronian and Jack Tootelian were elected during the 1993 Parish Assembly meeting. In accordance with information presented by Jack Tootelian, it was noted that the work of the Committee was more complex than determining how endowment fund resources should be invested. Jack Tootelian stated that Bedros Bandazian had already completed a large amount of work in collecting information regarding the various funds.

Bedros Bandazian indicated that there needed to be by-laws written to specify how the funds could be used and to specify policies and procedures.

After lengthy discussion, it was agreed by Bedros Bandazian and the Chairman of the Day, John Baronian, that the three members of the Finance and Endowment Committee are trustees of the funds. It was further noted that the Committee would meet with Parish Council to more carefully specify the purpose, policies and procedures of the Committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Melanie Kerneklian indicated that there was need for a mid year meeting to address parish concerns and apprise the members of progress to parish goals. It was noted that holding a semi-annual meeting had been discussed and approved during previous Assembly meetings.

Melanie Kerneklian noted that filling the position of Church Secretary would be very difficult for a parish member after the many years of hard work and dedicated service provided by Virginia Greene. Hayr Soorp indicated that the Parish By-Laws state that appointing or hiring a church secretary is the responsibility of the parish priest and that he would attend to that responsibility.

### **BENEDICTION**

The parish was led in prayer by the Very Reverend Father Nareg Berberian.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Pamela Mazmanian*

Pamela Mazmanian  
Secretary of the Assembly March 13, 1994

*F. Nareg Berberian*  
Pastor

*John Depucian*  
CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSEMBLY March 13, 1994