



MASJID AL-ISLAM

Dallas, TX

THE BEACON OF LIGHT, COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

A Religious Non-Profit 501(c) (3) Organization COMMUNITY (Zoom) MEETING MINUTES Of Sunday, June 27, 2021

Attendees on File

- Br. Amir Makin Hamzah opened with Dua.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the meeting of February 28, 2021 were accepted as read. (Motion by: Ishmael Fahmi; Second by: Hany Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb)

Financial Update: (Reported by Ishmael Fahmi, Treasurer)

- The Balance Sheet as of June 23, 2021 and the Profit & Lost Sheet for January - May 2021 were presented and discussed. The sum of all accounts totaled \$2,065,625.77; Total Income - \$296,484.26; Total Expenses - \$11,803.87; with a Net Operating Income of \$284,680.39.

- Ramadan Fundraiser netted \$206,145.00. These funds were raised via LaunchGood, Individual's Facebook, Building fundraising website, Mohid, and other mosque donations. This fundraiser has been the most successful virtual fundraiser. Everyone is encouraged to start their own LaunchGood Campaign in support of MAI.

- Donations dropped down after Ramadan. The 1st quarter Profit & Loss report is available on the website.

Building Structural Status: (Reported by Stanley Lewis, Administrator)

- The backroom has been closed due to mold and falling ceiling. The building has some plumbing issues. Fundraising is encouraged to repair the building.

Assistance Services & BOL: (Reported by Khadijeh Abdullah, MAL)

- Outreach center continues to provide standard services, panty program items, clothing and toiletries. We are receiving assistance by surrounding Islamic communities and some greater community non-profit organizations. We have expanded to providing services through a birthing center and a senior citizens center.

- July's pantry program will be suspended due to her and her husband's travel out of the country.

- On July 29, Qurbanic distribution will be provided.

- Determination will be made on how to proceed for the fall/winter months.

Reentry Program: (Reported by Leon Jefferson, MAL)

- A grant opportunity was offered but we were not able to meet the deadline requirements. Therefore, a committee has been formed to be ready for the next opportunity. Members are encouraged to join this committee.

- The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDJC) is looking for volunteers. A link was posted in the chat to register to volunteer.. A group has been formed to discuss how to formulate the reentry program. Please contact Bro. Leon (214-828-7236) if you are interested or for further questions.

Remainder Issues Status: (Reported by Abdullah Hasan, MAL)

- As a community, those of us that has gotten the masjid this far, need to step up. Members should come to Jumu'ah and participate in the masjid's activities. "The majority attending are not us".

- Bro. Abdullah is available to offer prayer classes, etiquette, etc, for those new to Islam.

New Masjid Status: (Reported by Amir Makin Hamzah, Chair)

- Property Encroachment Issue: MAI's property has been surveyed and it is confirmed that Amigo Pottery's fence is on our property. This fence was built before or after the previous owners built the house that we purchased. An official letter asking them to remove the fence was sent but no response has been received. We then engaged a law firm, Canada Lewis & Associates. On our behalf, they sent a legalized Demand letter requesting the same. The property owners have not responded. Our options according to our attorneys are 1) give them six months to legally respond or not before we can seek an injunction to tear it down; 2) during this six months we can petition the court for injunctive relief whereby, the judge may grant us permission to remove this fence with guarantees that we are not legally jeopardizing ourselves; 3) try to get fence removed via Code Compliance. We are going through all of these options concurrently. We, as well as the Attorneys are contacting different areas and departments of the City for assistance. After six months, if our neighbor do not comply with removing the fence, we will have to take other legal actions. The attorneys advised that the six month period time frame is to address adverse possession. It is a possibility that the fence may have been on the previous owners property so long that the neighbors may be able to claim ownership. This is why we have not gone in and removed the fence. This area which occupies the fence is needed for crucial parking. The fence is 1000ft in length and 30ft inward.

