



# Islamic Society of Augusta

1. 20251130 Minutes
2. Meeting via Zoom called to order at 4:00pm:
  - a. Attendees:
    - i. Mohamed Aboelhamd
    - ii. Ali Aiello
    - iii. Stephanie Ahmadipour
    - iv. Nabeel Ashraf
    - v. John Edry
    - vi. Nadeem Fatteh
    - vii. Shima Syed
3. Imam Performance Review
  - a. Review Imam Performance Evaluations
    - i. Results reviewed; additional comments will be input
4. Dhuhr Iqama time
  - a. Standardize it at 1:30pm daily
5. Finances (Treasurer)
  - a. Within budget through end of 2025
  - b. Switched out two more LEDs in parking lot
  - c. Sr. Haifah Yunus and Ustadh Ubaydullah payments are done on this quarter
6. Visiting Speakers
7. Permanent chair setup in musallahs?
  - a. Folding or stackable chairs in 3 x 5 layout or similar along left side of musallah, starting few rows from the front, with small alley to left side of chairs for access and for others to walk past
  - b. Intention is to keep chairs there (except when cleaning or other infrequent exceptions)
  - c. More comfortable, safer, sturdier than plastic chairs currently
  - d. Will try with current chairs and see it how well it works before purchasing transferring other chairs
  - e. Analogous setup for sisters' area
    - i. Cannot block doors to gym; fire hazard
8. Amendments
  - a. Change "Women's Representative" to "Sisters' Representative"
    - i. More general and inclusive of all ages
  - b. Add a burial committee
    - i. We have ownership of the lots, so we need to
  - c. Add weapons policy?
    - i. In 2014, a religious institution can decide to have or not have weapons
    - ii. Some masaajid specifically ban weapons
    - iii. Some allow if part of security team
    - iv. Will communicate with Columbia County PD and can discuss policies
9. Socialization Ideas
  - a. Winter Warmer?
    - i. An evening with community, croissants, cookies, coffee, and chai?

- ii. January during the post holiday slump?
- b. New Muslim Meetup
  - i. Is being held regularly at people's houses; gathering of 30ish
  - ii. Consideration for making this a masjid sanctioned event in the gym, as long as it does not lose its atmosphere/vibe?
- c. Senior Socials
  - i. Yusuf Johnson was leading
  - ii. Nabila Ahmad, Aisha Lakhany, et al have held similar events at masjid

#### 10. Branding?

- a. Do we like what we've got? Should we update logos, letterhead, color schemes?
  - i. Mixed feelings; neither strong support nor opposition
  - ii. Secretary feels like branding is important, a uniformity with letterhead, signage, announcements, social media presence, website presence, color schemes; gives the sense that the details matter to ISA; a bit of a heavier weight to the programming that is held
- b. Are we updating/changing the large sign at the main entrance?
  - i. Change chrome to something else? Make it readable from both sides? Move it closer to the street?
    - 1. No concrete plans as of now
  - ii. Another one at Panacea Drive entrance?
    - 1. No concrete plans as of now
  - iii. ASA wants to have their own sign as well
  - iv. If signage to be made (monument signs for Amanah Village, ASA, second sign at second entrance for ISA on our property beyond the gate, re-finishing existing sign at main entrance), need to ensure uniformity in style, font, colors, finish, material

#### 11. Outreach and Interfaith Committee

- a. Similar members as 50 year committee; discussions will be held with them offline
- b. Updates/Issues:
  - i. Invite to an upcoming meeting

#### 12. Rapid Response Committee

- a. Schedule active shooter training with PD
- b. Schedule fire safety training with FD
  - i. Youth Representative amenable; Play and Pray Friday with fire truck and fire safety
- c. Schedule BLS training
  - i. Nurse in the community has done this before
- d. Will consider these events in early spring

#### 13. 50 year celebration committee

- a. Members
  - i. Azza Elremessy, Maha Elsherif, Yusuf Johnson, Zainab Johnson, Houda Miloudi
- b. Invite them to EC meeting in January
- c. Secretary to send out email to celebration committee to invite them

#### 14. Soccer Field Renovation Project

- a. Youth Representative wants another quote and then can move forward
- b. Evaluate sprinkler system; one company interested already

- c. Barriers - communicated with Fischers and Moores; suggestions given; stay tuned
  - d. Need a plan before December break; Treasurer and Youth Representative will meet offline
15. Discuss monitors for Jummah prayer in Medinah Hall
- a. Volunteers for ladies' side and men's side
  - b. It seems parents and kids need regular reminders that the khutbah is part of the prayer
  - c. Women's Representative observed masjid in Tampa
    - i. volunteers wear orange vests, give reminders to remain quiet.
  - d. Also have a concise written policy for volunteers (conduct expected) ex: no phones in children's hands as it's distracting for others.
  - e. Gentle signage on walls
  - f. Laminated cards that are handed out to parents
16. Meeting adjourned at
- a. Next meeting on January 11, 2026 at 4:00pm via Zoom