



MASJID AL-ISLAM

Dallas, TX

THE BEACON OF LIGHT, COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

A Religious Non-Profit 501(c) (3) Organization COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES Of Sunday, January 22, 2023

Attendees on File

- Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami opened with Dua.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the meeting of January 22, 2023 were accepted as read. (Motion by: Bobbi Jones-Baraka; Second by: Shahidah Akhtab)

Financial Update: (Reported by Ishmael Fahmi, Treasurer)

- The Balance Sheet as of January 15, 2023 was presented and discussed. The sum of all accounts totaled \$2,455,507.00. The Profit and Loss by Class for December 2021 – November 2022 was presented and discussed. The New Masjid Expense Report was also presented. January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 expenses totaled \$121,740.58. The 2023 Annual Operational and Fundraising Budget Overview for December 2022 – November 2023 was presented and discussed. This budget is to be ratified by the Community during the upcoming weeks.

- Financial audits cost anywhere from \$10,000 - \$20,000. An audit review cost \$500 - \$5,000. Our paid CPA basically does the audit review.

- The lack of participation to do jobs at the masjid may require Board members to conduct these paid tasks. For transparency purposes, the community has the opportunity to bid on these jobs. Interested members are asked to submit a proposal for the following tasks: 1) Lawn Care; 2) Ants/Termites treatment; and 3) Set up on Jumu'ah (two members are currently under contract). Pertaining to these contracts, the community is asked, 1) Do you have a problem with a Board member receiving funds; 2) What should that fee be?

New Masjid Updates: (Presented by Amir Makin Hamzah, Board Chair)

- Until we get a stamp of approval from the City, they have the right to put any comments and delays on the process.

- Initially the City said we had to abandon (purchase) the alley. We struggled through that process.

- Then the Reviewers wanted us to make new all the sidewalks. (Sidewalks on the Harwood side would have to be redone due to new codes established after we submitted our permit request. Widen the sidewalk and move our fence back 2ft. Place new sidewalk on Clarence and completely redo the strip on Clarence between Harwood and Cesar Chavez. Redo and widen sidewalk on Cesar Chavez. Alleyway behind us would have to be completely dug up and all utilities upgraded at our expense.)

- MAI's chair has been going to the City constantly haggling with them to see what aspects of the City Code we can take advantage of to get relief from these items. As of January 10th, we were successful in getting a waiver for these demands. Alhamdulillah, these demands would have cost us more than \$1.25M.

- The City does require that the patches on the Harwood and Cesar Chavez sidewalks be smoothen out so that wheelchairs can be driven over it. We were also successful in getting the alleyway waived since our Chair was able to find out about the upcoming plans for utilities development which is being done by a separate entity. It wouldn't make sense for us to dig up the alley when this will be done with the utilities upgrade by a different entity.

- We will also have to upgrade the water suppression system. Fire hydrants that serve us on the corner of Cesar Chavez and Clarence streets were built in the '30's and must be resized from 3" to 6" in diameter.

- To finalize the permit, we must have a Construction contractor. We must create a three-way contract with the City, MAI and General contractor, for the utilities, the sidewalk and the overall construction. Currently, we are putting out fillers for getting Request For Proposals (RFP) for estimates of cost to complete this project.

Committees & Imam Status:

- *Zakat Committee:* (Reported by Shahidah Akhtab, Chair)

- Donations have decreased. We are prayerful that we continue to be successful in helping others.

- *EFG Updates:* (Reported by Faiz Quraishi, Chair)

- FY 22 exceeded expectations. Initial goal was \$360K; we completed the year with \$413K.
- MAI expanded its income to new masjids across DFW
- Online donations were significantly down.
- Ekko Media was hired for social media work across multiple channels
- Upgraded to Business Facebook and Instagram Account
- Google workspace is being used for collaboration and document sharing.

- An EFG Co-chair is requested (volunteer or paid) to assist in our activities to enhance our ability to collect funds.
- Volunteers are needed to join EFG. Four or five persons cannot do all the work.

-Imam Status - Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami:

- Masjid is open for Dhuhr everyday and for Fajr on Saturdays and Sunday. We are no longer opened for Maghrib.
- Seerah classes are on Saturdays at 2pm. Next Saturday our guest presenter will be Hamzah Abdul Malik.
- Bro. Talib, Coordinator of the Mecca program has resigned. Imam Muhammad will assume the coordinator's position. The Mecca program will start on February 5th.
- In late February, Mustafaa Briggs will be incorporating MAI in his tour.
- Bro. Naim will be the hafiz for Ramadan again. Tarawih will be every night. Will work with Hospitality committee on setting up the iftars.

Open Issues:

- Bro. Leon Jefferson: Volunteers are needed for Prison Dawah. Funding is needed to feed the inmates during Eid celebrations. Last year inmates in 7 to 9 units were fed. Bro. Leon has the equipment and a picture to be used to sell t-shirts to raise funds to provide food and materials for the inmates. MAS is having its 4th Annual Symposium at the Richardson Community Center.
- Those interested in wanting to see the t-shirts become profitable to MAI and the Dawah program are asked to submit a proposal for the Board's approval. The Community will then have the final approval.
- Work is continuously being done on the existing building.
- Meetings and notices should be posted.
- The Architect's contracts and cost has been publicly announced. Last announcement was today.
- Whenever a builder purposes to build, the builder is responsible for the hydrants.
- The civil engineer has attended the meetings with the City and MAI.
- MAI obtained legal representation to determine the fence line is encroaching on our property. It will not be torn down until construction begins. We will engage the Dallas Police Department during the time we tear it down to witness we have the legality to do it.
- Hands on deck are needed with E-commerce on the business and packaging side
- EFG may have one more fundraiser before Ramadan.
- Currently the BOL is not open. Sis. Khadijeh and Sis. Shahidah takes food out to the neighbors on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
- Bro. Muhammad Kareem has volunteered to donate for repairs.
- Per ByLaws, 9.1.4, an annual budget must be ratified by the Board. The annual budget was presented and reviewed by the treasurer. The budget and ballot will be emailed for ratification.
- Groundbreaking will take place after the permitting process is complete. A Construction contractor is needed. We are in the process of vetting at least three different construction contractors. Once we receive the prices and determine the best one, a contracting construction schedule will then be determined. At that point we can get the stamp of approval and then break ground.

Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami closed with Dua

Meeting Officiated by Amir Makin Hamzah, Chair
Minutes Prepared by Ameenah Sabour, Board Secretary