



# 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, February 28, 2021

Attendees on File

- Br. Amir Makin Hamzah opened with Dua.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting of November 22, 2020 were accepted as read. (Motion by: Ishmael Fahmi; Second by: Twyla Abdullah)

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

- The Balance Sheet as of February 28, 2021 and the Profit & Lost Sheet for January - February 2021 were presented and discussed. The sum of all accounts totals \$1,711,013.57; Total Income - \$48,531.42; Total Expenses - \$9,181.47; with a Net Operating Income of \$39,349.95. Donations are down due to Covid. We have not able to fundraise as in the past. January 2021's revenue for the new masjid fundraiser is \$3,625.33.

- The website's financial page is not available at this time. The website has been hacked multiple times and is currently being overhauled. Feel free to contact the treasurer for questions at board.treasurer@masjidalislam.org.

**Building Project Status:** (Reported by Amir Makin Hamzah, Chair):

- The Chair displayed and discussed the scheme for a one story building that was decided upon by the Community. The kiblah was off about nine degrees on the previous drawing plan. It has been corrected and is now pointing directly northeast. The gymnasium will function as a multipurpose room and as an overflow space for prayers. The current musallah will not be demolished. Its use will be determined by the Community, i.e., retail space, etc.. The BOL will remain as is. Adequate parking will be available. Once completed the maximum prayer capacity will be able well over 1,000 persons for salat. Different prayer schemes were discussed to accommodate the number of persons attending salat. The Community elected to have the sisters continue to pray behind the brothers. Due to permitting issues, an area to wash bodies is not included.

- This week there soil samplings will be collected. Five holes will be dug in the ground at about 30 ft down to extract the soil to be tested. This will determine what type of mix will be needed to add to the soil that makes up the foundation.

**Community & Imam Status:**

- Zakat Committee (Reported by Shahidah Akhtab, Chair): Alhamdulillah, we have been blessed to be able to help numerous persons directly affected by the pandemic.

- Hospitality Committee (Reported by Aasiyah AbdalRahim, Chair): Since the pandemic the Hospitality committee's sponsored gatherings have been limited. The last event was an outdoor "Drive-In" movie. The committee did well even though the attendance was low. The committee's financial balance is \$995.00. "Thank you" to Sis. Zarifa for sending out cards and flowers to members who may have been sick or experienced a loss. Sis. Jasmin Ali is now a member of the committee. It is difficult to get two new members to join the committee each quarter. The Hospitality events are currently on hold pending further notice. A separate committee outside of the Hospitality group volunteers to check on those members who are sick.

- Expansion Fundraising Group (EFG) (Reported by Faiz Quraishi, Chair). Fundraising status: December 2020 (fiscal year begins) - \$23,700 (primarily from "Giving Tuesday" launch good); January's projection (\$7,000)- raised \$3,600; February's projection (\$7,000)- raised \$12,000 (so far we are \$3,000 ahead of schedule); Black Muslim Lives Matters (BMLM) launch good goal was \$5,000 - now at \$11,000. We are currently working on upgrading our mailings to reach more donors to communicate the need to donate. Mailings are up from 1,000 to 2,000 addresses. On March 6, the Ambassador training program will be launched to prepare for Ramadan. The Buy a Brick website is nearing completion. Sis. Kiran has volunteered to take the lead with content writing and will build a team to assist. The Buy a Brick program allows donors to have a tangible way of seeing the impact of the project by paying a certain amount for a brick, a prayer space, etc. Fundraising efforts are being made to address the number of recurring donations that will be ending soon. March's donations are expected to be low since Ramadan is approaching and donations are likely to be held until then.

**Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami :**

- Imam Muhammad extended a "shout out" to Br. Hany who accepted the charge given in the khutbah about two months ago. That charge was to get off the sidelines, get active, get involved, become a member. Br. Hany become a member by the end of Jumu'ah. He is also present at this Community meeting.

- In dealing with the challenges of Covid and the approaching of Ramadan, Imam Muhammad's concentration has been on how to best serve the community. He is currently working on a Quranic Literacy Class to start in 2-3 weeks. The class will be coed and will be on zoom. His hope for this class is to build a culture of engaging with the Qur'an collectively, to be able to take lessons from it and then to see the transformation in our personal and collective behaviors.

- Five episodes of the BMLM series have been done with three remaining. This gives us exposure and content online. Feedback is welcomed and encouraged. Sunday school has been virtual. It is hoped that next year we will be able to go back to face to face classes. Feel free to contact Imam Muhammad with questions or concerns at imam@masjidalislam.org.

**Open Issues:**

- Plans are being made for outside iftars.
- We will defer to science in determining when we will open fully whether vaccinated or not. We have had three persons in our community who have tested positive for Covid and have recovered.
- A vaccine drive is possible, however, our community must be willing to support it. The Covid testing drive in the past was not supported by our Community.
- \$2M is needed to start Phase 1 of construction, which is the shell. We are currently at \$1.7M; another \$300,00 is needed.
- Bro. Fury will email the Board's chair with a date to meet to present his proposal.
- Two weeks ago the storm caused severe damage to the ceiling and plumbing at the masjid. Funds are needed to repair these damages.
- Bro. Stanley will move major appliances (freezer & refrigerator) to outside containers on the BOL's property. Some items may not be able to be stored in these containers. Bro. Talib will reach out to Bro. Stanley about removing the Sunday school items in the back room.

Imam Muhammad Abdul-Jami closed with Dua

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