

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY  
ST. MARY'S ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 1977

The Annual Parish Assembly convened in the sanctuary at approximately 12 noon after a light lunch served by the Women's Guild in the Parish Hall following the regular morning holy badarak. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Edward Onanian, Chairman of the Parish Council.

Our new Pastor, Rev. Vertanes Kalayjian opened the meeting with a prayer and asked that all parishioners participate in the prayer. Miss Ann Kavookian, a Parish Council member, took the roll call and of the 110 paid up members, 46 were present which constituted a quorum.

Then Dr. Onanian called for nominations from the floor for Chairman of the Assembly. Dr. Kumkumian and Dicran Jamgochian were nominated. Dr. Kumkumian was elected by a show of hand vote of 29 - 6. Mrs. Valentine Stahl was selected to serve as Secretary.

Dr. Kumkumian acknowledged and thanked the members on behalf of the Tivan for their confidence and conducted the meeting according to the previously published agenda. Miss Kavookian read the minutes of the 1976 Assembly. Mr. Dicran Jamgochian requested clarification on "Cultural Fund being discontinued." Miss Kavookian read that portion of the minutes again and Mr. Hekimian explained that that money had been "earmarked" for the Cultural Fund but never allocated. He then requested that the correction be made to the minutes. Miss Isabelle Goshgarian made a motion that the minutes be accepted with the correction. It was unanimously carried. The Chairman asked that copies of the minutes of the previous year's Assembly be included in the Annual Report booklet sent to the parishioners prior to the meeting.

REPORTS

The Chair ruled that each representative of the Church organization will stand to answer questions on the previously submitted reports contained in the booklet mailed to each member.

BAZAAR REPORT. Dr. Onanian briefly stated that the Bazaar report was incorporated in the Parish Council report. Mr. Hekimian explained that the \$5,195.89 blank figure under "Net Profit" was the food item. Ann Kavookian stated that the \$5,000 figure for "Bazaar (1976)" in the Parish Council Treasurer's report should be \$6,000. She explained that the extra \$1,000 check will be added to the 1977 Fiscal Year report. Mr. Krikorian made a motion to accept the report; Isabelle Goshgarian seconded and it was accepted.

At this point, the Chairman commended all persons including Der Hayr Kalayjian for an outstanding, professional job in preparing the "Notice of Meeting of the Parish Assembly, the Memorandum of Understanding" and all reports related thereto in English and Armenian. This bilingual notice set a precedent and was extremely helpful to all members present.

DIOCESAN DELEGATE'S REPORT. Mr. Abraham Bodourian, Diocesan Delegate, stated that the June 1976 issue of Shnorhali had published the draft understanding of "unity" adopted by the 1976 Diocesan Assembly and he requested that this Parish take a stand on "unity" in order that the Delegates may know where the Parish stands on this issue and thus give the Delegates some guidance in the future on the "unity" policy of this Parish. Dr. Onanian said that that subject came under "new business" and that it should have been brought up to the Parish Council before the meeting. The Parish Council did not receive a single item of "new business" and, therefore, it could not be considered at this time. It was deferred until the agenda considered "new business." The report was accepted.

WOMEN'S GUILD. Mrs. Queenie Avedikian, Recording Secretary, gave the report and did not elaborate as it was complete in every detail. Under "Misc. Disbursements," the bulk of the \$1131.95 figure contains the \$779.81 which the Women's Guild advanced to the Bazaar Committee in September in order that the Bazaar Committee may start various preparations such as purchasing food, supplies, etc. Under "Misc. Receipts," the \$896.81 figure includes the \$779.81 which the Bazaar Committee returned to the Women's Guild. Ann Kavookian made a motion to accept the report and Mrs. Flossie Baldadian seconded with words of praise and appreciation for the magnificent job accomplished in 1976 - the Bicentennial Food Festival, Bazaar to name a few.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Dr. Kumkumian, Superintendent of the Sunday School, asked that since Miss Mary Vartabedian was not present at the time, all questions regarding the report be addressed to him. There were no questions, and the report was accepted as presented.

CHOIR REPORT. Report was accepted as presented without any comment.

