

St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

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*Սուրբ Մեսրոպ Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցի
Ռէյսին, Ուիսքոնսին*

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տէր Կարապետ Քահանայ Քոչաքեան — Հովիւ

SAINT MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH
Racine, Wisconsin

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
Sunday, February 17, 1991

Parish Council Chairperson, George Stevoff, called the meeting to order. Der Garabed Kochakian led the opening prayer.

Chairperson Stevoff asked Parish Council Treasurer Sam Kaprelian how many members were in attendance. Sam replied that 66 were present.

Murad Gengozian moved that the 66 present constitute a quorum.
Sam Akgulian seconded.
Motion passed.

Election of Chairperson and Secretary of the Day

Chairperson Stevoff then called Nominating Committee Chairperson, Dan Korakian, forward to begin the balloting. He asked members to cast votes for Parish Assembly Chair and Secretary, after asking for nominations from the floor.

The Nominations Committee presented the following nominees:

Chairperson of the Day:	Sarkis Cherkinian Elsie Garoukian
Secretary of the Day:	Sue Nersessian Judy Hachikian (Petersen)

Mikael Garoukian moved that the nominations be closed.
Perry Paragamian seconded.
Motion passed.

Elected were:

Elsie Garoukian, Chairperson of the Day
Judy Hachikian, Secretary of the Day



Approval of Minutes of Previous Parish Assembly

For reference purposes (and because it is a required update), the Sunday, May 20, 1990, minutes should read "Special Parish Assembly Meeting (Diocesan Delegates' Report). Also, the first sentence, third paragraph, of that same report should read "The minutes were read by the Secretary" instead of "The Secretary's Report was read."

Mikael Garoukian moved that the minutes as corrected be accepted.
Perry Paragamian seconded.
Motion passed.

Adoption of Agenda

Item "13.a" should be inserted as "Old Business."

Murad Gengozian moved that the agenda as adjusted be adopted.
Mel Hagopian seconded.
Motion passed

Pastor's Annual Report and Message

Under "Baptisms and Chrismations" on page 3 of the report, the names of Nicholas Roy and Zachary Ferraro should be added.

Martha Kargenian moved that the Pastor's Report as corrected be accepted.
Sue Vidian seconded.
Motion passed.

Parish Council Report

The report was read by George Stevoff. In the third paragraph of the report, recognition was given to various individuals. Two names will be added to that list: Sam Akgulian and Mel Hagopian.

Mel Hagopian moved that the Parish Council Report be accepted.
Perry Paragamian seconded.
Motion passed.

Parish Treasurer's Report

The report was presented by Sam Kaprelian.

Mike Kadamian moved to accept the report as submitted.
Mary Katerjian seconded.
Motion passed.

Review and Adoption of 1991 Budget

Mikael Garoukian moved to increase the pastor's secretary salary by \$500.
Mel Hagopian seconded.
Motion passed.

Paul Tewagian moved to accept the 1991 budget with the above addition.
Dan Hagopian seconded.
Motion passed.

Reading, Review and Acceptance of Organizational Reports

Permanent Trust Committee

Sam Akgulian read the report and answered questions.

Paul Tewagian moved to accept the report of the Permanent Trust.
Myron Chordegian seconded.
Motion passed.

Church Choir

Yeretzgin Roberta Kochakian read the report.

Mike Garoukian moved to accept the Choir's report.
Sue Esayian seconded.
Motion passed.

ACYOA Juniors

Gina Korakian read the report.

Martha Kargenian moved to accept the ACYOA Juniors' report.
Mary Cherkinian seconded.
Motion passed.

Heritage Committee

Alice Hazarian read the report.

Mel Hagopian moved to accept the Heritage Committee's report.
John Rahanian seconded.
Motion passed.

Women's Guild

Claire Kadamian read the report.

Mel Hagopian moved to accept the Women's Guild report.
John Rahanian seconded.
Motion passed.

Armenian Fest

Perry Paragamian read the report.

Paul Tewagian moved to accept the Armenian Fest report.
Martha Kargenian seconded.
Motion passed.

Sunday School

Lauren Chalekian read the report.

Sam Akgulian moved to accept the Sunday School report.
Martha Kargenian seconded.
Motion passed.

Retirees

Paul Tewagian presented the report.

John Rahanian moved to accept the Retirees' report.
Dan Hagopian seconded.
Motion passed.

Projects Committee

Sam Akgulian read the report and answered questions.

Paul Tewagian moved to accept the Projects Committee report.
John Rahanian seconded.
Motion passed.

Book Store

A financial report was submitted on behalf of the Book Store.

Claire Kadamian moved to accept the report as submitted.
Mary Cherkinian seconded.
Motion passed.

Nominating Committee Report and Elections

Audit Committee

The Nominating Committee presented the following nominees:

Lisa Akgulian	Arthur Musurlian
Takouhi Andekian	Pat Balian McConnell
Mary Cherkinian	Sam Kaprelian

Nominations from the floor included Tom Gengozian.

Alice Hazarian moved to close nominations.
Mary Akgulian seconded.
Motion passed.

After a vote, the following were elected:

Lisa Akgulian	(3-year term)
Sam Kaprelian	(2-year term)
Tom Gengozian	(1-year term)

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee presented the following nominees:

Paul Minasian	Tom Gengozian
Tod Mikaelian	Catherine Mikaelian
Seta Andekian	Marguerite Guglielmo
Pamela Kazarian	Mary (Harry) Akgulian

Mel Hagopian moved to close nominations.
Claire Kadamian seconded.
Motion passed.

