



## IFN General Body Meeting - Q & A

Date: 12/15/2019

- 1. Could someone elaborate the reason for the cost effectiveness in building operations – 2018 (\$155K) / 2019 (\$122K)?**

Answer: \$122K is the YTD Sep-19 expense and should be compared with the YTD Sep-19 budget of \$136K. \$155K was the full year 2018 expense. Building operations expense in both years should be fairly aligned.

- 2. For treasurer: As of 9/30/19, Sadaqah balance is \$76,000 and Zakat balance is \$41,000. How much of these have been disbursed as of now and what are the plans for the future?**

Answer: Zakat balance generally gets fully disbursed by Q1 (any additional payments at that stage are out of Sadaqah funds) and get replenished in Q2 during the Ramadan period. As regards Sadaqah funds, we have approved payments of ~\$45K since quarter-end.

- 3. Al Ihsan Fulltime School: What are the sharing revenue setup? Is this school part of IFN just like Sunday School & Quran Academy?**

Answer: No, Al Ihsan school is not an IFN school. Its structure is like that of Saturday School. See the table below for what Al Ihsan will pay to IFN. Here's the schedule of payments:

School Year	Percent of Tuition Fees	Proforma		
		# of Students	Al-Ihsan Academy Tuition Fees @ 5000 per student	Minimum Amount due to IFN Per Year
2019-2020	0%	10	\$ 50,000	\$ -
2020-2021	2%	20	\$ 100,000	\$ 2,000
2021-2022	3%	30	\$ 150,000	\$ 4,500
2022-2023	4%	35	\$ 175,000	\$ 7,000
There after	5%	40	\$ 200,000	\$ 10,000
	5%	45	\$ 225,000	\$ 11,250
	5%	50	\$ 250,000	\$ 12,500

	5%	55	\$ 275,000	\$ 13,750
	5%	60	\$ 300,000	\$ 15,000

4. **Quran Academy Restricted Fund was tapped in to support expenses. Can you please share what is percent of expense vs. revenue?**

Answer: Quran Academy income (~\$60K) approximates 60% of the expense budget (~\$100K).

5. **Diversity: We don't see Arab brothers and sisters in any board or other meetings. Need to know what initiative will be taken to bring them. Need some details.**

Answer:

Br Jaseem

In fact, from very beginning it has been my effort to bring people together from all the ethnic groups and to make it happen we have working committees where people are from all ethnic groups. With this goal in mind I involved Arab brothers and sisters who successfully organized our last community picnic. Now I am in initial stage to create a Diversity committee which will be comprised of different ethnic groups inshaa Allah who will reach out and convince their respective ethnic members to be actively involved in our community.

Br Abdullah

My experience has been that most of the Arab members are interested in using the Masjid for worship, and do not want to be as active in management of the Masjid for various reasons. Some have concerns with membership, others with decisions made by management.

6. **Is Al Ihsan School an IFN School? Or is it owned and operated by IFN members (Ishaq, Zafeer)? What is Al Ihsan paying to IFN to compensate for use of facilities?**

Answer: See the answer to Question 3 above.

7. **Can we let our community use the revenue monies to buy the house on sale near the Masjid? Use it for IFN Clinic, Classrooms for HSYC, Al Ihsan Academy?**

Answer: The property came on the market after the process for investing IFN funds was undertaken. This topic can be revisited by the BOT in January to see if it is feasible.

8. **Br Haris mentioned community funding was used for Al Ihsan Academy. Was this spending approved by the community? According to the bylaws, it must be presented and approved by the community.**

Answer: The funds that were used were not community funds, they were private donations from individuals within the community to establish a fulltime school at IFN. We reached out to the person that lead this effort and asked them if it was okay to use the funds towards Al Ihsan and they gave us the okay.

9. **Election committee email states that if you are a member by March 31<sup>st</sup> then you are eligible to vote. However, the above is not true and upon further inquiry was told that we must read**

**bylaws, wherein it is required that one must have a previous year's membership. Please explain. This needs to change for active membership.**

Answer: From the Bylaws:

#### SECTION 3.3 VOTING RIGHTS

Each Member over the age of 18 years shall be entitled to vote on matters submitted to the General Body, provided the Member:

3.3.1 Has been in good standing for one (1) year; and has met all membership dues requirements no later than the 31st of March of the given election year.

Hence, if elections are being held in December 2019, then an eligible voter would have been a member of IFN in 2018, AND would have renewed their membership for 2019 by March 31, 2019.

**10. What is expectation of our funding investment for Endowment? We are investing \$600K, what rate of return are we expecting?**

Answer: Our target return is around 6%, which is a low-moderate return because we want to reduce the risk for the investments. We will be reviewing the return and adjusting the strategy annually.

**11. I greatly appreciate the efforts of Br Ishaq and Br Zafeer in starting the Al Ihsan school. The community recognized in 2015 strategic planning to start a preschool and basic work was performed. The 2019 continued the strategic planning. All the resources and finances and planning for the Al Ihsan school came from IFN donations. How can we make sure that as the school grows and classes are added, the beneficiary is IFN?**

Answer: See the answer to Question 3.

**12. \$300,000 is a very large amount. What are the deliverables of the design phase? What do we get for \$300,000?**

Answer: We get all the paperwork necessary to get any physical work started (\$35,000 sq. ft made of 3 modules), including: architectural plans and designs, wetland delineation and mitigation, city permits, etc. Target completion date of Phase 1 is Q1 2021.

**13. Are there plans to diversify more than one "portfolio management provider" for the invested asserts as well as the Endowment assets?**

Answer: The IFN Endowment Fund Committee has done research to identify what options there are for managing Sharia-compliant investment portfolios. *Sharia Portfolio* was selected based of experience, reputation, and service levels and because they are fiduciary advisors. Most of the management providers invest in common Islamic funds (e.g. *AMANA*) in addition to equities. The performance of the investment will be evaluated annually to look at options and performance.

**14. Endowment – 10% of all donations were to be used for endowment. Is that still the case? What is the total amount, \$600,000? Not more?**

Answer: 10% of gross IFN collections (excluding collections restricted funds) per year have been placed in the endowment in the past. This will continue with a 10% up to the maximum excess in

the operating budget (i.e. ensure that we don't exceed the amount left in the annual budget). The current total amount is \$600,000 currently.

**15. Where are the policies available?**

Answer: They will be posted on IFN's website once fully ratified by the board.

**16. Were the policies instituted by the BOT provided to the community for members' review and comment? Please elaborate. If not, we need to allow for public review of any policies for a 30-day timeline before it can be adopted by the Board of Trustees.**

Answer: The policies were not provided to the community for review and comment. Generally, in the corporate world policies are not reviewed by the public, they are elaborate by Human Resources. We will discuss in the BOT whether to request public review and comments.

**17. Suggestion: We have meeting minutes and other stuff published on the IFN website. In order to secure and maintain the privacy, my suggestion is to allow this information only to people who 'sign in' on IFN website.**

Answer: We ensure no confidential information otherwise publicly obtainable is published on our website. Please send an email to the General Secretary to alert him of confidential information posted on our IFN website.