

History of ZCT.

The roots of ZCT are closely intertwined with ZANZ .

In 2003 Tehmus Mistry then president of ZANZ withdrew from ZANZ to work towards setting up a proposal his nomination “community center/Daremeher” in Auckland for Zarathushtis. [Taken from ZANZ 2003 AGM minutes] (See Appendix for AGM minutes)

In 2004 Tehmus reported that he had attended sessions and had investigated options and there was no need to setup a separate bank account for collection of funds. (See Appendix for AGM minutes)

In 2005 Tehmus gave out a hand-out that outlined the reasons and at that time proposed the use of a charitable Trust. (See Appendix for AGM minutes)

In 2006 Tehmus presented a PowerPoint proposal that showed what could be achieved by each family contributing about \$15 a week. Tehmus also asked for volunteers would like to be involved on the Trust. (See Appendix for AGM minutes)

A couple of months later the team comprising of Tehmus Mistry, Shahazad Contractor, Vicky Mistry and Tanaz Siganporia got together and worked on the proposal of the Trust and presented the same to the community on Sunday 5th November 2006.

Why a Trust?

Best practice recommends a Trust be setup for establishment and on-going management of a community property. Some key reasons are (LGNZ Policy published in 2002):

- guardianship of a community resource for future generations – oversight of the management and operation of a community centre is entrusted to the Trust committee, to ensure accountpresentation ability and the purpose of a community centre is met
- giving leadership, developing a vision, setting a direction and monitoring and reviewing it in line with the purpose, outcome and objectives of the Community Centre Policy and what is expected in terms of the community centre management agreement
- developing and monitoring a business plan to successfully implement the purpose - knowing what diverse groups comprise the community, what activities or programmes the community needs, what needs the centre will focus on
- Trusts have a greater degree of financial accountability than associations and societies. The accounts of a Trust must also be audited by a qualified auditor.
- Trustees have to meet the legally stated good-standing certain before they can hold the office of trustee and trustees have fiduciary responsibilities. These conditions are not legally required by officers of an association or a society.

Why is the new Trust not part of ZANZ?

ZANZ is an association that works towards the benefit of its members and community at large. Its objectives are preserving the cultural identity of Zoroastrians in New Zealand, organising religious classes for children and social functions /activities.

A separate charitable trust whose sole objective was to raise funds in order to give Zoroastrian community (in Auckland) a permanent place of worship and a venue where the community can hold religious and social functions for years to come.

The main advantages are:

The Trust can focus on collecting money for the community centre

We must learn how to embrace unity in diversity and appreciate the need to be committed to Humata, Hukhta, Huvarshata. (**Good Thoughts, Good Words, Good Deeds**) for the common good of the Zoroastrian community.

Whatever differences of opinion we might hold amongst ourselves, we know that we must not fall prey to rancour and disputation. If we present a united face to the world, our community will flourish, and people will come to respect and admire the Zoroastrians in New Zealand. If we are always arguing, our community will wither, and Zoroastrianism and the Parsipanu we so cherish will not flourish in New Zealand.

Appendix

Item 8 in the ZANZ 2003 AGM minutes.

Tehmus Mistry withdrew his own nomination citing that he has decided to so was to concentrate on setting-up a body whose objective would be to the setting up of a “community center/Daremeher” in Auckland for Zarathushtis. He informed the members that he would be circulating a document in the near future and would like the Zarathushti community at large to get behind this new body, not just ZANZ members.

Item 9 in the ZANZ 2004 AGM minutes.

9. To transact any other business matter with the permission of the chair

B] Darbe Meher: Open a separate bank account for collection of funds towards building a Darbe Meher in Auckland. Arrange a direct debt with all those who would like to contribute towards it – a first step as such

Tehmus Mistry put forth a plan of action towards the formation of the Darbe Meher and asked the General Body for a time frame of an additional five months by which time he would have made sufficient positive progress in the matter. He would make the same known / aware to the community at large.

Item 6 in the ZANZ 2005 AGM minutes.

6. To transact any other business matter with the permission of the chair

B] Auckland Community Centre / Daremeher Project Proposal Outline

Mr. Tehmus Mistry briefed members on the progress report for the above proposed Auckland Community Centre. An informative leaflet was handed out by him, copies of which can be obtained directly from Tehmus.

Item 6 in the ZANZ 2006 AGM minutes.

6. To transact any other business matter with the permission of the chair

A] Vicki Mistry had sent an email as per the constitution requirements to raise the following matter:

Vicki Mistry proposed that a separate account be setup outside of the ZANZ umbrella to collect contributions from Zoroastrian families to setup a community hall. He proposed that the contributions would be agreed to at the onset and directly credited into a nominated account as setup.

Tehmus Mistry requested the members to wait for a period of 2 months by which time he would be in a position to call for a general meeting of the entire community to discuss the matter.