

CHAPTER 217.

BERBICE LIBRARY.

[No. II of 1892.]

[21st May, 1892.]

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Berbice Library Ordinance. Short title.

2. In this Ordinance—

“the Society” means the Society of the Berbice Library; Interpretation.

“the Library” means the Berbice Library.

CONSTITUTION AND OBJECTS.

3.—(1) The persons who were on the twenty-first day of May, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, and now are members of the Society and the persons hereafter admitted members thereof, according to by-laws already made by the Society or which may hereafter be made by it under the provisions of this Ordinance, shall be and shall continue hereafter to be, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, one body politic and corporate, by the name and style of The Berbice Library. Incorporation of the Berbice library.

(2) By that name those persons shall have perpetual succession, and may have and use a common seal, and by that name shall be capable of suing and of being sued in all courts of justice and before all magistrates and justices, and of purchasing, receiving, possessing, and holding and disposing of property, whether movable or immovable, not exceeding in value the sum of ten thousand dollars.

4. There shall be a president, a vice-president, a treasurer, and a secretary of the Library. Officers.

5. There shall be a committee of management of the Library, which shall consist of the officers of the Society mentioned in the last preceding section, five trustees, who shall be elected for life, and five other members of the Library. Constitution of committee of management.

Object. 6. The object for which the Library is incorporated is to provide means for the moral and intellectual improvement and the healthy recreation of its members.

Legal proceedings by and against the Library. 7.—(1) In any legal proceeding by the Library the power *ad litem* may be signed by the president and secretary of the Library for the time being.

(2) In any legal proceeding against the Library service of process on the secretary shall be deemed sufficient.

ADMINISTRATION.

Office. 8. The office of the Library shall be in New Amsterdam.

Powers of the committee of management ; 9. The committee of management—
(a) shall, subject to the general control and direction of the Library in general meeting, have the entire management of the business of the Library.

(b) shall have the management of the income, funds, and property of the Library, and may appoint and dismiss all salaried officers and servants as the committee thinks fit, and may, subject to the provisions of this Ordinance and of the rules and by-laws of the Library, do all things appearing to them necessary and expedient for carrying out the objects for which the Library is incorporated ;

half-yearly report of proceedings ; (c) shall prepare and present at each half-yearly general meeting, to be held in the months of January and July in each year, a report of the past half-year, together with a statement of the receipts and expenditure during that period, and a statement of its financial position ; and

making rules and by-laws. (d) may from time to time and with the approval of two-thirds of the registered members at one of the half-yearly meetings, of which due notice must be given, make and, when made, alter, amend, or repeal, rules and by-laws for the regulation of the proceedings of the Library, for the admission or expulsion of members, for fixing the number or functions of officers of the Library and their mode of election, and generally for the management of the business of the Library and the carrying out of the objects for which it is incorporated.

MEETINGS.

10. A general meeting of the members of the Library shall be held in the months of January and July in each year, and, if necessary, may be adjourned from time to time, for the following purposes or any of them, that is to say,—

Half-yearly
general
meetings.

- (a) to receive from the committee of management and to consider the report of the proceedings of the past half-year;
- (b) to elect officers and members of the committee of management in place of those retiring; and
- (c) to consider any other matter coming within the scope of the object for which the Society is incorporated.

11.—(1) An extraordinary general meeting of the Library may at any time be convened by order of the committee of management.

Extra-
ordinary
general
meetings.

(2) An extraordinary general meeting shall be convened by the secretary on a requisition in writing signed by any five or more members of the Society.

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS.

12. The income and funds of the Library, from whatever sources derived, shall be applied solely towards the carrying out of the objects for which the Library is incorporated, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise, to any member or anyone who has been a member of the Library, or to anyone claiming through a member or a person who has been a member of the Library:

Application
of income
and funds:

Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer, being a servant of the Library, or to any member or anyone who has been a member thereof in return for any services actually rendered thereto.

Proviso.

13.—(1) In the event of the Library being wound up, everyone who is a member at the time of the winding-up, or has ceased to be a member within the twelve months preceding the winding-up, shall be liable to contribute to the assets of the Library for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Library contracted before the time at

Liability of
members on
winding-up.

which he ceased to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of the winding-up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, an amount not exceeding ten dollars.

(2) In the event of the committee of management acting in contravention of the provisions of the last preceding section, the liability of any member of the committee shall be unlimited, and the liability of every member of the Library who has received any dividend, bonus, or other profit aforesaid shall likewise be unlimited.