ACYOA. Miss Margo Dedeyan, Co-Chairman, presented the ACYOA Report. Mr. Gary Avedikian asked why there was no financial report and Dr. Onanian stated that he had received the report which showed that ACYOA had \$702.95 in its treasury but he had not received the report in time to publish it. Miss Dedeyan announced their forthcoming 10th Anniversary Ball in April, 1977 and appealed to everyone for support. "If you do not attend, please be a sponsor," she urged.

BUILDING FUND. Dr. Onanian reviewed details of the Building Fund. The report was accepted.

AUDITING COMMITTEE. Mr. Ray Babigan, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, stated he had reviewed all the Church accounts and found everything in order in all reports from all committees. A suggestion was made that a statement be submitted in writing to the effect that the Auditing Committee had audited all reports and everything was found to be correct and in order in all aspects. All members agreed to this recommendation. This oral report was accepted.

NOMINATIONS. All the individuals named on the sample ballot had accepted the nominations but nominations would also be accepted from the floor. For Parish Council members, Mr. Bodourian announced that Dr. Sahakian was withdrawing his name from the ballot as Parish Council member but he would remain on the Nominating Committee. Mr. Ashod Krikorian also personally declined from nomination. Mr. Dicran Jamgochian urged that in justice to the wonderful work done by the ladies, ladies should also be nominated to serve on the Parish Council. Miss Isabelle Goshgarian and Mrs. Valentine Stahl were nominated from the floor.

Following members were elected:

PARISH COUNCIL

Joseph Vartabedian	36
Sarkis Satian	36
Albert Manian	29
Isabelle Goshgarian	22

DIOCESAN DELEGATES

Abraham Bodourian	30
Edward Onanian	24

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Ray Babigan	41
William DuChessi	38
Vartkes Broussalian	35

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Queenie Avedikian	36
Charles Kumkumian	33
Abraham Bodourian	31

Following is the count for nominees to the various committees:

PARISH COUNCIL

Jack Hananian	19
Alan Kazanjian	18
Valentine Stahl	18
Levon Garabedian	16
John Azhderian	14

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ohannes Sahakian	29
Casey Kazanjian	27

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Casey Kazanjian	24
Jack Andonian	16

DIOCESAN DELEGATES

Serpouhi Essefian	21
Mary Vartabedian	13
Armen Garabedian	5
Ashod Krikorian	4

Mr. Jerry Hekimian reported on the progress of the Space Committee. The report was to be ready by October 1st but it was delayed. The architect's proposal had just come in and the Committee had not studied it to date and until it did, the Committee could not comment on it. However, Mr. Hekimian did say that the Committee had met several times and considered the feasibility of adding to our present property rather than buying other property. A full report will be submitted at a special membership meeting for that purpose. Of the \$1500 allocated to the Space Committee to study the space problem, only \$750 has been spent.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dicran Jamgochian made a proposal that the Church Parish Hall be available to all visitors from outside this community, specifically Armenian intellectuals. It was later rephrased and amended to read, "Should the Church hall be made available to organizations or Ad Hoc Committees wishing to sponsor receptions or similar affairs for visitors from Soviet Armenia." After a lengthy discussion, majority members decided to table this issue.

On the subject of annual dues, Mr. Jerry Hekimian proposed that annual dues be raised from \$52 to \$75 per annum. No majority vote - no discussion.

#### PROPOSED BUDGET - 1977

Dr. Onanian reviewed most of the items in the proposed budget for Calendar Year 1977 which is attached to these Minutes. Since the largest expense item was the Pastor's stipend, Dr. Onanian explained the basis of that figure which ~~previously~~ <sup>primarily</sup> follows the Diocesan guidelines. He also recommended that since we will need \$5,000 more this year to meet expenses, each member voluntarily would add \$1.00 to his/her weekly pledge to balance the budget. Mrs. Bella Kazanjian urged everyone, every Armenian to pay more, to help, to support, to preserve Armenian heritage and culture. The budget was accepted as presented.

Der Hayr Kalayjian led the Assembly in the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Valentine B. Stahl  
Valentine (Bostonian) Stahl

Approved:

Charles Kumkumian  
Charles Kumkumian, Chairman

Approved:

Father Vertanes Kalayjian  
President  
Father Vertanes Kalayjian