

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME & LOCATION

The name of the organization shall be "The Islamic Society of Greater Harrisburg" hereafter referred to as 'the Society.' ~~and its headquarter shall be located in the Greater Harrisburg Area.~~

ARTICLE II: HEADQUARTERS

The Society shall have its headquarters in the Greater Harrisburg Area consisting of Harrisburg City and adjoining municipalities in Dauphin County. The management and administration of activities of the Society and maintenance of all documents and records shall be at its headquarters.

ARTICLE III: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Society shall be a nonprofit, charitable and religious organization, and shall be organized and operated exclusively for the purpose outlined in Article III of the Constitution of the Society.

ARTICLE ~~III~~ IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Types of Membership

~~The Council shall determine eligibility for and type of membership to the Society pursuant to Article IV of the Constitution.~~ **Residents of Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry and York Counties shall be eligible for the following types of membership of the Society.**

- i. Regular Membership:**
Regular membership shall be extended to all Muslims over the age of eighteen years on payment of annual regular membership dues. The membership shall take effect three months after the date of submission of regular membership application.

- ii. **Life Membership:**
Life membership shall be extended to all Muslims over the age of eighteen years for a one-time payment of life membership dues. The membership shall take effect three months after the date of submission of life membership application.

- iii.a Honorary Membership:
 The Society may recognize and bestow upon a living individual Honorary Membership for outstanding services to the Islamic community ~~of this area.~~ **The residency restriction shall not apply to individuals being considered for Honorary Membership.**

- b. ~~Life Membership: Life membership shall be extended to all Muslims over the age of eighteen years, pursuant to Article II Section 3 and 4 of the Bylaws.~~

- e. ~~Full Membership: Full membership shall be extended to all Muslims over the age of eighteen years, pursuant to Article II, Section 3 and 4 of the Bylaws.~~

- d ~~Associate Membership:
 Associate membership shall be extended to all non-Muslims over the age of eighteen years pursuant to Article II, Section 3 and 4 of the Bylaws.~~

- iv. **Alumni Membership:**
Past members of the Society who have left the area shall be granted Alumni Membership.

- iv. **Junior Membership:**
Junior Membership shall be extended to children of all members. Junior members shall be below the age of eighteen years.

- v. **General Membership:**
The Life and Regular Members shall constitute the General Membership of the Society.

Section 2: Application for Membership

- i.a Application for membership to the Society shall be made on a form prescribed by the Council. **The parents and children under 18 years old in a family shall apply for membership on a single form.**

- ii.b The acceptance or rejection of application to life ~~full~~ and **regular** ~~associate~~ membership shall be subject to determination by the Council.

The ~~decision~~ **rejection of membership** by of the Council shall be appealable to the General Membership **through the Mediation Panel**.

- iii.e The Council shall initiate determination ~~and conferment~~ of Honorary Membership **and make recommendations for conferment to the General Membership. The General Membership shall make a decision on the recommendation in its next regular meeting, and, on approval, bestow the Honorary Membership at the subsequent General Membership meeting.**
- iv. **Junior Membership shall be automatically granted to children of all members.**

Section 3: Membership Term and Dues

- i.a The term of membership to the Society shall ~~include~~ **be** one ~~full~~ calendar year, beginning on January 1st and expiring on December 31st.
- ii.b ~~Full~~ **Regular** Membership shall be subject to an annual payment of ~~Five~~ **Thirty** Dollars.
- iii.e Life Membership shall be subject to a one-time payment of ~~Two Hundred~~ **Five Thousand** Dollars.
- d ~~Associate Membership shall be subject to an annual payment of Three Dollars.~~
- iv. **Honorary and Junior members are exempt from the annual membership dues.**

Section 4: Privileges and Duties

- i.a All members shall have the privilege to ~~attend General Membership Meeting and to~~ participate in activities of the Society.
- ii.b All life and ~~full~~ **regular** members shall have the right to vote in the resolution of issues before the General Membership and in elections of the Council **and the Mediation Panel. They shall constitute the voting members of the Society.**
- iii.e ~~All associate~~ **Alumni and Junior** members are exempt from the right to vote.

