

The following minutes are a re-creation of the actual minutes which were lost, before they were transcribed – J. Hachikian, Secretary.

**ST. MESROB ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
Special Parish Assembly
Tuesday, May 24, 1994**

Minutes

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Father Yeprem Kelegian and then officially by Tom Gengozian, parish council chairman.

There was a quorum present.

Minutes of the previous meeting -- the parish assembly on February 20, 1994, were issued to all attendees -- thereby eliminating the need for them to be read aloud. And they were accepted as written.

A report of the Diocesan Assembly of April 28-30, 1994, in Houston, Texas, was given:

Mourad Gengozian spoke of the Primate's and Vehapar's messages; the election results and the social services seminar. Sam Akgulian discussed the Diocesan Council Report and the annual report as well as the stewardship seminar.

Kai Kazarian reported on the seminar held by the Department of Youth Ministry; he gave an overview of the talks concerning "unity;" and he briefly discussed the proposals which were passed. Tom Gengozian reported on the budget, which was passed, and activities of the ACYOA.

Father Yeprem then gave the final report of the FAR and HAVAD committees; he discussed the mission statement (see below) which was agreed on by the delegates; a religious education seminar report, and the future proposals.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church is to preach the Gospel of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and to proclaim its message of salvation. This mission is realized through worship, education, witness, service and a common life in Christ - as expressed in the distinctive faith- experience of the Armenian people. All members of the Armenian Church - both clergy and lay - are called to participate fully in this mission.


NEW BUSINESS

The following proposals were presented, discussed and voted upon.

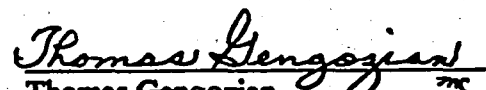
- Removal of the tree in the south parking lot prior to the total resurfacing. Taking it down now would eliminate the need to do so in the future (since it is not a healthy tree), and the lot would be resurfaced without having to "patch" it as we may have to do in the future. Motion was defeated.
- Revision of wedding and funeral fees for deacon, organist and soloist -- from \$35 per person to \$50 per person. Motion was passed.
- For maintenance of the small shed/garage, siding would be added -- at a cost estimate of \$1400. Motion was defeated.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.; it was followed with a prayer.

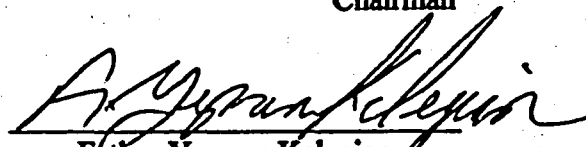
Respectfully submitted,



Judy Hachikian
Secretary



Thomas Gengozian
Chairman



Father Yeprem Kelegian
Pastor

St. Mesrob Armenian Church
4605 Erie Street
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

PROPOSAL FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL TO THE PARISH ASSEMBLY
ST. MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH
RACINE, WISCONSIN

Proposal #1

Effective January 1996 - That the Parish Council start the calendar year with a balance of \$10,000 instead of \$7,500.

Rationale

During the first half of the year we usually face a cash flow shortage. Therefore, we must borrow money from the Permanent Trust Fund. If we keep \$10,000 in our treasury we would eliminate the need for the loan.

Proposal #2

That the Parish Assembly transfer \$50,000 from the Permanent Trust to the Armenian Church Endowment Fund (ACEF)

Rationale

The ACEF has had a history of giving a very good return on the investments entrusted to it: 1983 - 8.25%; 1984 - 8.39%; 1985 - 9.68%; 1986 - 9.195%;
1987 - 8.5%; 1988 - 8.138%; 1989 - 8.25%; 1990 - 8.00%;
1991 - 7.00%; 1992 - 7.00%; 1993 - 6.50%.

If we needed the money back, we could withdraw a minimum of \$25,000 within three months, upon written request by the Parish Priest and Parish Council Chairman as authorized by a majority vote of the Parish Assembly.

Note: The interest, of course, is sent to St. Mesrob annually.

Proposal #3

That the St. Mesrob Sunday School operate on the St. Mesrob Armenian Church fiscal year (January - December).

Rationale:

To effect more efficient bookkeeping and to have the Sunday School consistent with all other Church organizations.

**PROPOSAL TO THE PARISH ASSEMBLY FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL
TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY
MAY 4, 5 and 6, 1995**

**Proposal #1 - Submitted by St. Mesrob Armenian Church,
Racine, Wisconsin**

Propose that the Diocesan Council be directed to revise the Parish Assessment Formula to include the net profits gained from Games of Chance in the category of PCP (Plate, Candles, Pledge).

The category would then read: PCPG (Plate, Candles, Pledge, Games of Chance).

Rationale

Many of the Churches are realizing substantial income from games of chance, such as Bingo, 50/50 monthly drawings, Monte Carlo Nights, raffles and others. The additional income to the Diocese from this type of income could enhance the progress of the Mission of the Diocese. Also, the present assessment method "punishes" churches which avoid gambling and stress and encourage Stewardship, but then are penalized with a 10% assessment.

**Proposal #2 - Submitted by St. Mesrob Armenian Church,
Racine, Wisconsin**

That the Primate be directed to formulate a policy statement regarding the church's position on prayer in Public Schools.

Rationale

This is an issue which will be debated throughout 1995 and the Armenian Church must have an unified voice on this issue. We suggest that a "moment of silence" would be more appropriate than vocal prayer in schools. Unfortunately, prayer in schools may be a potentially dangerous activity because we cannot control the theology or spirituality of individual teachers implementing prayer.