



The 76th ACYOA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Friday, May 26, 2023
Marriott Park Ridge Hotel, Park Ridge, NJ
Meeting Room: Salons A-C
9:20 AM - 5:15 PM (EST)

First Assembly Session

Morning Service took place at 9:00 am.

The 76th ACYOA General Assembly of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America convened on Friday, May 26, 2023 at **9:20 am**.

The following Central Council members were present:

Ani Misirliyan, Chair
Christine Beylerian McNally, Vice Chair
Mardig Klachian, Secretary
Michael Sarafian, Treasurer
Andrew Yenicag, Communications
Maddie Ovassapian, Ministries & Outreach
Yn. Lucine Sabounjian, Ministries & Outreach

Also present:

V. Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan, Primate
Jennifer Morris, DYYAM
Clergy and Members of Diocesan Council

Opening Remarks from 2022 Assembly Chair and Introduction of Robert's Rules of Order

9:20 am - Alex Dayenian (St. George, Waukegan, IL) introduced himself as the 2022 Assembly Vice Chair of the Day and announced that he was standing in for the 2022 Chair of the Day, Mary Keutelian. He explained Robert's Rules of Order, and also pointed out the QR code on the 76th General Assembly Agenda to view the meeting documents electronically. Alex said that Election Buddy will be used for the voting process.

Appointment of Assembly Secretary and Sergeants-at-Arms

9:23 am - Alex Dayenian (St. George, Waukegan, IL) appointed Melanie Boskovich (St. John, Southfield, MI) as the Secretary of the Day and Sevana Mailian (St. John, Southfield, MI) as Assistant to the Secretary of the Day for the 2023 General Assembly. Alex appointed Sevana Mailian (St. John, Southfield, MI), Danielle Sarafian (St. John, Southfield, MI), and Michael

Connors (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) as the Sergeants-at-Arms.

Election of Assembly Chair and Vice Chair

9:25 am - Alex Dayenian (St. George, Waukegan, IL) welcomed the Nominating Committee to speak and present the nominees for Chair and Vice Chair of the Day. Dn. Garen Megrđichian (Nominating Committee) mentioned that Alex Dayenian offered to be Chair of the Day. Alex Dayenian nominated Charles Babikian (St. Gregory, Chicago, IL). Charles did not accept. Andrew Yenicag (Central Council) nominated Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA), and Stephen declined. Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) offered a point of information, and asked if you need to be a delegate to run for Chair of the Day. Fr. Aren nominated Talia Okanyan (St. John, Southfield, MI). Armen Arslanian (St. John, Southfield, MI) seconded. Talia accepted the nomination.

Dn. Garen Megrđichian (Nominating Committee) asked if there was a motion to close nominations. Fr. Krikor Saboujian motioned to close nominations for Assembly Chair of the Day, and Aline Tashjian (St. Leon, Fair Lawn, NJ) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

9:32 am - Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) explained the voting process in the absence of the two nominating committee members.

Confirmation of Quorum - Roll Call

9:33 am - Mardig Klachian (Central Council) took the roll call.

9:35 am - Yn. Lucine Saboujian (Central Council) offered a point of order that the Sergeants-at-Arms should be at the doors during the roll call process.

9:37 am - Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) announced there were 44 voting delegates, and 37 were present, so there was a quorum.

9:38 am - Alex Dayenian (St. George, Waukegan, IL) continued with the meeting. He made a point to say your name and parish. The person with the second highest votes will be elected the Vice Chairperson of the Day.

Election Results of Assembly Chair and Vice Chair

9:40 am - Dn. Garen Megrđichian (Nominating Committee) announced that Alex Dayenian (St. George, Waukegan, IL) was elected as 2023 Chair of the Day, and Talia Oknayan (St. John, Detroit, MI) was elected as Vice Chair of the Day.

