

St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church

102 Russell St.  
Worcester, Mass.

General Assembly Minutes

April 10, 1978

A special General Assembly of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by the Parish Council President, Theodore Singas, who welcomed the 57 members present.

Father George Stephanides offered the opening prayer.

Charles Fotos moved for acceptance of minutes of previous meeting as mailed. Seconded by Peter Bell. Accepted.

Father George Stephanides announced that he will mail his final report to the communicants and tonight he simply asks everyone to support Grecian Festival, 1978. Also, since we do indeed support President Carter's stand on human rights and since the rights of our Greek brethren in Cyprus must be upheld, we should sign and mail immediately the letters available this evening condemning the proposed lifting of the Arms Embargo to Turkey. Further, everyone is urged to send telegrams or make phone calls.

President Singas reported that as of April 1st, 196 members paid their church dues including 23 new members. He announced the formation of an Advisory Committee comprised of past Parish Council Presidents and Father George Stephanides, Ex officio. He pointed out the need for everyone to help in enrolling new members. Mr. Singas thanked his colleagues for their cooperation and especially thanked Father George for his guidance and advise. He offered best wishes for success to Father George in his new parish.

The Parish Council feels that it cannot make a recommendation on the Ahepa Proposal to erect a building on the Cedar Street property, rather it feels since the property belongs to everyone, a decision on the proposal must be made by the General Assembly representing the Community on a whole.

Chris Lekas presented the following proposal on behalf of the George Jarvis Chapter #80 - Order of Ahepa.

1. That St. Spyridon permit the Order of Ahepa Chapter No. 80 of Worcester to build an Ahepa home on a small portion of the vacant Cedar Street church land. The location of this building to be selected by the Building Fund Committee of the church. The Ahepa home will be a one-story and basement building of approximately 30' x 60' ground floor area built to conform to the building and zoning codes of the City of Worcester.

This will require the use of approximately 4000 square feet of

land to conform to the street and lot line clearances required under the Building Code of the City of Worcester.

The Ahepa chapter shall also require permission from the church to use the church parking lot when using the Ahepa home.

2. That the Ahepa will be solely responsible for all the cost of constructing, maintaining and supervising the Ahepa home.
3. That Ahepa will lease the land on which the home will be built from St. Spyridon's at a nominal annual fee. Dean Moschos suggested that this would protect the church from any legal liability and further that since both Ahepa and the church are presently tax exempt organizations, there would be no tax problem for either under this arrangement.

Suggested Lease Fee -- \$100.00 per year  
Suggested Lease Term -- 20 years with option  
to renew

4. That the Ahepa will make their building available to the retired and elder members of the St. Spyridon Community on a regular basis at no financial obligation to the church.
5. That in the event St. Spyridon's needs the land on which the Ahepa home was built to erect any new church property, the Ahepa would either move their home to another site or tear down the Ahepa home. The church would be required to give the Ahepa advance written notice of at least 12 months that the church requires their land for their use.
6. That in the event St. Spyridon's decides to sell the land on which the Ahepa home was built, the Ahepa would have an option of 1st refusal.
7. That the Ahepa shall not have the right to sublease or sell said property.
8. In the event that the Ahepa abandons the building said building would revert to the church.

There was much discussion and several suggestions were made. It was decided that the Parish Council, the Building Fund Committee, and The Ahepa representatives meet and consider the proposal and the various suggestions such as the exact location of the building, the type of architecture, activity restrictions, lease terms and fees and a room to be set aside as a Chapel.

Arthur Lagadinos moved for the proposal as set forth by the Order of Ahepa. Seconded by Chris Lekas and passed by a vote of 55 in favor, one opposed and one abstention.

James John moved that expenses of the Parish Priest (not to exceed \$600.00) be paid for his attendance at the 24th Biennial Clergy Laity Congress, July 1 to 7, 1978 in Detroit, Michigan and that

\$300.00 be appropriated for each of the other two delegates. Seconded by Nicholas Petralias and passed.

Nicholas Petralias nominated Nicholas Drapos as a delegate to said Congress. Seconded by Arthur Shocas and passed.

Since the President is unable to attend the Congress, James John nominated Arthur Lagadinos as the second delegate. Seconded by Arthur Shocas and passed.

The House Committee reported:

1. Bids on restoration of the church are in progress.
2. No appropriation is requested for the sound system since it is better to do this in conjunction with the restoration plans.
3. The cost to install outside lighting would be excessive ranging from \$3000.00 to \$18,000.00. It was decided to petition the City Council to increase lighting and to check with Mass. Electric for another solution.
4. Chris Lekas moved installation of new carpeting in the Community Center corridor and church office at a cost of \$2500.00. Seconded by Peter Bell. Defeated.
5. Chris Lekas moved for roof repairs at an approximate cost of \$3000.00 to correct roof problems - seconded by Nicholas Petralias. There was much discussion as to how to correct the problems. It was decided that the House Committee should take all suggestions into consideration and expend \$3000.00 or more if necessary in order to make all needed repairs to properly correct the problem.
6. Chris Lekas moved that \$2822.00 be appropriated for sealing and repairing of the parking lot. Seconded by George Botsis. Defeated.
7. On a motion by Peter Bell and second by Arthur Shocas consideration of the Kitchen Wall repairs and the utilization of the church hall stage for storage was deferred to the next General Assembly.