After a vote, the following were elected:

Paul Minasian
Catherine Mikaelian
Marguerite Guglielmo

Permanent Trust Committee

The Nominating Committee presented the following nominees:

Adam Chalekian
Mike Garoukian
Margaret Armaganian

Nominations from the floor placed Sarkis Kazarian on the ballot.

Sam Akgulian moved to close the nominations.
Claire Kadamian seconded.
Motion passed.

After a vote, the single individual elected for a three-year term was:

Mikael Garoukian

Parish Council

The Nominating Committee presented the following nominees:

Hourig Tcheurekdjian Bydzie Musurlian
Peter Kazarian Daniel Korakian
Murad Gengozian

Nominations from the floor placed the following individuals on the ballot:

Kai Kazarian
George Sahagian
Margaret Armaganian.

Mel Hagopian moved to close the nominations.
Mary (Harry) Akgulian seconded
Motion passed

After a vote, the following four individuals were elected:

Hourig Tcheurekdjian
Murad Gengozian
Kai Kazarian
Dan Korakian

Auditing Committee Report

The report was presented by Nancy Cherkinian. Special gratitude was extended to Sam Kaprelian for his work and support. The Audit Committee requested that particular mention be made that all items purchased by St. Mesrob Committees become assets of the Church (i.e., no committee may "own" an asset; it is "owned" by St. Mesrob Church).

Jack Kazarian moved to accept the report of the Audit Committee.
Mike Garoukian seconded.
Motion passed.

There was no old business.

Proposals to 89th Annual Diocesan Assembly

There were no proposals for the Diocesan Assembly to be held May 9-12, 1991, in Tenafly, New Jersey.

Proposals to the St. Mesrob Annual Assembly

Five proposals to the parish assembly were presented by the Parish Council to the membership present for their consideration. As spokesperson for the Parish Council, George Stevoff:

1. Moved to increase service fee for weddings from \$25 to \$35 for Organist, Deacons and Soloist.
Seconded by Mel Hagopian.
Motion passed.
2. Moved to change opening balance for the new year of the Parish Council Treasury from \$5,000 to \$7,500, effective January 1, 1992.
Seconded by Mel Hagopian.
Motion passed.
3. Moved to increase dues for regular members from \$100 to \$105; seniors from \$50 to \$52.50, and students from \$25 to \$26.50, effective January 1, 1992.
(Rationale for this that if dues are increased slightly every year, parishioners won't feel the sting of a larger increase every few years.)
Seconded by Arthur Musurlian.
Motion passed.
4. Moved that the age category of senior members be changed from 70 to 80, effective January 1, 1992. (Presented through the Parish Council by Sam Akgulian.)
Seconded by Catherine Mikaelian.
Motion passed.

5. Moved that Sunday School fiscal year begin August 1 and end July 31.
(Rationale presented by Lauren Chalekian: due to the Sunday School's operating on a school year [nine months], the revised fiscal year makes "logistics" of operations easier and more efficient.)
Seconded by Mel Hagopian.
Motion passed.

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6. Moved by Nancy Cherkinian that the Senior ACYOA checking account be closed and funds be put into the General Fund. Upon reactivation of a Senior ACYOA at some time in the future, the Parish Council would provide appropriate funds.
Seconded by Mel Hagopian.
Motion passed.

At 4:10 p.m., the St. Mesrob Annual Parish Assembly was surprised with an honored visit from the Bishop of the North American Diocese, His Grace The Primate, Khajag Barsamian. Surpazan allowed us to continue our meeting, after which he shared with us some thoughts and objectives of his office and the work of the Diocese.

Primary areas of work will be aimed at: strengthening the seminary; developing youth programs; restructuring (reorganization) of the diocese (personnel); and financial improvements, especially at the Diocesan level, with fund raisers for anticipating long-range programs (for the support of the church).

In a brief update on Armenia, Surpazan Hayr told us that there was 100 percent religious freedom in Armenia today; the church is becoming stronger, and attempts are being made to create a "parish life." Concerning the earthquake, work is going faster than before, i.e., improvements are being made more rapidly. (Already in the Diocesan Village in Stepanavan there are two units of condominiums which have been completed with other units slated for construction this year.)

Surpazan kindly offered to answer any questions of the parishioners.

In response to a question by George Stevoff concerning "Unity," Surpazan advised us that we have received no response to our formal letters requesting moves toward unity from the Prelacy Unity Committee. He believes at this time there is no reason to be separated, but contends that no political party should be directing the Armenian Church. The Unity Committee continues to work hard, through correspondence, for unification.

Peter Kazarian inquired about Karabagh. Surpazan said their problems still exist; they are serious problems and will not be able to be solved immediately.

Closing

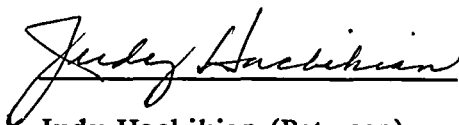
With no further questions posed to Surpazan Hayr, the meeting closed with complimentary remarks from the Chair to all report presenters and their committees and to Der Garabed, and that with prayers our church operations will be kept healthy.

Father Garabed thanked the retiring Parish Council members and members of the other executive committees for serving the church with love and dedication. He congratulated the new Parish Council members and offered his continued counsel, support and guidance in the year ahead.

Mel Hagopian moved to adjourn the meeting.
Sarkis Cherkinian seconded.
The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Surpazan Hayr led the assembly in the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Hachikian (Petersen)
Secretary of the Day



Elsie Garoukian
Chairperson of the Day



Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian
Pastor and President of the Parish Council

2/21/91