Adoption of Agenda

9:41 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Fr. Haroutiun Sabounjian (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) motioned to adopt the agenda. Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Appointment of Parliamentarian and Resolutions & Courtesies Committee

9:42 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) appointed Fr. Avedis Kalayjian (St. Mesrob, Racine, WI) and Alisha Panthier (St. Gregory, Chicago, IL) as Parliamentarians. He appointed Fr. Nigoghos Aznavourian (St. Mark, Springfield, MA) and Jackie Russell (St. Gregory of Narek, Richmond Heights, OH) to the Resolutions & Courtesies Committee.

Alex announced that a list of deacons, choir members, and hokehankist requests would be available for Sunday's church service.

Confirmation and Adoption of the 2022 ACYOA General Assembly Meeting Minutes

9:46 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked if there were any edits or additions to the 2022 General Assembly meeting minutes. Aline Tashjian (St. Leon, Fair Lawn, NJ) motioned to approve the minutes. Yn. Lucine Sabounjian (Central Council) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Presentation of Slate of Candidates for Central Council

9:47 am - Dn. Garen Megrdochian (Nominating Committee) presented the slate of candidates. He stated that Christine Beylerian McNally (Central Council) will run the voting process through Election Buddy. The floor was opened for additional nominations.

The nominees were:

Elizabeth Kalfayan (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT)

Rita Katanjian (St. Sarkis, Dallas, TX)

Dn. Garen Megrdochian (Sts. Sahag and Mesrob, Providence, RI)

Ani Misirliyan (St. John, Southfield, MI)

Jackie Russell (St. Gregory of Narek, Richmond Heights, OH)

Andrew Yenicag (Holy Martyrs, Bayside, NY)

Acceptance of Nominations from the Floor for Central Council

Michael Sarafian (Central Council) nominated Alex Madajian (St. Mary, Washington, DC), and he respectfully declined.

Fr. Andreas Garabedian (St. Gregory, Chicago, IL) motioned to close nominations for Central Council. Michael Connors (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) seconded the motion. The Sergeants-at-Arms were asked to secure the doors. Danielle Sarafian (St. John, Southfield, MI) was asked by Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) to guard the third door to the meeting room.

Remarks from Central Council Candidates

9:50 am - Ani Misirliyan (Central Council) made a point of order that the candidates should introduce themselves. Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) confirmed that was accurate. The candidates Elizabeth Kalfayan (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT), Dn. Garen Megrdichian (Sts. Sahag and Mesrob, Providence, RI), Ani Misirliyan (St. John, Southfield, MI), Jackie Russell (St. Gregory of Narek, Richmond Heights, OH) and Andrew Yenicag (Holy Martyrs, Bayside, NY) provided short speeches.

Review Procedures for Election Central Council (3)

9:55 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Mardig Klachian (Central Council) for roll call. Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) announced that there were 37 voting delegates, so there was a majority.

9:59 am - Christine Beylerian McNally (Central Council) explained the Election Buddy voting process.

10:02 am - Jennifer Morris announced there would be a break, and voting would close at 10:15 am. Ani Misirliyan (Central Council) clarified that no one should leave the room until the voting process is done.

ACYOA Bylaws Review and Voting

10:22 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) announced that voting was closed, and invited Ani Misirliyan (Central Council) to introduce Talin Hitik, Esq. (Bylaws Committee Chair). Talin appeared on Zoom to discuss the Bylaws Committee and the proposed revisions.

10:41 am - Ani Misirliyan (Central Council) opened the floor for questions. Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) asked about the new stewardship program for ACYOA dues. He asked if members can donate or participate by giving one dollar or up to any amount they want. Talin Hitik (Bylaws Committee Chair) clarified that the process is like the diocese stewardship process, and said there is no minimum to how much a person can contribute.

Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) asked how the home parishes of the regional chapters will be determined. Talin Hitik (Bylaws Committee Chair) answered that the region will have a vote of all current voting members, and the home parish will be determined by a three-fourths vote. Next, the regional chapter will apply for the home parish to the ACYOA Central Council. The Central Council will then ask permission of nominated home parish.

Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) asked where the parish council fits in when creating regional chapters. Talin Hitik (Bylaws Committee Chair) directed Stephen to Article 5, section 1.1. The parish council and parish priest would need to be in agreement.

Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) said that when he was in college, from his experience, he was still active in his local ACYOA parish. He assumed that even though you

have moved off to college, you are still part of your local ACYOA. Talin Hitik (Bylaws Committee Chair) said they are providing different options because nobody's college experience is the same or the home parish looks the same. It is not the case for a lot of people that they can keep participating in ACYOA events while away at school, and may feel like they lost their ACYOA chapter.

Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) asked when a parish establishes a campus group, is the parish in charge of that group or is it completely separate from the parish itself? Taline Hitik (Bylaws Committee Chair) said that campus groups will participate in everything from their home parish. If the campus is far away and not a lot of people have cars, there should be a virtual option to participate. They are one in the same, not a separate structure at all. She referred Stephen to Article 5. The agency of whether to form any structure of ACYOA lies with ACYOA, specifically, whether to have a home chapter, regional chapter, or a campus group.

Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) asked about the fundraising aspect of the campus groups because it is hard to create a religious group on a college campus. He mentioned the university may force the campus chapter to become a college organization. Talin Hitik (Bylaws Committee Chair) answered that it is up to the campus group if they want to form it as an actual campus group. She suggested that perhaps the local Armenian Students Association group can organize rooms for the campus group, or alternatively, the campus group can become a student organization for booking rooms.

11:04 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked if there was a motion to approve the proposed bylaws. Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) made a motion to accept bylaws, Charles Babikian (St. Gregory, Chicago, IL) seconded the motion. The motion passed. V. Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan (Primate) thanked Talin for her hard work. Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) came to the microphone to say Detroit misses her.

Central Council Election Results

11:05 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Christine Beylerian McNally (Central Council) to present the election results.

Election Results:

Ani Misirliyan (Central Council)

Jackie Russell (St. Gregory of Narek, Richmond Heights, OH)

Andrew Yenicag (Holy Martyrs, Bayside, NY)

Alternate: Elizabeth Kalfayan (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT)

2023 ACYOA General Assembly & Sports Weekend Committee Welcome

11:07 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Aline Tashjian (St. Leon, Fair Lawn,

NJ), the Chair of the General Assembly & Sports Weekend Committee. Alex also thanked the Marriott staff for their help.

Primate's Message

11:09 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) presented V. Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan (Primate). He discussed how last year's General Assembly and Sports Weekend was one of his first events after being elected Primate to the Eastern Diocese. He was in Dallas recently, and it brought back great memories. He thanked the clergy, Jennifer Morris (DYYAM), and St. Leon's ACYOA chapter for organizing this event, as well as the ACYOA Central Council. He was grateful for everyone's prayers after being involved in a car accident this past year. He explained that this is the story of our people, church, and diocese: experiencing personal and national crisis, overcoming trouble by grace of the Lord, and moving forward together. He explained that 2023 is a milestone year for the Eastern Diocese, since it will be celebrating its 125th anniversary this upcoming fall. From one church in Wooster, Massachusetts, the Eastern Diocese has grown to 60 parishes and mission parishes. They were pioneers in introducing the youth ministry, as well as engaging and empowering our young people, fostering spiritual growth, leadership, and community development for our youth. He showed a video to commemorate the 125 year anniversary. This year has brought challenges, but we cannot lose heart or hope. He sees that life is fragile, since he found so much meaning in the smallest, simplest actions following the car accident. Sometimes people take for granted that the parish is there, but we must not take it for granted. Strong faithful make a strong parish, and a strong parish makes a strong diocese. He showed a video of GIFT, a new Eastern Diocese initiative, and encouraged everyone to download the plan and determine what role we play in implementing this plan. The plan needs the young people's help to make it come to life, and we must emerge from this as an apostle. Christ will be a source of strength and inspiration.

