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ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN CHURCH

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MINUTES - ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

JANUARY 27, 1974

The annual parish assembly was called to order at 12:40 P. M. by Mr. Philip O'Gulian, chairman of the 1973 annual assembly, who invited His Grace, Bishop Papken, to deliver the opening prayer and bless the assembly.

Mr. Philip O'Gulian was elected chairman and Miss Isabelle D. Goshgarian, secretary. The minutes of the January 28, 1973 meeting were read by Miss Anne Kavookian in the absence of Mr. Caspar Kasparian, secretary. The minutes were approved as read. The chairman thanked Miss Kavookian for reading them and commended Dr. Srpouhie Essefian for preparing an excellent report.

The chairman, Mr. O'Gulian, stated that all parishioners were welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting, however, only those members who have met the membership requirement of fully paid dues are eligible to vote. The Treasurer, Mr. Gary Avedikian read the names of the paid members. The chairman then asked for a roll call of qualified members in attendance to determine the number eligible to vote and to satisfy the requirements of a quorum (at least one-third of the total paid membership). A total of fifty-six (56) paid members were present and the quorum was met.

The chairman announced that the five (5) year term of our Parish Priest, Bishop Papken, expires in January 1974 and invited the Bishop to express his thoughts. The Bishop gave the secretary a letter addressed to the Parish Assembly dated January 21, 1974 wherein he stated the forthcoming expiration of his five (5) year term and as he had announced at the January 6, 1974 annual Parish Christmas dinner, he will not be seeking an additional term.

Miss Anne Kavookian read a report of a special meeting held between the Parish Council and Archbishop Torkom Manoogian on January 22, 1974.

A discussion was held by members concerning the St. Mary's pastorate. In as much as the present pastor does not seek reappointment, as confirmed by his letter of January 21, 1974, a motion was made by the Parish Assembly directing the Parish Council to notify the Primate officially to assign a new pastor to St. Mary's as soon as possible. The motion was seconded and carried.

Bishop Papken's activities include full responsibility for the Sunday services, weddings, funerals, sick visitations, etc. In addition, he has chaired special committees as well as participating with non-Armenian churches. He has been in communication with Mr. Alex Manoogian regarding the possibility of purchasing some property for investment purposes. He has actively participated in increasing the membership by sending out pledge cards to potential new members.

Col. George Juskalian requested permission to address the meeting. He said he was speaking as a fellow parishioner, and a Diocesan delegate as Chairman of the Legate Council. "Bishop Papken has placed the Armenian Church on the map during his five (5) year tenure. As the Legate, he has made countless visitations with VIP's, i. e. Ambassadors, Congressmen, Senators and high-ranking officials. He established and maintained an intimate, close and warm rapport with Dean Sayre of the Washington National Cathedral and Chaplain Edward R. R. Elson of the National Presbyterian Church and Chaplain of the U. S. Senate. On two occasions, our church held joint services with Dean Sayre at the Washington National Cathedral. His Grace delivered the opening prayer on two occasions at the U. S. Senate. He has done an outstanding job in enhancing the image of the Armenian Church locally. I ask the Parish Assembly at this time and so move to pass a resolution

extending heartfelt appreciation to Bishop Papken for five (5) years of dedicated service to this community".

The chairman thanked Col. Juskalian for his kind remarks.

Mr. Edward Onanian gave the Parish Council's report. Motion was made and seconded to accept it as read.

Mrs. Clara Andonian, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the names selected to fill the respective vacancies. Nominations were also made from the floor. Ballots were given to qualified members and were collected by the tellers appointed by the chairman.

A luncheon break was announced at 2:10 P. M. by the chairman with a request for a prompt return to complete the order of business. The second session was called to order at 3:00 P. M.

The Budget report was given. Motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget report. The chairman commended the excellent budget presented.

Inventory report of the equipment and supplies was given and a request was made to send Mr. Kumkumian a copy of the inventory.

Auditing Committee report was given. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read.

Report on the Diocesan delegate was given. Col. George Juskalian is Diocesan Assembly delegate. The Parish Council Chairman is a full fledged member of the Diocesan Assembly which provides for two delegates. Motion made and seconded to accept the report as read.

The chairman thanked the Women's Guild for the lovely luncheon provided the members.

Mrs. Jean Sayian was asked to serve on a committee to locate a hall for a New Year's Eve party and dance.

The Devotional committee report was given. Motion made and seconded to accept it as read.

The Sunday School report was given. Motion made and seconded to accept it as read.

The Choir report was given. Motion made and seconded to accept it as read.

The ACYOA report was given. Motion made and seconded to accept it as read. In addition, announcement was made of the dance to be held at St. Elizabeth's Church on February 23, 1974.

The chairman acknowledged and commended Mrs. Esther Kavookian, Mrs. Armine Manougian, Mrs. Anoush Manuelian and Mrs. Angele Baroyrian for donating and preparing the Sunday Mas (holy bread).

The Treasurer's report was given. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read.

The Building Fund report was given. The balance of the mortgage payment was discussed and it was determined that it would be financially better to continue making payments rather than liquidate the indebtedness. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read.

The Bazaar report was given. Motion made and seconded to accept it as read. The chairman commended all of the committee and parishioners who helped make it such a success.

The chairman called for discussion on old business. There was none.

The chairman called for new business. Mr. Dicran Jamgochian reported that on September 26, 1973, he had suggested that the Parish Council set aside \$100.00 per month in a special fund to promote such programs as education and religion. The suggestion was made a motion and was seconded, to set aside \$1200.00 in a special fund to be used for religious education.

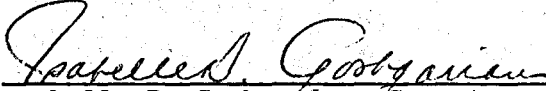
Dr. S. Essefian gave a report on the land to build an auditorium. It was decided that the Parish Council will look into the matter. Dr. Essefian's

report was received with commendation. Motion made and seconded to accept it as read.

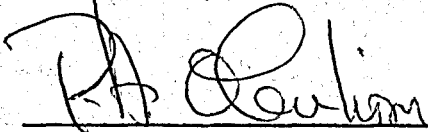
The chairman called upon His Grace, Bishop Papken to give the benediction.

Meeting of the parish assembly adjourned at 4:40 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,


Isabelle D. Goshgarian, Secretary

APPROVED BY:


Philip A. O'Gulian, Chairman


Rt. Rev. Bishop Papken, President