- iv.d All honorary members shall enjoy nonpartisan status and shall be exempt from the right to vote.
- v.e All life and full **regular** members ~~residing in the Greater Harrisburg Area and beyond~~ shall be eligible to seek election and hold office of the Council **and membership of the Mediation Panel.**
- vi.f The Society shall provide Islamic education to all its members **and interested Muslims** and their dependents.
- vii.g The Society shall expect ~~of all~~ its members **to be** respectable and decent **in their public conduct and in dealings with each other.**
- viii.h All ~~Muslim~~ members shall strive to conform to the principles and practices of Islam.
- ix.i The Society shall expect ~~of all~~ members of the Council **and the Mediation Panel** to be of decent and moral character, committed to the principles and practices of Islam.
- x.j The Society shall require ~~of all~~ its members to uphold and respect its Constitution and Bylaws.
- xi.k All members shall be required to fully contribute towards realization of the ~~purposes~~ **aims and objectives** of the Society.

Section 5: Separation from Membership

- i.a A member may separate from membership to the Society by submitting a written resignation **to the Council.** ~~subject to approval of the Council.~~ **The separation shall become final after verification by the Council that the member has no obligation to the Society.**
- ii.b Nonpayment of annual membership dues ~~within three months of the expiration date~~ **by March 31st** shall be construed by the Council as separation from membership. **Once separated the person shall have to go through the process for new members including the three months waiting period to become a member again.**
- iii.e The Council may **suspend or** separate a member from the Society **for justifiable reasons including violation(s) of Article IV, Section 4, vii to x of the Bylaws,** subject to approval ~~of~~ **by** the General Membership. This provision excludes ~~all~~ Honorary Members.

ARTICLE HV: ~~GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING~~ ORGANIZATION

The Society shall structure its organization for the realization of its aims and objectives as outlined in Article III of the Constitution.

Section 1: General Membership

i. Composition, Powers and Duties

- a. The General Membership shall consist of all life and regular members and shall be the voting members of the Society.**
- b. The General Membership shall review and approve all policy decisions.**
- c. The General Membership shall have the exclusive power to amend provisions of the Constitution and the Bylaws in a meeting with at least half of voting members present and a two-third majority voting in favor.**
- d. The General Membership shall elect a Council and a Mediation Panel every other year.**
- e. The General Membership may suspend or separate a member from the Society for justifiable reasons including violation(s) of Article IV, Section 4, vii to x of the Bylaws, in a meeting with at least half of all its voting members present by a two-third majority.**
- f. The General Membership may suspend or separate a Member of the Council from the Council for justifiable reasons including violation(s) of Article IV, Section 4, vii to x of the Bylaws, in a meeting with at least half of all its voting members present by a two-third majority.**
- g. The General Membership may suspend or separate a Member of the Mediation Panel from the Panel for justifiable reasons including violation(s) of Article IV, Section 4, vii to x of the Bylaws, in a meeting with at least half of all its voting members present by a two-third majority.**

Section 1: ii. Annual Meeting

- a. The Council shall hold a ~~General Membership~~ **an Annual Meeting of the membership of the Society** ~~once every year~~ in the month of**

December to present the Annual Report of activities, including the budget of the Society ~~and to elect a new Council and to conduct the affairs of the Society in the following year.~~

- b. The Council shall notify all members of the Society of date, time and place in writing ~~no later than~~ **at least** thirty days ~~from the date of~~ **prior to** the meeting.

~~Section 2:~~ **iii.** Regular Meeting

- a. The Council shall have the power to hold periodic General Membership meetings to conduct affairs of the Society.
- b. The Council shall notify all members of the Society of date, time and place ~~no later than ten calendar~~ **in writing at least fifteen** days ~~from the date of~~ **prior to** the meeting.

~~Section 3:~~ **iv.** Requisition Meeting

- a. The Council shall hold a requisition General Membership meeting **within one month** upon **receipt of** the written request of at least 25% of the voting members specifying its purpose.
- b. The Council shall notify all members of the Society of date, time and place **in writing** within fifteen ~~calendar~~ days from the date of receipt of requisition.