Presentation of Slate of Candidates for Nominating and Auditing Committees

11:32 am - Dn. Garen Megrđichian (Nominating Committee) presented the slate of candidates for Nominating Committee and asked for nominations from the floor. The nominees were:

1. Victoria Boyajian (St. John, Southfield, MI)
2. Natalie Hardy (Member-at-Large)
3. Ani Jermakian (St. Mark, Springfield, MA)
4. Elizabeth Kalfayan (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT)
5. Melody Klachian (St. Sarkis, Carrollton, TX)
6. Dn. Garen Megrđichian (Sts. Sahag and Mesrob, Providence, RI)
7. Jordan Reid (St. Mesrob, Racine, WI)
8. Celene Philip (St. John, Southfield, MI)

Ani Misirliyan (Central Council) nominated Elizabeth Kalfayan (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT). Michael Connors (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) seconded the motion. Elizabeth accepted the nomination. Andrew Yenicag (Central Council) motioned to close nominations. Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) seconded the motion. The

motion passed.

11:35 am - Dn. Garen Megrđichian (Nominating Committee) presented the candidates for the Auditing Committee and asked for nominations from the floor. The nominees were:

1. Chris Artun (Holy Martyrs, Bayside, NY)
2. Luc Dadian (St. John the Baptist, Greenfield, WI)
3. Zaven Dadian (St. John, Southfield, MI)
4. Michael Kashian (St. John the Baptist, Greenfield, WI)
5. Thomas Nevins (St. Peter, Watervliet, NY)
6. Jackie Ovassapian (St. James, Evanston, IL)

Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) moved to close nominations. Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) made a motion to close the election, and Aline Tashjian (St. Leon, Fair Lawn, NJ) seconded. The Sergeants-at-Arms were asked to secure the doors.

11:38 am - Mardig Klachian (Central Council) took roll call.

11:41 am - Christine Beylerian McNally (Central Council) said the voting email will be sent through Election Buddy.

Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) moved to suspend our bylaws and take the vote by a plurality. Yn. Lucine Sabounjian (Central Council) asked for a point of clarification. Fr. Aren explained that the election needs to be by majority vote, but given the number of names on the lists, a plurality would mean the top three names would be chosen. Fr. Avedis Kalayjian (St. Mesrob, Racine, WI) said it was a bold move. Fr. Andreas Garabedian (St. Gregory, Chicago, IL) seconded the motion to suspend the bylaws. A vote took place, and it passed.

Alex Madajian (St. Mary, Washington, DC) asked if it could be acknowledged who voted no.

11:47 am - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked if there was a motion to recess until after lunch. The Election Buddy email was distributed, and the vote needed to be conducted. Fr. Stepanos Doudoukjian (St. Peter, Watervliet, NY) motioned to recess, and the motion was seconded by Fr. Daniel Karadjian (St. Stepanos, Elberon, NJ). The motion passed.

Primate's Luncheon, Presentation of Awards & Group Photo (12:00-1:30 pm)

Second Assembly Session (1:30-5:00 pm)

1:34 pm - Ani Javardian was introduced to discuss a service project for this weekend, Mer Houys.

1:39 pm - Christine Beylerian McNally presented the election results for the Nominating Committee and Auditing Committee.

Election Results:

Nominating Committee:

Ani Jermakian (St. Mark, Springfield, MA)

Elizabeth Kalfayan (Holy Resurrection, Ne Britain, CT)

Dn. Garen Megrdichian (Sts. Sahag and Mesrob, Providence, RI)

Alternate: Natalie Hardy (Member-at-Large)

Auditing Committee:

Zaven Dadian (St. John, Southfield, MI)

Chris Artun (Holy Martyrs, Bayside, NY)

Jackie Ovassapian (St. James, Evanston, IL)

Alternate: Michael Kashian (St. John the Baptist, Greenfield, WI)

1:40 pm - An ACYOA summary video was shown.

