



# 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, September 19, 2021

Attendees on File

- Br. Amir Makin Hamzah opened with Dua.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting of June 27, 2021 were accepted as read. (Motion by: Amir Hamzah; Second by: Ishmael Fahmi)

**Financial Update:** (Reported by Ishmael Fahmi, Treasurer)

- The Balance Sheet as of September 18, 2021 and the Profit & Lost Sheet for August 2021 were presented and discussed. The sum of all accounts totaled \$2,121,271.00; Total Income - \$43,603.08; Total Expenses - \$17,925.20; with a Net Operating Income of \$25,677.88.

- Visuals were presented and discussed to show the receipt of donations by categories and months. Donations dropped significantly after Ramadan.

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

- Property Encroachment Update:

- We are currently awaiting the six-month time frame to resolve this matter.
- All signs point to us being able to exercise legality rights to demolish the fence on our property.
- We are being cautious and trying to be sure we are on the correct side of being able to deal with this issue.
- Part of the legality is properly documenting with the City and working with aspects of law enforcement to be sure MAI is protected.

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

- Moisture from the rain, and the snow, back in February, continues to cause problems with the structure. Until the roof and side walling are addressed the backroom is unsafe for use.
- Thus far repair quotes received are ranging from \$10,000-\$15,000. Working theory is to leave situation alone as the building will be torn down.
- Plumbing has been an issue for years. The air condition is working fine.
- The building has been sanitized several times due to COVID.

**Beacon of Light (BOL):** (Reported by Khadijeh Abdullah, MAL)

- All programs are currently shut down for the time being. Plans are being made to clear a lot of items out of the BOL. Some items will be sent to Goodwill while some non food donations may be used during the Day of Dignity.
- Support is being provided as needed by she and Shahidah Akhtab. It is hoped that by October they will be able to distribute some pantry items since a lot of inquiries have been received from former recipients of the pantry program.
- The Board's chair reported that Tim McCoy has stepped down from the position of Director. A job description for a Coordinator of Programs should be coming forth and will likely be a paid position. Notifications will be published when job description is available.

**Upcoming Ratification:** (Reported by Ameenah Sabour, Secretary)

- In accordance to the By Laws, Article, 13.6, Ratification/Removal from the Office of the Imam, is to be held annually. The voting of ratification will be held October 3 - 17, 2021. Ballots will be emailed to eligible Voting Rights Members.

**Committee & Imam Status:**

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

- The Zakat committee continues to assist those in need due to the loss of jobs as a result of COVID. Please refer those in need to her or Ameenah.

- *Hospitality Committee:* (Reported by Jasmin Ali, Chair)

- The Fish Fry Fundraising event has been approved. An online Mental Health Session is in the planning to occur soon. More details are forthcoming. Other events are in the works and will be announced.

- *Expansion Fundraising Group (EFG)*: (Reported by Faiz Quraishi, Chair)

- Analysis of donations from the last 4 years has been compiled to assist in targeting our donors. The average donation is \$500; Median is \$100; 20% of donors account for 80% of revenue; 6% donors account for the first \$1M; currently we have 3100 donors. Year to Date, \$337,418 has been raised; a plus of \$54,320 since last update. We have already exceeded our projected plans. Current building fund balance is \$1,964,511. Inshallah, we will reach our \$2M goal needed to begin construction by the end of the year, with \$35,500 remaining.
- Ways to donate have been increased including a Brokerage Account. The Brokerage account allows us to take in different stocks and securities. These shares can held or converted into cash.
- Ways to help - become a recurring donor; like & subscribe to MAI's face book; look for volunteer opportunities and give to the upcoming campaign--North Texas Giving Day, 9/23/21.

-*Imam Status - Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami*:

- Extended his gratitude to those who offered prayers for him and his family who tested positive and have since recovered from Covid.
- The Prayer schedule for September/October 2021 was shared.
- Three new classes are being proposed and will be connected to salat time. Namely, 1)New Shahadah; 2)Seerah; 3) Continuation of Tafsir classes. Surveys will be sent out to get ideas of availability and interest. Classes may be available at the masjid and online.
- Working on the possibility of Shaykh Mikael Smith being available to conduct an 8-part class here at MAI.

-*M.E.C.A. School Curriculum*: (Reported by Talib Udeen)

- Face-to-face classes will resume with Covid protection protocols in place. Everyone will be required to wear masks. The curriculum, which includes Islamic Studies, Arabic reading & writing and Quranic recitation, remains the same. All instructors with the exception of one will be returning. Students ages range from 6 - 17 years. Classes will be in session from October 17 - May 29th.

#### **Open Issues/Questions:**

-Those who have an existing Brokerage account can donate shares to MAI.

-Sis. Shahidah Akhtab thanks the community for the support given in the loss of her two brothers and asked the community to continue to make dua for her and her family.

-The property encroachment issue's six-month term ends in December. Once this time period is complete the fence removal will added to the Plat Request. When the plat is approved by the City we will be able to proceed. Once construction begins we will have a team together with the police department to be sure we are on the right side of legality when that happens. Reasonable groundbreaking could take place in 4 months after the approval.

-No responses have been received from Amigo Pottery company. They have not responded to any of our inquiries nor to those from our attorneys. We have confirmed receipt that they have received our notices.

-Along with donations, other plans to become financially stable include the long term goals of a brokerage account, setting up an endowment, receiving crypto currency, and receiving property (i.e., rental, vehicles, etc).

-Bro. Leon Jefferson asked the community to keep him and his family in our dua. His wife and son tested positive for Covid but are recovering and responding well.

Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami closed with Dua

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