~~Section 4:~~ **v.** Quorum and Voting

- a. The quorum of a General Membership meeting shall be at least ~~25%~~ **40%** of the voting (**Life and Regular**) membership.
- b. Life and ~~full~~ **regular** members shall each cast one vote.
- c. **The voting involving decisions about members and other important issues shall be by secret ballot.** ~~The method and procedure of voting shall be determined by the Council.~~
- d. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted ~~except in elections where absentee vote may be cast in writing.~~

~~ARTICLE IV:~~ **Section 2: ORGANIZATION THE COUNCIL**

~~Section 1: General Membership~~

- ~~a. The General Membership shall constitute of all voting members.~~

- ~~b. The General Membership shall review and approve all policy decisions.~~
- ~~e. The General Membership shall have the exclusive power to amend provisions of the Constitution and the Bylaws in a meeting with its two third voting members present by a two third majority.~~
- ~~d. The General Membership shall elect a Council and delegate powers contained in the Bylaws.~~
- ~~e. The General Membership may separate a member in a meeting with its two third voting members present by a two third majority.~~
- ~~f. The General Membership may separate a Member of the Council in a meeting with its two third voting members present by a two third majority.~~

~~Section 2:~~ **i.** Purpose of the Council

The Council shall manage all affairs of the Society to create a community based on Islamic principles and to promote a closer understanding among the people of Islamic faith. **All deliberations and activities of the Council shall be open and transparent.**

~~Section 3:~~ **ii.** Composition of **the** Council

The Council shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and ~~three~~ **five** Council Members elected for ~~one~~ **two** years by the General Membership.

~~Section 4:~~ **iii.** Administrative Powers of **the** Council

- a. Appoint committees from among the members and delegate **duties and responsibilities.** ~~powers.~~
- b. Appoint an Election ~~Officers~~ **Committee** to conduct elections.
- c. Nominate voting members to fill vacant Council positions **when the remaining time for that Council position is less than six months.**
- d. Conduct all General Membership meetings.

- e. Grant or deny membership. **The denial of membership is appealable to the General Membership through the Mediation Panel.**
- f. ~~Recognize and bestow~~ **Recommend candidates for Honorary Membership to the General Membership.**
- g. Initiate amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws **when necessary.**
- h. Initiate separation proceedings **when necessary.**

~~Section 5:~~ **iv. Financial Powers of the Council**

- a. Seek and collect membership dues, ~~and~~ donations **and pledges.**
- b. Borrow monies and issue bonds, debentures and pledges, subject to approval by the General Membership.
- c. Purchase and acquire property rights, privileges, stocks, debentures and securities, subject to authorization by General Membership.
- d. Sell, lease or dispose of properties and assets, subject to authorization by the General Membership.
- e. Spend monies for administrative purposes with a maximum of ~~Fifty~~ **Four Thousand** Dollars per item of expenditure subject to an annual ceiling of ~~Five Hundred~~ **Fifty Thousand** Dollars. Additional monies shall be subject to authorization by the General Membership.
- f. **Spend money received/collected as donations for specific purposes and projects subject to a limit of Twenty Thousand Dollars per project. Projects exceeding this limit shall be subject to approval by the General Membership.**

~~Section 6:~~ **v. Duties of the Council**

- a. Conduct programs of Islamic education to impart knowledge of the Islamic way of life.
- b. Organize religious, cultural and other related activities to foster community ties.
- c. Encourage mutual understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims.

- d. Further cooperation with other Islamic organizations.
- e. Manage **the** headquarters of the Society.
- f. Present budget and annual reports at Annual ~~General~~ Membership meetings.
- g. ~~Provide for~~ **Appoint an election committee of three voting members to conduct elections.** ~~of a new Council prior to dissolution of existing Council to facilitate succession.~~
- h. Help needy Muslims by distributing Fitra, Zakah and donation monies collected for this purpose, by the Society.**

Section 7: **vi. Council Meetings**

- a. The Council shall meet on an average once a month, with a minimum of ~~twelve~~ **twenty** meetings during its **two years'** term.
- b. The Council shall meet at the call of the President. The Secretary shall issue notification of date, time and place at least two days before the meeting.
- c. ~~Four~~ **Five** members present at a Council meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- d. Council decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote of the members present.
- e. In case of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

vii. Election of Members of the Council

- a. Regular and Life Members are eligible to serve on the Council.**
- b. Members of the Mediation Panel shall not be eligible to serve on the Council.**
- c. A President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and five Members shall be elected to the Council every other year.**

