

PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

January 23, 1983

After an opening prayer led by our Pastor, Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian who presided, the Annual Parish Assembly for St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church came to order on January 23, 1983 at 2:00 p.m. by Parish Council Chairman, George Stevoff. Nineteen members were present at the time, and it was voted to constitute a quorum.

Nominations were then made from the floor for chairperson and secretary for the remainder of the day. Harry Cherkinian was elected chairperson and Mary K. Akgulian secretary.

The meeting was then brought underway with the reading of the Pastor's report by Father Garabed Kochakian, covering August 15, 1982 - December 31, 1982, five months of his pastoral activities at St. Mesrob. In his report, he indicated what a blessing it is to "have been graced with such a warm reception into a fine community." Also, "Let us thank then the Lord for the abundance of our blessings which he has bestowed upon us during 1982." He was very gracious in thanking each and every organization, as well as individuals, who have volunteered their services. We pray that God will continue to give Father Garabed the needed strength and grace to lead us for as long as he is with us.

*double
Slate
secret
ballot
4 1/2 months*

Parish Council's Report

The Parish Council's Report was read by Parish Council Chairman George Stevoff. Mary D. Akgulian gave the treasurer's report for the Parish Council, indicating there are 249 paid members on the books for 1982. Robert Akulian questioned the purchase of the church car and why the matter was not brought before the congregation. George explained this was within the guidelines of the stipend. Anything else beyond \$1,500 is to be brought up at a special meeting. Katherine Mikaelian commended Mary on doing an excellent job with the books.

Mike Garoukian questioned the \$37,000 in the budget for the membership pledge. He thought this did not seem like a realistic goal. It was thought that people will come through with their pledges. Sam Akgulian reminded us of how we had raised \$25,000 when we built the church and felt people will again contribute when they realize the need.

There was a question as to whether or not to raise the Parish house rental fee. George stated they had decided it was best to leave it as is, especially with the economy the way it is and also we do have a good tenant and would like to keep them.

There was a discussion on the need for \$2,500 for scaffolding. It was agreed this is more than enough. Sam Akgulian reported many more things will be needed, totaling around \$10,000, so it was decided to leave this in the budget.

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David Azarian moved we accept the budget, Sam Akgulian seconded it, and the motion was accepted for approximately \$80,000 by a vote of 41 - 6.

David Azarian of the Picnic Committee reported the picnic date is July 17, and the expected amount to be raised is \$15,000.

Choir

Mary Ann Injasoulian reported they are trying to cover expenses without going to the Parish Council; however, they have a need for a new organ so definitely need financial assistance at this time. This will be brought up under new business.

Women's Guild

Donna Barootian stated The Women's Guild had one of their best financial years.

ACYOA Juniors

Kai Kazarian and Diane Vidian, advisors, stated the juniors will be holding their Sports Weekend here on May 27 - 30 and hope everyone will help them as much as possible, especially to house the many that will be coming in from other cities.

Project Committee

Mesog Vidian stated they had no report. However, Harry Cherkinian commended the committee on the tremendous job this small group of men are doing.

Varak

Der Hayr mentioned there is a staff handling this and reminded organizations the cut off date for articles is the 5th of each month. Chuck Dadian suggested next year we have a page for Christmas wishes. Der Hayr stated they are considering it.

Sunday School

Sam Kaprelian stated there are now approximately 50 students and a Pastor's Study group now taking place the last Sunday of each month for the high school students.

Armenian School

Murad Gengozian, who has been superintendent the past few years, stated there are about 16 students. Murad stated the four boys that were sent to St. Nerses were in the highest section of Armenian "know-how." Each of the boys; Tom Gengozian, Paul Torosian, Tim Torosian, and Jim Hardy, gave individual reports of their daily activities and thanked the Parish Council for sending them. The boys did a very fine job in their reports and sounded as if they sincerely enjoyed themselves and benefitted greatly by the experience.

Adoption of New Fee Schedule for Funerals

This must yet be decided on by the new Women's Guild Executive Board.