2022 ACYOA Central Council Report

1:46 pm - Ani Misirliyan (Central Council) presented her report. She thanked Christine Beylerian McNally for her service, and welcomed Jackie Russell as a new Central Council member. Ani opened the floor to questions, and there were none.

2022 Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries Report

1:48 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Jennifer Morris (DYAM) to present her report. Jennifer stated that at the 2023 Diocesan Assembly, one of the young adult leaders, Michael Kashian, made a proposal that passed on the floor. The proposal was to have each parish encourage a young adult to attend the Diocesan Assembly to empower the youth. She explained that this is a great opportunity for the youth to learn about the Diocesan Assembly.

Jennifer discussed how ACYOA utilizes the Zoom online platform for ministry. She said 12 to 20 people come on the Zoom calls, but rather than focusing on numbers, they focus on making meaningful connections. She has been working at the Eastern Diocese for 18 years. She acknowledged staff members who have recently left the Diocese to pursue other endeavors, and introduced incoming staff. The current Interim Director is Fr. Hratch Sargsyan (St. Gregory of Narek, Richmond Heights, OH). Yn. Hasmik Ajamian (St. Sarkis, Carrollton, TX) is joining the Children and Family Ministry sector of the Diocese, and will work with Sunday School and Christian Education. Dn. Adam Bullock will work with ACYOA Juniors, and Yn. Arpi Kouzouian will serve as the St. Vartan Camp Director.

Jennifer emphasized the need for female counselors, lifeguards, and a nurse for St. Vartan Camp. Hye Camp, on the contrary, is in a good position with the counselors and staff. There are

currently more than 80 campers registered for Hye Camp. Additionally, there is a need for staff ages 21 and old to oversee the St. Nersess Seminary Conferences.

Jennifer also mentioned two initiatives: (1) Vemkar and (2) Little Saints, which is a monthly program for children beginning at birth until four years old.

Jennifer acknowledged relational ministry, and that we are all in this room because of someone who played a role in our faith formation. She encouraged everyone to be that person for someone else.

Lisa Mardigian (St. John, Southfield, MI) discussed the Little Saints program, which has become a catalyst for church school at St. John in Southfield.

Fr. Avedis Kalayjian (St. Mesrob, Racine, WI) remarked that with Jennifer, we get the whole package, and that she brings so much to the table.

2022 General Assembly and Sports Weekend Report

2:08 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Rita Katanjian (Auditing Committee) via Zoom to present her report from the 2022 General Assembly and Sports Weekend in Dallas, Texas. Rita said they learned that there should be time blocks for sports in 45 minute increments. A resolution is to offer soccer, volleyball, and basketball in more concrete time blocks. Rita emphasized there were issues with the bus company. For future weekends, she recommended there only be one point of contact for the buses and to avoid hiring third party bus companies. She said that the hotel should be central to all events, ideally 15 to 20 minutes from everything. In Dallas, the church community was unfamiliar with Sports Weekend; although they held a presentation to discuss the events, the committee thought that more of the community would be present for Sunday night's dance. They played up the Texas theme and also utilized the church for events. The committee estimated a low number of attendees and high number of expenses. The total revenue was over \$124,000, and the expenses were over \$115,000. Overall, they made a profit of \$9,647.07.

Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) opened the floor for questions.

Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) offered a point of information, that Central Council gets half of the profits earned from the weekend.

Andreas Aghamianz (St. Hagop, Pinellas Park, FL) asked Rita how they secured venues. She said they introduced themselves as a nonprofit church youth organization and cast a wide net, identifying the pros and cons of each venue.

Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) commented that it was a fantastic Sports Weekend.

Kevork Atinizian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) asked how many were first time attendees as opposed to return attendees. Rita did not have that information.