~~Section 8:~~ **viii.** Replacement of Members of ~~the~~ Council

- a. A Council position vacated by separation shall be filled by election provided the length of intervening period between the date of separation and ~~December 31st.~~ **the expiration of the term of the Council** exceeds ~~sixty calendar days~~ **six months**. The said election shall be held within ~~fifteen calendar~~ **forty-five** days from the date of vacancy. Should the length of the intervening period ~~of sixty calendar days or less~~ **be less than six months**, the Council shall nominate a voting member to fill the vacant position.
- b. Should the vacant position in the Council be that of the President, the Vice-President shall become the President. The position of Vice-President vacated by succession shall be filled pursuant to the provisions of ~~Article IV, Section 8, Para (a)~~ **Article V, Section 2, (viii),(a)**.
- c. Should the vacant positions in the Council be those of the President and the Vice-President, the Secretary shall become the President. The vacant position of the Vice-President and the position of the Secretary vacated by succession shall be filled pursuant to provisions of ~~Article IV, Section 87, Para (a)~~ **Article V, Section 2, (viii),(a)**.
- d. Should the vacant positions in Council be of those of the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary, the General Membership shall ~~reelect the~~ **elect a new** Council within ~~fifteen~~ **thirty**-calendar days.

~~Section 9:~~ **ix.** Succession of ~~the~~ Council

The outgoing Council ~~after the election~~ shall transfer all files, documents, records, assets and liabilities to the incoming Council ~~prior to December 31st.~~ **between December 26 of the election year and January 5 of the following year.**

~~Section 10:~~ **x.** Separation from ~~the~~ Council

- a. A member of the Council shall separate by resignation addressed to the President and submitted to the Secretary, specifying the date and explanation of resignation. The resignation shall be ~~subject to approval~~ **accepted** by the Council **after verification that the Council member has no obligation to the Society.**
- b. The Council may ~~separate a member by suspension by a two third majority~~ **suspend a member by a minimum of six members**

voting for suspension with at least ~~six~~ **seven** members present on charges including violation of the Constitution and Bylaws, misuse or misappropriation of funds and/or actions detrimental to the interests of the Society. ~~The Council decision shall be subject to review and approval of the General Membership in its next meeting.~~ **The General Membership, within two months of the suspension, shall either separate the member from the Council or revoke the suspension.**

~~Section 11:~~ **xi.** Powers and Duties of **the** President

~~The President shall have the following powers and duties:~~

- a. Preside at Council and General Membership meetings.
- ~~b. Cast a deciding vote in case of a tie in Council meetings.~~
- be.** Call Council Meetings.
- cd.** Confirm minutes of Council and General Membership Meetings.
- de.** Supervise all administrative functions of the ~~Council~~ **Society**.
- ef.** Provide ~~direction~~ **leadership** to the Council and to the Society.

~~Section 12:~~ **xii.** Powers and Duties of **the** Vice-President

- a. Coordinate with the President in the conduct of the Council affairs.
- b. Preside at Council and General membership meetings in the absence of the President.
- c. Succeed the President in case of separation **of the President**.
- d. Plan and organize programs for Islamic education **with the approval of the Council**.

~~Section 13:~~ **xiii.** Powers and Duties of **the** Secretary

- a. Perform all administrative functions for the Council, ~~and~~ the General Membership **and the Society**.
- b. ~~Maintain~~ **Record** and ~~present~~ **distribute minutes of** proceedings of Council and General Membership meetings.