The new schedule for the use of church facilities is as follows:

Non-Members

Use of the Conference Room	\$20
Hall without Kitchen	\$120
Hall with Kitchen	\$250

50% of price is deposit and is to be returned if facilities left in good condition.

George Stevoff motioned we adopt this schedule with the new Women's Guild schedule added when completed. Steve Barootian seconded it. The schedule was adopted.

The proposal of whether or not there should be an establishment of a trust fund to have one of the classrooms as a Founders and Reception Room was brought up. After some discussion and motions brought up that were not in order, Steve Barootian moved the Women's Guild be authorized to set up a special fund for the room. Sam Akgulian seconded it. The motion carried with 24 for it and 19 against.

Der Hayr then raised the point of moving up the election of officers. Harry Cherkinian then requested the Nominating Committee, consisting of Mike Garoukian, Harry Akgulian and Nubar Tcheurekdjian, take over; the Auditing Committee, Harry Boranian, Katherine Mikaelian and Mary Cherkinian were asked to assist. At this point, there were 63 dues paying members present.

Our new Parish Council members will be Charles Hardy, Todd Mikaelian, George Sahagian and Tom Janikian. The remaining trustees are George Stevoff, Mary D. Akgulian, and Harold Sahakian. The two runners up are Margaret Armaganian and Gene Chardukian.

Next were the votes for the Nominating Committee. Those elected for the committee were Harry Boranian, Elsie Garoukian, Arthur Musurlian.

Mary Cherkinian, Charles Dadian, Perry Paragamian will be the new Auditing Committee.

Permanent Trust Fund - David Azarian, 20; Sarkis Cherkinian - 37. Sarkis was elected to the Permanent Trust Fund.

The proposal for the Parish Council to set up \$1,660 for the church facia (front area only) from the 1982 surplus was discussed. George Stevoff moved that it come from the permanent trust fund. This was seconded by David Azarian. Motion approved.

The removal of the willow trees in the front yard was brought before the Assembly. It was agreed they are creating problems for the Project Committee and the trees must go.

Next was the report on the status of the new Church Donors Building Plaque, which is to make sure all names are correct before completed. Parish Council is working on this and should have action on it shortly.

Steve Barootian gave a report on the possible conversion to solar energy. He reported the cost would be too great and stated the life span is 25 years, so did not recommend converting.

Whether or not to bid for the 1986 Diocesan Assembly was brought up. George Stevoff motioned we go ahead, Murad Gengozian seconded it. Motion passed.

A motion to have all financial donations go through the Permanent Trust Fund instead of directly to the Parish Council. Motion rejected.

George Stevoff moved and Mary D. Akgulian seconded the motion of the purchase of a copy machine not to exceed \$3,000. The need for it was discussed, and the motion then carried with a 24 - 12 vote.

There were no proposals to be submitted for the 1983 Diocesan Assembly.

New Business

Katherine Mikaelian stated she doesn't feel everyone should have a key to the church. The Parish Council will check into this.

Mary Ann Injasouljian indicated the need for a new organ which would run \$15,000 - \$20,000. A fund is already started. Harry Cherkinian suggested adding to the fund and getting together with the Parish Council.

Katherine Mikaelian thanked the Parish Council, also Perry Paragamian who ran off all the reports for the Assembly.

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Kai Kazarian thanked all for helping the ACYOA January 8 dance a success.

The meeting was then adjourned by Murad Gengozian at 5:40 p.m., seconded by Katherine Mikaelian.

Before the final prayer, Der Hayr extended a thank you to Harry Cherkinian, Chairperson for the Assembly and Mary K. Akgulian, Secretary, also to the Nominating Committee, the Parish Council members leaving and the Auditing Committee for their fine job.

He then brought the meeting to a final close with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary K. Akgulian
 Mary K. Akgulian
 Secretary

Harry Cherkinian
 Harry Cherkinian
 Chairperson

Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian
 Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian
 President