

Minneapolis City Charter, Chapter 17 Appendix 10

Section 1. Library Board – General and Special Powers.

There shall be a Library Board in the City of Minneapolis, which shall be styled “The Library Board of the City of Minneapolis.” Said Board shall have full power to establish and maintain in the City of Minneapolis public libraries and reading rooms, galleries of art and museums for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of said city, and for the purpose of so doing it shall have the following powers, that is to say: It may adopt a common seal and be capable of suing and being sued, and of taking by gift, grant, purchase, devise, bequest, or otherwise, any real or personal property and of using, selling, controlling, conveying and enjoying the same, and of entering into, making, performing and enforcing contracts. It may make and publish from time to time by-laws for its own guidance, rules and regulations for the government of its agents, servants and employees, and for the government and regulation of the libraries and other collections under its control. It may hire, or erect and maintain as it shall deem best, buildings suitable for the purposes contemplated by this act; but it shall never erect any building upon land to which it has not the title in fee simple. It may appoint and remove subject to the provisions of the Civil Service Chapter of this Charter all necessary agents and employees, and fix their compensation. It shall have control of the expenditures of all moneys collected by taxation or otherwise and placed to the credit of the library fund; and shall, in addition to the herein enumerated powers, have full power and authority to undertake and perform every act necessary or proper to carry out the spirit and intent of this act.

***Special law references** – Chapter 336, Laws 1965, designates the members of the library board as “library trustees,” notwithstanding the provisions of the Charter.

Pursuant to Laws 1974, Ch. 182, each trustee of the library board may, upon request therefore, be paid \$35.00 for each board meeting; notwithstanding any provision of the Charter to the contrary. Such compensation is to be paid as operating expense of the board.

Laws 1984, Ch. 499, provides for compensation of up to \$3,600.00 per annum for library board trustees.

Section 2. Composition of Board-Elections.

Said Library Board shall consist of the Mayor of the City of Minneapolis, the President of the Board of Education of the City of Minneapolis, the President of the University of the State of Minnesota, who shall respectively be ex officio members thereof, and six (6) other members, who shall be elected from time to time as herein provided, by the legal voters of the City of Minneapolis, and who shall be resident and qualified electors of said city. At the city election to be held on the second Monday in June, 1921, there shall be elected every second year, two (2) Library Directors [Trustees] for the term of six (6) years; the term of said directors [trustees] to begin on the first Monday in July of the year of their election.

Special law reference – For the composition of the board and the method of election and appointment of members, notwithstanding Charter provisions, see Laws 1965, Ch. 818, and Laws 1986, Ch. 433, which changed the time of election and extended the terms of certain library board members. See also, the special law reference following §12 of this chapter. There is no longer a city board of education since the city is now in an independent school district. Chapter 223, §2, Laws 1973, provides that the special school district shall not have any representation on the library board.

Section 3. Vacancies. In case any Library Director [Trustee] shall die, resign, or move from the district, or otherwise vacate the office, more than one year before the expiration of the term of office, a Library Director [Trustee] may be chosen at the next city election after such vacancy shall occur, to fill the place of the unexpired term of the director so vacating. (As amended 83-Or-234, §16, 9-30-83)

Special law reference – Chapter 818, Laws 1965, prescribes the method of filling a vacancy on the board, notwithstanding Charter provisions.

Section 4. Elections. All elections for Library Directors [Trustees] shall be at the general city election, and as a part of such city election, and in all matters pertaining to said election, the rules provided