- c. Maintain **membership and** mailing list for the Society.
- d. Correspond on behalf of the Society **in consultation with the President/Council.**
- e. Preside at Council and General Membership meetings in absence of the President and the Vice-President.
- f. Prepare **and distribute** agenda for Council and General Membership meetings.
- g. Coordinate with the President in the conduct of the Council **and Society** affairs.
- h. Succeed the President in case of separation of the President and the Vice-President.
- i. Present Annual Report at ~~General~~ **Annual** Membership meetings.
- j. **Organize and maintain all records of the Society at its Headquarters.**

~~Section 14:~~ **xiv.** Powers and Duties of **the** Treasurer

- a. Perform all financial functions for the ~~Council and General Membership~~ **Society.**
- b. Transact all business concerning collection of membership dues, ~~and~~ donations **and pledges.**
- c. Maintain one or more bank accounts for deposits and payments.
- d. Make payment from the accounts under his signature together with **the** signature of the President, Vice-President in absence of the President, or the Secretary in absence of the President and Vice President **from the town of their residence for an extended period of at least two weeks. The President shall be informed of all such expenditures on return.**
- e. Maintain **a** detailed record of incomes and expenditures as well as the purposes of all transactions.
- f. Prepare budgets and report financial status to the Council at its periodic meetings.

- g. Prepare and present Annual Budget to the Annual ~~General~~ Membership Meeting.
- h. Prepare budgets, reports and financial status to General Membership meetings, upon request.
- i. Coordinate with the President **and the Council** in the conduct of financial affairs **of the Society**.

~~Section 15:~~ **xv. Powers and Duties of the Council Members**

- a. Perform duties assigned by the Council.
- b. Coordinate with the President in the conduct of the Council **and Society** affairs.
- c. Coordinate with the Vice-President in planning and organization of programs for Islamic education.
- d. Coordinate with the Secretary and the Treasurer in the performance of administrative and financial functions.

~~Section 16:~~ **xvi. Indemnification**

All ~~Council~~ members **of the Society** shall be indemnified out of the funds of the Society at all times against all charges and expenses incurred in a suit or proceeding brought against them in respect of any act in the execution of duties of the Society. ~~All other~~ Charges and expenses incurred by members of the ~~Council~~**Society** resulting from their ~~willful~~ neglect or ~~default~~ shall be excluded from the provisions of this section and shall be the exclusive responsibility of the ~~General Members~~ member.

Section 3: THE MEDIATION PANEL

i. Purpose

The Mediation Panel hereafter referred to as 'the Panel', shall mediate between members in disputes and conflicts related to the activities of the Society. The Panel shall use its good offices to facilitate resolution of such disputes and it shall be guided in its deliberations by the teachings of Quran and Sunnah. The Panel's good offices may also be used to resolve disputes between members of the Council and between the Council and members of the Society.

ii. **Composition of the Panel**

The Panel shall consist of three members, each serving a staggered six-year term. The most senior member (in terms of length of service on the panel) shall be the Chair of the Panel.

iii. **Duties of the Panel**

- a. The Panel shall deliberate and decide which cases to extend its help in resolving in accordance with Article V, Section 3, (i) of the Bylaws.
- b. The Panel shall mediate in cases where both parties in dispute seek its help.
- c. If one of the two parties in dispute seeks the help of the Panel, the Panel shall approach the other party to find their willingness to use its good offices.
- d. The Panel's recommendations shall be advisory in nature and it is expected that members will abide by its recommendations.
- e. The deliberations of the Panel shall be restricted to Panel members and parties in dispute. All records of the deliberations shall be kept confidential and destroyed by the panel after a period of two years.

iv. **Election of the Panel Members**

- a. Life and Regular members are eligible to serve on the Panel.
- b. Members of the Council shall not be eligible for membership on the Panel.
- c. One member shall be elected every other year to replace the member who has served six years.

v. **Separation from the Panel**

- a. A member of the Panel may separate from the Panel by submitting a written resignation to the Council. The Council shall accept the resignation after verifying that the member has no further obligations to the Panel.
- b. A member of the Panel may be suspended by the Council with at least two-thirds of its members voting for suspension, on

charges including violation of the Constitution and Bylaws, and/or actions detrimental to the interests of the Society. The General Membership, within two months of the suspension, shall either separate the member from the Panel or revoke the suspension.

vi. Replacement of the Panel Members

A position on the Panel vacated by separation shall be filled by election by the General Membership. If the length of the intervening period between the date of separation and the end of the tenure of the member is less than six months the Council shall nominate a voting member to fill the vacant position.