Community & Imam Status:

- Zakat Committee (Reported by Shahidah Akhtab, Chair): Alhamdulillah, we are doing well with zakat. We have been able to extend more funds especially during the month of Ramadan. Assistance has been given to those in and out our community for rent, food, bus passes, etc. "We are a small community but mighty in the area of zakat".

- Hospitality Committee: The Hospitality Committee's chairperson, Aasiyah AbdalRahim has resigned.

- Expansion Fundraising Group (EFG) (Reported by Faiz Quraishi, Chair): EFG's YTD fundraising efforts totals \$283,093. Ramadan fundraiser totals \$206,145. The committee has thus far raised more than what was projected during these times with Covid. The current balance is \$1.89M. We have six months to raise \$110K to get to \$2M to start the construction. EFG has increased the number of ways to donate: Mohid, Buy a Brick site, Remittance Envelopes, Zelle, LaunchGood, Facebook, Amazon Smile. Others to come include Feeling Blessed project and Brokerage Account. Upcoming campaigns include Dhul Hijjah - LaunchGood in July and North Texas Giving Day in September. Members are reminded to help by donating, volunteering, following and sharing on social media.

Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami:

- The online halaqa has been ongoing for about 6 weeks with focus on tafsir, Understanding Quran, and moving toward a culture of Quranic Literacy. The link is sent out each week.

- Members are encouraged to commit to being available to open the masjid for salat at least once a week. The goal is to get back to having the masjid open for all prayers.

- Still working on providing online content on Facebook. Episode 8 of Black Muslim Lives Matter (BMLM) will air on Thursday at 7pm. He will be talking to Assistant Imam Muhammad Abdullah and Bro. Asadullah Haqq, Chair & Co-Chair of Take Action Dallas, an initiative started by Imam Khalid. The idea is to continue to take Dawah to the street. The group will be out at Rochester Park on July 18th to engage with the community.

- Anticipates Eid al-Adha on July 20th, looking to duplicate Eid Al-Fitr. Proposal for activities will be sent to the Board.

- Members are encouraged to take ownership of this community.

Open Issues:

- There is mold in the sheet rock not in the ventilation system; it is not a filter issue.

- Estimated cost of getting an injunction on the encroaching of land has not been determined.

- Build a Brick: A wall is to be set aside with paper bricks made of silver, gold, or platinum reflective paper that will have the names of each donor on it. This will be a permanent fixture.

- The architect is still retained by MAI. He cannot do anything else until it is time to get the engineering documents. Engineering documents come after we have gotten permission from the City to begin the permitting process which cannot happen until we settle the encroachment issue. The project's total cost cannot be determined because of the cost of materials and the engineering package has not been completed yet.

- Imam Khalid Shaheed introduced an Encyclopedia type book of all mosques in the DFW. He suggested MAI look into a separate magazine-like booklet with 15-20 pages. The magazine could capture the history, social activities, origins of activities as well as future plans. He estimated the cost at \$3/\$4 each. This could be used for fundraising. Imam Khalid and Bro. Faiz will look further into this project.

- Bro. Talib Udeen will remove all Sunday School items from the backroom on July 17.

- Sis. Shahidah Akhtab volunteered to coordinate the Eid al-Adha activities along with the Hospitality committee members. She invited Imam Muhammad to include the committee and not just a few.

- New Masjid: A wudu station and a courtyard to pray outside will be constructed.

- MAI will continue to follow the CDC guidelines and the health specifics to our location. Social distancing has gone from 6ft, to 3ft, to 1ft. We continue to require a mask be worn and your own prayers are used.

- Sis. Twyla Abdullah introduced a fundraising opportunity called Joy Delivery Services whereby an organization can get paid each time someone sign up for delivery under its name. Bro. Faiz will follow up with Sis. Twyla for further information.

- Bro. Stanley Lewis will reach out to Bro. Yusuf Jiwa on the cost of repairs from storm damage.