
CHAPTER 80

THE CENTRAL LIBRARY ACT

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CENTRAL LIBRARY

(23rd August, 1951.)

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S.I. 3911989.

1. This Act may be cited as the Central Library Act. **Short title.**
2. The Governor-General, after consulting the Board **Establishment of Central Library.**
established under this Act, may establish and maintain, out of the existing library facilities known as the Public Library established under the Public Library Act, 1907, and such funds as may be available to him for that purpose, such library facilities to be called "The Central Library of Antigua and Barbuda" as in his opinion are desirable in order **411907.**

LAWS OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

CAP. 80)

Central Library

to further the provision of an efficient public library service throughout Antigua and Barbuda and may enter into arrangements with other official and unofficial libraries within and without Antigua and Barbuda.

**Appointment
of librarian,
Officers and
servants.**

3. The Public Service Commission may appoint a librarian and such other Officers and servants as they may deem fit, for the purpose of carrying out this Act at such salaries as they may, with the consent of Parliament, from time to time direct.

**Central Library
Board.**

4. (1) For the purpose of this Act there shall be established a Board to be styled the Central Library Board hereinafter called "the Board" and composed of not less than five members nominated by the Minister and of such other members as may be co-opted by the Board under subsection (2).

(2) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, co-opt as members, for a stated period not exceeding twelve months, persons with expert knowledge or experience required by the Board in the discharge of its duties. The total number of members thus co-opted shall not exceed three.

(3) The period of service of members of the Board nominated by the Minister shall be two years, but any member may be renominated by the Minister.

(4) Any member of the Board may resign his seat by letter addressed to the Minister, and the Minister may at any time revoke any nomination which he has made.

(5) Any member of the Board who has not, on the 31st day of December in each year, attended at least one-third of the meetings of the Board during the preceding twelve months or during his tenure of office in such months, shall be considered to have vacated his seat on the Board, unless he has been absent owing to ill-health or with the leave of the Minister.

(6) In case of the absence on leave or by reason of ill-health of any member of the Board, the Minister may appoint any person suitably qualified to act in his stead.

5. The Chairman of the Board shall be nominated by the Minister. If he be absent from any meeting, the Board may elect one of its members as Chairman of that meeting.

Chairman of Board.

6. (1) The Board shall meet at such times as may be necessary or expedient for transacting its business.

Meeting of Board.

(2) The Chairman may at any time summon a meeting of the Board, and on a requisition by any three members he shall summon a meeting. Such requisition shall state the object for which the meeting is required to be summoned.

(3) Decisions of the Board may be taken at meetings or, in cases in which the Chairman shall so direct, by the recording of the opinions of members on papers circulated among them. The Chairman may direct that papers shall not be circulated to any member who through interest, illness, absence from Antigua and Barbuda or otherwise is, in the opinion of the Chairman, incapacitated from voting on such papers.

(4) The quorum of the Board at any meeting or for the purpose of voting on papers circulated shall be three.

(5) The decisions of the Board shall be by the majority of votes. The Chairman shall have an original vote and in any case in which the voting is equal he shall have a second or casting vote.

(6) The librarian, or in his absence any other suitable person appointed under section 3, shall be Secretary to the Board and shall attend each meeting of the Board and may speak but shall have no vote.

7. The Board shall be primarily a consultative body constituted to advise on any matter which concerns the Central Library of Antigua and Barbuda or public libraries generally and which the Minister may include within its scope.

Status of Board.

8. The functions of the Board shall be—

Functions of Board.

(a) to advise the Minister in regard to public library policy and principles and to submit its views on any

question concerning public libraries which the Minister may refer to it or on any aspect of public library policy or administration which in its opinion requires attention;

(b) to undertake such executive duties as the Minister may from time to time impose, either indefinitely or for a stated period.

Regulations.

9. The Minister, after consulting the Board, may make regulations for regulating the use by any person or body of persons of the library facilities provided under this Act, for prescribing the duties and powers of the librarian and other officers and servants appointed under this Act, and generally for carrying out the purposes of this Act, and may attach to the breach of any such regulation a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars recoverable on summary conviction.

Financial.

10. The expenses of carrying out this Act shall be defrayed out of—

(a) such moneys as may from time to time be appropriated for the purpose by Parliament out of the general revenue of Antigua and Barbuda;

(b) penalties and fines imposed and recovered under the provisions of any regulations made under this Act;

(c) gifts, grants, subscriptions and bequests derived from any public or private source.

Recovery of penalties.**Cap. 255.**

11. (1) All penalties and fines imposed by regulations made under the provisions of this Act shall be recoverable in the manner provided by the Magistrate's Code of Procedure Act, and proceedings may be instituted and conducted by the librarian or by any person authorized by the Board either generally or for any particular proceedings.

(2) All penalties and fines received by a Magistrate under this Act shall be paid by him to the librarian.
