

Bismillah Hir Rahman Nir Raheem

We, the Muslims of Bloomington-Normal have agreed to, and have adopted the present Constitution and do hereby establish an organization to be known as the ***Islamic Center of Bloomington-Normal, (ICBN)*** hereinafter called the Association.

Article I: Aims and Purposes

The aims and purposes of the Association will be to serve the best interest of Islam and of the Muslims living in the Bloomington-Normal area. This includes maintaining appropriate facilities, in order to provide a forum in which Muslims of all ages and ethnic backgrounds in the Greater Bloomington/Normal Area can:

- Practice, celebrate, and study Islam.
- Participate in religious, educational, and social activities with other Muslims.
- Promote knowledge and a positive image of Islam to persons of all faiths in the community at-large.

The purposes and actions of the Association shall be confined to religious, charitable, social, and educational activities in accordance with mainstream Islamic teachings and in compliance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

- No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in this Article.
- No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in, or intervene in, including the publishing or distribution of statements, any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted.

Article II: Location

The location of the Islamic Center of Bloomington-Normal, to be established by the Association, shall be in the State of Illinois.

Article III: Affiliation

- Real estate purchased or donated to the Association shall be entrusted with the North American Islamic Trust (NAIT).
- The Association shall be a non-profit religious organization.

Article IV: Membership

Any Muslim, 18 years and older, residing in the Bloomington-Normal area, would be eligible for the membership of the Association. Procedures for becoming a member would be spelled out in the by-laws.

Article V: Board of Directors

Section 1

The long-term planning and vision of the Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall make by-laws. The number of Directors shall be an odd number set by the by-laws. The Office positions include the following and shall be described in greater detail within the by-laws:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Any office deemed necessary by the Board

Section 2

The initial Board of Directors were elected by the members of the association during the first election (June 2001) for a life-term. These life-terms can be adjusted to finite serving terms as needed, and set forth in the by-laws. The Board of Directors shall be vested with the responsibility of electing future Board members as openings appear on the Board because of resignation, removal, or other circumstances. The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected based upon their past efforts, in terms of active participation and monetary funding towards the Association, their past and expected future residence in the community, and future commitments to the Association.

Article VI: Executive Committee

Members with "Voting Rights", as established by the by-laws, shall elect seven officers to the Executive Committee. The number of officers can be adjusted to accommodate changing needs as determined by the Board. Tenure and future election procedures shall be determined in the by-laws.

The Office positions include the following and shall be described in greater detail within the by-laws:

- President
- Vice-President
- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- Education Director
- Site Manger
- Special Events and Food Coordinator

The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Board, shall, if needed, establish Standing Committees of the Association.

Article VII: Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the association, any surplus assets, after meeting all liabilities, shall be distributed through The North American Islamic Trust, Inc., an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In case of the nonexistence of NAIT, Inc. the proceeds shall be distributed to one or many Muslim charities that operate exclusively for religious, charitable, educational, or scientific purposes, and are qualified as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and/or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Article VIII: Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to the Constitution

Section 1a: Authority to Amend

- The Board of Directors and members with voting rights jointly hold the right to amend or change the constitution of ICBN. This arrangement will safeguard the stability and the sanctity of the constitution by setting a high threshold for change.

Section 1b: Procedures for Amendment

- Members with voting rights may suggest amendments to the constitution in writing. Such a request should be backed by the signatures of 51% of the entire members with voting rights.
- The members of the Board of Directors may suggest amendments to the constitution by a simple majority vote.
- To be effective, members with voting rights and the Board of Directors would have to jointly approve amendments to the constitution by a 3/4th (three fourth) majority of the votes cast in each body.

Section 2: Principles of Amendment

The constitution shall not be amended in any manner which is not in accordance with:

- The laws of the State of Illinois.
- Main-stream Islamic teachings and principles.

Certification:

I, _____, the Secretary of the Board of Directors of ICBN, hereby certify that this Constitution has been adopted by the Board of Directors of ICBN on the _____ day of _____.

Signed: _____

Amended on the _____ day of _____, Signed: _____