Arthur Shocas, School Committee Chairman, reported that he consulted 98 Greek School children and their parents and they were opposed to attending Greek School on Saturday since other lessons and activities are planned for that day. Also, in checking with other communities who attempted this plan he found that they were unsuccessful.

There was a request that this matter be tabled to the next General Assembly since the motion maker for Saturday sessions was unable to be present. However, it was ruled that the School Committee and Parish Council had been instructed to report this matter for action at this meeting. Further, since Father George must have everything in order for our new priest and since the Parish Council did its homework and the Greek School matter is important, a decision must be made tonight.

Arthur Shocas moved that the Greek School program remain as it is presently operating. Seconded by Demetrios Pappas and passed.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by Father George Stephanides at 11:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Fotiades  
Secretary

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΣ

ΠΡΑΚΤΙΚΑ ΓΕΝΙΚΗΣ ΣΥΝΕΛΕΥΣΕΩΣ 10ης ΑΠΡΙΛΙΟΥ, 1978

Υπό την Προεδρίαν του κ. Θεοδώρου Σίγκα και παρόντων 57 Μελών, συνήλθεν εν τη Κοινοτική Αίθουσα η εαρινή Γεν. Συνέλευσις της Κοινότητος. Η έναρξις εγένετο δια προσευχης υπό του Πατρός Γεωργίου Στεφανίδη.

Τα Πρακτικά της προηγουμένης Γεν. Συνελεύσεως εταχυδρομήθησαν και μη υπάρχουσαι παρατηρήσεις επ'αυτών, ενεκρίθησαν ως είχαν.

Ο Πατήρ Στεφανίδης αναφέρει ότι η ίδιότης τελική έκθεσις θέλει ταχυδρομηθῆ εἰς τοὺς παροίκους, και κατά την ἐσπέραν ταύτην, παρακαλεῖ ἕκαστον ὅπως μετ' ἐνθουσιασμοῦ και ἀνευ οὐδεμιᾶς ἀμελείας και ἀδιαφορίας, υπογράψωμε και ἀποστείλωμε πρὸς τὸν Πρόεδρον CARTER σχετικῆς διαμαρτυρίας δια τὰ ἀνθρώπινα δικαιώματα των ἀδελφῶν Κυπρίων και τὸ σταυδτήμα της ἀποστολης πολεμικῶν ἐφοδίων πρὸς τὴν Τουρκίαν.

Ο κ. Σίγκας, Πρόεδρος τοῦ Ἐκκλησιαστικοῦ Συμβουλίου, ἀναφέρει, ὅτι μέχρι της 1ης Ἀπριλίου, 196 μέλη ἔχουν πληρώσει τὴν συνδρομὴν, συμπεριλαμβανομένων και 23 νέων μελων. Ἐπίσης ἀναφέρει τὴν ἰδρυσιν Συμβουλευτικῆς Ἐπιτροπῆς, συμπεριλαμβανομένων και τῶν πρώην Προέδρων καὶ τὸν Πατέρα Στεφανίδη, ὡς ἐπίτιμον ὀφφικίουχον της Ἐπιτροπῆς. Ὑπέδειξεν τὴν ἀνάγκην, ὅπως ἕκαστος βοηθήσῃ πρὸς ἐγγραφὴν νέων μελων. Ἀπήθυνεν εὐχαριστίας πρὸς τοὺς συναδέλφους του Συμβούλους δια τὴν στενήν των συνεργασίαν και βοήθειάν των εἰς τὸ ἔργον ποῦ ἀνέλαβον, ἰδιαιτέρως δὲ τὸν Πατέρα Γεώργιον δια τῆς πνευματικῆς του συμβουλῆς εὐχόμενος αὐτῷ καλὴν πρόοδον και σταδιοδρομίαν εἰς τὴν νέαν του Κοινότητα.

Τὸ Δ. Συμβούλιον θεωρεῖ καθήκον του νὰ ἀναφέρῃ, ὅπως ἐπιμεληθῆ μετὰ προσοχῆς ἅπανα ἡ ὁμογένεια σχετικῶς ὅπως παραχωρηθῆ ἐκ μέρους της Κοινότητος, μέρος ἀπὸ τὸ οἰκόπεδον τοῦ CEDAR STREET, εἰς τὴν Ἀχέπα πρὸς ἰδρυσιν Ἀχελικοῦ Κέντρου. Τὸ οἰκόπεδον, τονίζει ὁ κ. Σίγκας, ἀνήκει εἰς ὅλους μας και διά τούτο, ἀπαιτεῖται σοβαρὰ σκέψις και ἀποφάσις ἀπὸ τὴν Γενικὴν Συνέλευσιν, ἡ ὁποία ἀντιπροσωπεύει τὴν Κοινότητα, νὰ ληφθῶσιν λογικαὶ και ικανοποιητικαὶ ἀποφάσεις.

Ο κ. Χριστόφορος Λέκας ἐκ μέρους τοῦ ἐνταῦθα Ἀχελικοῦ Τμήματος, No. 80, υπέβαλεν τὰ ἐξῆς.