TEMPORARY PROVISIONS.

Continuance
of existing
officers.

14. Those who, at the commencement of this Ordinance, are committee men, officers, trustees, or servants of the Library shall continue so until they vacate their offices in due course.

Continuance
of existing
rules and
by-laws.

15. The rules and by-laws of the Library in force at the commencement of this Ordinance, contained in the schedule hereto, shall continue in force until and except in so far as they may hereafter be altered, amended, or repealed by the Library.

SCHEDULE.

(Section 15.)

RULES OF THE BERBICE LIBRARY.

Name.

1. The name of the Society shall be The Berbice Library.

Object.

2. The object of the Society will be to provide means for the moral and intellectual improvement and the healthy recreation of its members.

Application
for member-
ship.

3. The name and address of every applicant for membership, together with the names of his proposer and seconder, must be forwarded to the secretary, who will cause them to be exhibited in a conspicuous place in the Society's rooms for a period of not less than seven days previous to the regular monthly meeting of the committee of management.

Annual
subscription.

4. The annual subscription shall be \$4, \$2, or 96 cents, according to the following grades, viz. :—

- (1) members subscribing \$4 will be entitled to all the rights and privileges afforded by the Society, and will be eligible for election to the committee of management ;
- (2) members subscribing \$2 will have the use of the library, reading and recreation rooms, and other property of the Society, but will not be eligible for election to the committee of management ; and
- (3) associates paying 96 cents will have the use of the library alone. (Ladies will be admitted as associates only.)

5. The subscription shall be payable quarterly, and shall be due on the first January, first April, first July, and first October, and must be paid not later than the fifteenth of the month. Anyone failing to observe this rule will cease to be a member. Payment of subscription.
6. Associates will not participate in any way in the management of the Society's affairs or in the ownership of its property. Associates.
7. A general meeting will be held half-yearly between the fifteenth and thirty-first January, and the fifteenth and thirty-first July. At those meetings and other meetings of members held in the intervals, only members of the first and second grades will take part in the business. General meetings.
8. The committee of management will meet on the first Thursday of every month, at 8 o'clock p.m., when the members of the Society will ballot for candidates provided there be a quorum of not less than ten. A majority of votes given in favour of a candidate, will admit to membership. Meetings of the committee of management.
9. The chairman at all meetings, whether of members or committee, shall exercise his right of voting only in the case of a tie. Vote of chairman.
10. The committee of management shall consist of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and five other members, together with five trustees who shall be life members. Constitution of the committee of management.
11. The office-bearers and the five members of the committee will be elected for six months at the ordinary half-yearly meetings. Election of office-bearers.
12. The committee of management shall meet within one week after election to arrange for the regular visitation of the Society's rooms. Visitation of the Society's rooms.
13. The committee of management shall have the sole control of the income and expenditure of the Society. Control of income and expenditure.
14. The funds shall be deposited in a bank in the name of the Society, and all cheques withdrawing money must be signed by the president and secretary. Dealing with funds.
15. The accounts of the Society shall be audited at the close of every half-year by auditor or auditors appointed by the committee of management. Audit of accounts.
16. The committee of management shall have power to fill up any vacancy which may occur during the half-year, whether the vacancy is in the number of members elected or in the number of trustees. Filling of vacancy.
17. No placard of any description shall be posted in any of the rooms, or on any part of the Society's property, without permission from the secretary. Posting of placard.
18. No smoking will be allowed in the library or about the tables in the reading room. Smoking.
19. No betting or gambling will be allowed. Gambling.
20. It will not be permitted to sell, introduce, or use intoxicating liquors in any part of the Society's property. Intoxicating liquors.
21. The committee of management shall have power to deal with any member misconducting himself or infringing the rules of the society, and may impose a fine, or exclude altogether from the Society, as the majority of its members may decide, provided that majority is not less than three. Dealing with offending member.

- Loss of membership. 22. Any person ceasing to be a member, from whatever cause, shall have no claim at all upon the property of the Society.
- By-laws. 23. The committee of management shall have power to frame by-laws for the proper conducting of the Society's affairs.
- Quorum of the committee. 24. Four shall form a quorum of the committee of management.
- Alteration of rules. 25. No change shall be made in the standing rules of the Society, except at one of the half-yearly meetings, and then only when notice of the proposed change has been exhibited in the Society's rooms for one month previous to the date of meeting; and the quorum also for the alteration of a rule shall not be less than two-thirds of the registered numbers.
-