



# The North American Mobeds Council

## Minutes of the Thirty Fourth Annual General Meeting

### **ZOOM Meeting**

**Date: August 20, 2021**

NAMC Executives Present:

Arda-e-viraf Minocherhomjee  
Tehemton Mirza  
Cyrus Pavri  
Xerxes Madan  
Mehbad Dastur

California (President)  
Ontario (Vice President)  
New York (Acting Secretary)  
Ontario (Treasurer)  
Ontario (Executive officer)

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

Gustad Panthaki  
Adi Unwalla  
Behram Panthaki  
Cawas Desai  
Kobad Zarolia  
Jehan Bagli  
Pervez Patel  
Adi Sidhwa  
Kushroo Bhandara  
Zarrirr Bhandara  
Zerksis Bhandara  
Neville Karanjia  
Porus Bulsara  
Minoo Katarak  
Kushroo Mirza  
Guloo Austim  
Adil Minocherhomjee  
Jamshed Dastur  
Manek Bhujwalla  
Porus Khambata  
Khushroo Master  
Plsum Master  
Rumi Engineer

Ardeshir Behl  
Karl Khambata  
Pesi Vazifdar  
Kerman Katrak  
Xerxis Dastur  
Pauzash Mithaiwalla

NAMC President Arda Minocherhomjee welcomed all the participants, and the meeting was called to order. The meeting was started with a prayer lead by Er. Xerxes Dastur.

1. Read and adopt the minutes of the last AGM.  
Proposed by Cawas Desai and seconded by Kobad Zarolia and the minutes were adopted after discussion.

2. Read and adopt Financial Statements for the Year ended 2021  
Xerxes Madon, treasurer, presented the Financial Statements

Kobad suggested that we should have the ability for donors to deposit funds directly into NAMC's account and have Pay Pal etc. Xerxes said we will work on that.

Behram Panthaky asked the reason for having donor restricted funds. Xerxes said the donors had given those funds for a specific purpose(s), not to the general fund. And, we must account for that appropriately.

Arda proposed, seconded by Kobad, and financial statements were adopted.

3. Read and Adopt Presidents report

NAMC was very active over the past year despite COVID related issues.

1. Bareshnumgah paper published in 2021
2. Soli Dastur scholarship fund for advanced education for young Mobeds is set up. This includes FEZANA to give \$10k
3. NAMC IZS - off to a great start
4. NAMC Lecture Series - Mobeds can join and encourage people to join in
5. Discussion sessions - for Mobeds, by Mobeds!! Others could join. Kobdad's initiative.
6. Zoroastrianism 101 - 15 students signed up, follow up session October 18
7. Gatha Ahunavad - 9 students
8. Avesta language class - depth and insight around linguistics which gives insights into the religion
9. Navar prayers - next year, one student will be ready
10. Mobedyar training - new mobedyar in training in Florida
11. 501c3 - we have filed everything, pending state response
12. Website upgrade - building a new website that will be hosted in the US

## IZS Update

### ***IZS is branded as NAMC-IZS***

- Sent out press releases – that were picked up by FEZANA and Persiana
- Dual track training - 1) Mobeds & 2) General public/laity
- Management advisory council helped plan what is suitable for everyone
- Academic council - still being formed
- Started with lecture series - six lectures in 2021
- Upcoming lecture in September
- More than 200 people attend some lectures
- Zoroastrianism outside the box - discussion series
- 30 people interested in course, capped at 15
- Upcoming Shahnameh course - targeted to Irani Zarthustis but all welcome

## Discussion

- 1) Should Mobeds pray non-Zoroastrian names in prayers?  
Different points of views were discussed.  
The consensus was that each Mobed should decide if they want to say the names of non-Zarthustis in the prayers. Since there are many Mobeds who are willing to recite the names of non Zarthustis, there is no reason to force anyone to recite those names if they choose not to.
- 2) How to Broaden the appeal of NAMC for Iranian Mobeds?  
NAMC is working closely with Mobeds like Kerman Katrak and Fariborze Shahzadi who have close relations with both Parsees and Irani Zarthustis. We welcome all Mobeds to join our discussions.
- 3) How to preserve the books and legacy of Soli Dastur?
  - Arda is in touch with Soli's wife & daughters
  - They mentioned that they will donate the books to NAMC
  - There is a wealth of information published by Soli Dastur that could be uploaded to <https://namcmobeds.org/uploadandsharefiles/>

There were no other discussion points, and the meeting was adjourned.