ARTICLE VI: ELECTIONS

Section 1: Election Committee

- i. The Election Committee shall conduct all elections of the Society and shall consist of three members appointed by the Council sixty calendar days before the end of the term of the Council. The Council shall designate one member as the Chair of the committee.**
- ii. The term of the committee shall be two years. Vacancy created in the committee shall be filled by the Council within thirty days.**
- iii. The regular two-year election of members of the Council and a member of the Mediation Panel shall be conducted and completed within sixty calendar days of the committee's formation.**
- iv. The election of member(s) of the Council or Mediation Panel resulting from separation shall be conducted and completed within forty-five calendar days of separation of the member(s) pursuant to Article V, Section 2, (vii), for Council Member(s) separation and Article V, Section 3, (v) for Mediation Panel Member(s) separation. It will be the duty of the Council to inform the Election Committee of such vacancy within forty-eight hours of the vacancy.**
- v. The Election Committee shall conduct its activities in an open and transparent manner.**
- vi. The Election Committee members shall be exempt from seeking position in the Council and the Mediation Panel.**

Section 2: Election Notice

- i. The election committee shall send an election notice to the General Membership within two weeks of its formation for regular election of the Council and the Mediation Panel.**
- ii. The election committee shall send an election notice within two weeks of separation of member(s) for election resulting from separation from the Council or Mediation Panel.**
- iii. The election notice shall contain all information related to election as outlined in Article VI, Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Bylaws.**

Section 3: Eligible Candidates and Voter List

- i. The Secretary of the Society shall provide a list of Life and Regular Members, who constitute the voting members, to the election committee on the day the committee is constituted.**
- ii. In elections resulting from separation, an updated list of voting members shall be provided to the election committee by the Secretary within one week of separation.**
- iii. The list provided by the Secretary to the election committee as mentioned in Article VI, Section 3, (i) for regular election and Article VI, Section 3, (ii) for election resulting from separation shall be the final list of voters and eligible candidates for nominations.**
- iv. The election notice shall inform the General Membership of the posting of the final list of voters and eligible candidates on a secure bulletin board at the Headquarters of the Society.**

Section 4: Nominations

- i. The election notice shall invite nominations for positions of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and five members for the Council and a member for the Mediation Panel.**
- ii. For election of Council and Mediation Panel Member(s) resulting from separation, the election notice to the General Membership shall invite nominations to fill the vacant position(s).**
- iii. The deadline for receiving nominations shall be three weeks from the date of the election notice.**

- iv. **The nominations shall be in writing, proposed and seconded by at least two voting members. The nomination paper shall include a statement from the nominated person accepting the nomination. The nominating members shall also provide a one-page statement stating the reasons for their nomination.**
- v. **Each eligible member shall not be nominated for more than one position.**
- vi. **The list of all the nominated candidates for all positions of the Council and the Mediation Panel shall be posted on a secure bulletin board at the Headquarters of the Society the day after the deadline for accepting nominations. The one page statements of all the nominated members shall also be posted the same day on a secure bulletin board at the Headquarters of the Society. These statements and the nominated candidate's list shall remain posted till the election day.**

Section 5: Election Date

- i. **The election shall be scheduled on a date within ten days after the deadline for accepting nominations.**
- ii. **The election shall be held either on a Saturday or a Sunday or a holiday so that maximum number of voting members may participate.**
- iii. **The voting shall be held at the Headquarters of the Society.**
- iv. **Voting shall be open for at least four hours.**
- v. **The election notice shall inform the General Membership of the date, time and location of the election.**

Section 6: Voting Procedure

- i. **The voting arrangements shall ensure secrecy of ballot.**
- ii. **Regular and life members shall have the right to vote.**
- iii. **A candidate or a representative with written authorization from the candidate may observe the voting process. The election committee shall inform all nominated candidates of this option.**