2022 Auditing Committee Report

2:28 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Rita Katanjian (Auditing Committee) via Zoom to present the 2022 Auditing Committee Report. Of note, Rita acknowledged that the Armenian Service Program trip in 2022 had a 30% increase in income and a 100% increase in expenses. The Auditing Committee determined that the financial records are a fair representation of accounting practices. No questions were asked.

Fr. Haroutiun Sabounjian (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) made a motion to accept the report. Fr. Krikor Sabounjian (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2022 Financial Report

2:34 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Michael Sarafian (Central Council) to present the 2022 Financial Report. He presented the information. One question was asked by Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) about the increase in dues.

Fr. Nigoghos Aznavourian (St. Mark, Springfield, MA) made a motion to accept the report, and the motion was seconded by Andreas Aghamianz (St. Hagop, Pinellas Park, FL). The motion passed.

Small Group Discussions

2:39 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) introduced Maddie Ovassapian (Central Council) and Yn. Lucine Sabounjian (Central Council) to read off the names of the small groups who will discuss V. Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan's (Primate) GIFT program.

New Business

Review 2023 Approved Budget and Present and Vote on 2024 Proposed Budget

3:52 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) invited Michael Sarafian (Central Council) to present the 2023 approved budget, as well as the 2024 proposed budget.

Alex Madajian (St. Mary's, Washington, DC) asked why the 2024 budget is so high. Michael responded that he accounted for the increased cost of airfare and inflation. Alex also asked what will be the impact of the new ACYOA dues stewardship program on the proposed budget. He responded that our hope is that it will be the same or greater than what is currently collected for dues.

Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) commented that given the change in bylaws, he recommended to change dues to "stewardship" in the budget. Given the record of stewardship in the parish level, maybe the number could go up.

Shant Der Torossian (St. James, Watertown, MA) asked if we can push advertising to another

level. He said that he is bringing some friends to Sports Weekend this year. He wants ACYOA to continue to grow, and wants to push the social media presence.

Stephen Hollisian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) asked about line 10 regarding the dues/stewardship, \$2500 is a standard, but should that be reevaluated? Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) offered a point of information to keep the dues amount stagnant this year, see what happens with the newly implemented stewardship program, and then reevaluate the number for 2025.

Alex Daeynian (Chair of the Day) asked why we give \$500.00 to the Jersulaem Patriarchate, especially in light of recent events. V. Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan (Primate) responded that we have historically had a good relationship with the Jerusalem Patriarchate. We should support them because the Armenian presence in Jerusalem is crucial. Michael Sarafian (Central Council) and Jennifer Morris clarified that the \$500 donation is to support the youth programs.

New Proposals

4:08 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked if there were any new proposals. Kevork Atinizian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) made a new proposal on behalf of his chapter. He suggested an “Engagement Committee” be formed, which will serve as a non-voting committee to keep ACYOA Juniors and Seniors engaged, as well as work with the newly established Regional Chapters.

Fr. Haroutiun Sabounjian (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) asked how this is different from ACYOA Central Council. Perhaps this initiative could be done with the Central Council.

Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) offered a point of order, and clarified that the new proposal needs to be proposed with a motion and seconded before we can begin discussion.

Shant Der Torossian (St. James, Watertown MA) seconded the motion.

Alex Madajian (St. Mary, Washington, DC) asked if there are parameters on membership and qualification, and if not, how that will be decided. Kevork Atinizian (Holy Trinity, Cambridge, MA) responded that currently the membership size is open, and it would have the same qualifications as the nominating committee.

Sona Dagley (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA) stated that she was opposed to the proposal because Central Council does not interact with ACYOA Juniors, and instead, the work is completed under the DYYAM.

