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HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

PARISH OFFICE 924-6514  
AUDITORIUM 923-0081

May 27 1983

His Eminence Archbishop Torgom Manoogian,  
Primate,  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America,  
630 Second Avenue,  
New York, N.Y. 10016  
U.S.A.,

Yours Eminence,

I write this in continuation to my letter of yesterday's date and enclose herewith a note covering the various points which were covered during our last telephone discussion.

Another point which is of immediate interest to the Parish Council is the role, jurisdiction and authority of the Tivan (The President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer - Officers of the Council), in attending to urgent and important matters that may arise between Parish Council Meetings, which according to the By-Laws should be held at least once a month. Ofcourse, these are outlined in the various clauses of the By-Laws and the Manual for the Parish Councils but some aspects are not fully spelt out which renders the interpretation of the same ambiguous and incomplete.

✓ When the present Parish Council took over recently and the Parish Officers were elected under the Chairmanship of the President, he directed and it was agreed by all present that it would not be necessary to have the almost weekly Parish Council Meetings as in the past and that the Agenda of the Meeting should be prepared and submitted to the Parish Council Members in advance, so that all matters could be dealt with in an organized and systematic manner.

✓ According to the By-Laws, The President, Chairman and Secretary shall prepare Agendas of Parish Council Meetings. In this connection, I as Chairman invited the Vice-Chairman and the Treasurer to also participate and help us in preparing a meaningful Agends. Some members of the Council have objected to the same, on the grounds and belief that this belittles their role and authority.

✓ Another point is the holding and frequency of Parish Council Meetings, which according to the By-Laws shall be held at least once a month. The same is the case with the Diocesan Council, but I understand that Meetings of the Diocesan Council are held only once a month - the last Friday of each month.

His Eminence Archbishop Torgom Manoogian, New York.

It is the sincere wishes and objective of all the Officers of the Council, including my own, whereby a process is formulated so that the authority and jurisdiction of the Tivan is upheld and that the role and participation of all members is clearly understood and secured.

Undoubtedly it is the common desire and wishes of all Officers and Members of the Parish Council to establish a harmonious working relationship, in order to render the same into a more meaningful Body without the necessity of repetitions and overlapping.

I believe that such situations may have arisen in the past within other Parishes in the Diocese, which may have necessitated a review and consideration. We shall be grateful to Your Eminence for Your views and guidance so that the respective role, jurisdiction and authority of the Officers and Members of the Parish are clearly determined and understood.

✓ It would be appreciated, if in the meanwhile, Your Eminence instructs the Diocesan Office dealing with engagement of Clergymen, to kindly send us the guidelines covering stipends and other terms for 1983, as we are now in the process of negotiating the engagement of Rev. Zenob Nalbandian, as Parish Priest in accordance with Your Eminence's arrangements. We shall, no doubt, inform you of the results of the negotiations, one way or another, as soon as the same is concluded.

Yours most respectfully

*Caro A. Martin*

Caro A. Martin.  
Chairman  
PARISH COUNCIL.

Enclosure:

No  
Tivan  
role  
twice  
a month