- iv. **Voter identity shall be verified by a photo ID containing voter's name, current address and signature. At least two members of the election committee shall resolve disputes on a voter's identity.**
- v. **Voters shall sign a tally sheet for voting record before they are given the ballot paper.**
- vi. **There shall be a ballot sheet for Council election and a ballot sheet for Mediation Panel election. The ballot sheets shall have clear instructions on casting votes.**
- vii. **To ensure diverse and proportional representation on the Council each eligible voting member shall cast one vote for one person from a list of all the candidates nominated for various positions in the Council.**
- viii. **Each eligible voter shall also cast a vote for the Mediation Panel's one member election.**
- ix. **The election notice shall inform the General Membership of the voting procedure and request each member to bring the required photo ID on the Election Day.**
- x. **No proxy vote, mail ballot or voting for spouses shall be permitted.**

Section 7: Ballot Counting

- i. **The ballot counting shall take place immediately after the close of voting. A candidate or a representative with written authorization from the candidate may observe the counting process. The election committee shall inform all nominated candidates of this option.**
- ii. **All improperly marked ballots shall be declared invalid. The election committee shall decide on ballots in dispute.**
- iii. **In case of a tie among the highest vote getters in any position on the Council or Mediation Panel, each shall serve an equal time. The order in which the candidates shall serve shall be determined by a draw.**
- iv. **All records of the election shall be kept secure by the Election Committee at the Headquarters of the Society for a period of two years.**

Section 8: Election Results

The election results, signed by at least two election committee members, shall be posted on a secure bulletin board and announced at the headquarters of the Society, on the Election Day.

ARTICLE ~~IV~~VII: AMENDMENT

Section 1: The Council may initiate a process to amend provision(s) of the Constitution and/or Bylaws.

Section 2: A voting member may initiate in a General Membership Meeting a process to amend a provision of the Constitution or the Bylaws. The motion, once seconded, shall be approved or rejected for consideration by a simple majority. Should the General Membership approve consideration of the proposed amendment, the **member who proposed** ~~proposer~~ and **the member that seconded** ~~seconded~~ shall submit **it** in writing to the Secretary who shall present it before the next Council meeting. The Council shall include the proposed amendment in the agenda of the next General Membership Meeting.

Section 3: The Council shall notify the General Membership of the Society of date, time and place of the meeting to amend the constitution and bylaws in writing at least thirty days prior to the meeting.

Section 4: The Council shall inform the General Membership of all provisions of the proposed amendment at least thirty days prior to the meeting to consider and vote on the amendment

Section 5: The General Membership with ~~2/3rd~~ **half** of its voting members present shall approve the proposed amendment ~~pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 1, Para (e)~~ **with two-third voting in favor.**

ARTICLE VII: ELECTION

~~Section 1:~~

~~The Annual Election of the Council shall be conducted by an Election Officer appointed by the Council at least thirty calendar days before the election.~~

~~Section 2:~~

~~The election of individual members of the Council resulting from separation shall be conducted by an Election Officer appointed by the Council before the election.~~

~~Section 3:~~

- a. ~~A nomination for election of a member of the Council shall be in writing proposed and seconded by voting members and shall be submitted to the Election Officer on or before the election date.~~
- b. ~~The voting members nominated for election shall personally be present during the election. In case they cannot be present they shall express their acceptance of nomination in writing to the Election Officer.~~

Section 4:

~~The Election Officer shall be exempted from seeking election. His term shall expire after the election.~~

Section 5:

~~The Election Officer shall compile votes cast for each nominee and shall announce the results.~~

Section 6:

~~The Election Officer shall not be a member of the Council.~~

Section 7:

~~A member of the Council shall not seek reelection for the same position.~~

ARTICLE VIII: DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

Upon the dissolution of the Society, the General Membership, shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all ~~of the~~ liabilities of the Society, dispose of all the assets of the Society. ~~exclusively for the purpose of the Society in such manner,~~ **All Society's assets being disposed shall go ~~or~~ to other similar Islamic such organization(s) in Greater Harrisburg Area whose aims and objectives are comparable to the aims and objectives of the Society as defined in ARTICLE III of the Constitution.** ~~organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purpose as shall at the time qualify~~ **The Islamic organization(s) receiving the Society's disposed assets must have qualified** as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the General Membership shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of ~~by the Courts of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal of the Society is then located,~~ **exclusively for such purpose ~~or~~ to such National Islamic organization(s) (like Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) and Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)).** ~~as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.~~