Jennifer Morris (DYYAM) commented that she did not feel it’s necessary to vote on the proposal at this time. The Central Council is available 24/7 to parishes. The greatest challenge from the Central Council’s perspective is getting responses from the parishes. Certain clergy always acknowledges the emails, and the Central Council is appreciative of those responses. Perhaps there is a breakdown between the chapter chairs and the memberships and chapters could work more on their internal communication.

Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) said that he appreciated the spirit of bringing this forward. The Central Council has heard the issue discussed, and there is no need for a formal proposal at this time.

Fr. Haroutiun Sabounjian (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) asked the Central Council to explain their various roles. The Central Council positions and responsibilities were discussed.

Krikor Sabounjian (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA) made a motion to close the discussion, and Sona Dagley (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA) seconded the motion.

Fr. Aren Jebejian (St. John, Southfield, MI) offered a point of order, according to Section 9 of bylaws, we need a three/fourths affirmative vote for this to pass. The proposal did not pass.

Andrew Yenicag (Central Council) noted that there is a quarterly Chapter Chair Connection meeting via Zoom.

2024 ACYOA General Assembly & Sports Weekend Bids

4:23 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked if there were any chapters prepared to make a bid for the 2024 General Assembly and Sports Weekend.

Andreas Aghamianz (St. Hagop, Pinellas Park, FL) expressed interest in hosting a Tampa, Florida, event, but they did not have a formal bid for General Assembly and Sports Weekend.

Ani Misirliyan(Central Council) noted that the deadline to extend bids can be extended from 30 to 60 days. Fr. Andreas Garabedian (St. Gregory, Chicago, IL) made a motion that the deadline for submitting bids should not be extended for 30 to 60 days. The motion was seconded by Fr. Krikor Sabounjian (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA). The motion passed.

2025 ACYOA General Assembly & Sports Weekend Bids

4:28 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked the St. Gregory Chicago ACYOA chapter to approach and present their 2025 General Assembly and Sports Weekend bid.

4:42 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked the St. John Detroit ACYOA chapter to approach and present their 2025 General Assembly and Sports Weekend bid.

4:47 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) opened the floor for questions. Alex Madajian (St. Mary, Washington, DC) asked if either Chicago or Detroit had a grand total estimated cost for participants. The cost of registration for participants in Chicago could be as low as \$400, with airfare subject to change. In Detroit, the registration for participants was estimated around \$180, with travel expenses subject to each person.

4:50 pm - Mardig Klachian (Central Council) took the roll call to prepare for the vote.

4:54 pm - Alex Dayenian (Chair of the Day) asked if there is any other attention to the

assembly. Fr. Krikor Sabounjian (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA) discussed the need for future leaders in the diocese, especially for priests. There are currently five parishes in need of priests in the Diocese, and that does not consider all who are retiring. There are positions at the Diocese for both men and women.

Sona Dagley (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA) commented how great everyone is for being here and thanked the Central Council.

4:58 pm - It was announced that the 2025 General Assembly and Sports Weekend would be held at St. John's in Southfield, Michigan.

Report of the Resolutions and Courtesies Committee

5:00 pm - Fr. Nigoghos Aznavourian (St. Mark, Springfield, MA) and Jackie Russell (St. Gregory of Narek, Richmond Heights, OH) presented the Report of the Resolutions and Courtesies Committee (see attachment).

Fr. Avedis Kalayjian (St. Mesrob, Racine, WI) asked for the Covid language to be removed.

Fr. Haroutuin Sabounjian (Holy Resurrection, New Britain, CT) asked that "Very Reverend" only refer to the priests who are unmarried.

Fr. Krikor Sabounjian (Holy Translators, Framingham, MA) made a motion to accept the report. Armen Arslanian (St. John, Southfield, MI) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5:14 pm -V. Rev. Fr. Mesrop Parsamyan (Primate) said he is happy to serve as the Primate of the Eastern Diocese and proud of the ACYOA. He offered the closing prayer.

Benediction and Adjournment with adjournment at 5:15pm.