

Kinderhook Memorial Library By-Laws

The Kinderhook Memorial Library was granted an absolute charter by the Board of Regents, State of New York, on December 21, 1951. The Library had been granted a provisional charter on June 18, 1934, at which time its name was changed from Kinderhook Free Library to the present one. The charter was revised to reflect an expanded service area on February 23, 2004.

Article I – Membership

1. Membership in the Library corporation shall be open to anyone 18 years old and older who pays an annual membership fee of \$5.00. The fee may be changed by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees.
2. Members vote on proposed trustees. They also receive annual reports presented at the annual meeting by the Board of Trustees.

Article II – Meetings

1. The annual meeting of the Corporation shall be held at the Library at 7 P.M. on the second Monday in May. The meeting date may be changed by a majority vote of all Trustees. However, the vote must occur a year prior to the proposed date and all members notified by mail of the changed date.
2. Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held monthly, except for August, at a mutually convenient time.
3. Special meetings of the Board may be called when necessary.
4. Meetings of the committees shall occur as deemed necessary by the chair.
5. The fiscal year of the Library shall run from January 1 through December 31.

Article III – Trustees

1. The Library corporation shall be overseen by a Board of Trustees comprised of no more than 12 and no fewer than 9 members, individually elected at an annual meeting.
2. The term of trustees shall be 3 years, and 4 trustees shall be elected each year.
3. The officers of the Board shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and shall be elected from among the members of the Board by a majority vote of those members.
4. Officers shall be elected at the first regular meeting of the Library year.

5. A vacancy on the Board of Trustees, occurring during an uncompleted term of office, shall be filled by appointment by the Board, and shall be voted on by the members at the next annual meeting.
6. A majority of the current elected board members in service shall constitute a quorum.

Article IV – Committees

1. The officers of the Board of Trustees collectively constitute an Executive Committee which will serve also as a Nominating Committee.
2. Other standing committees of the Board will now be: Operations Committee, Finance, Building and Grounds, and Long Range Planning. New standing committees can be formed or existing committees eliminated by majority vote of the Board.
3. Ad Hoc committees may be appointed by the President with approval of the Board and may include non-Board members.

Article V – Library Director

1. The Board of Trustees shall appoint a qualified library director who shall be administrative officer of the Library, performing the duties detailed in the job description provided by the Board of Trustees.
4. The Director shall attend all meetings of the Board, including public meetings, during which action may be taken affecting the interests of the Library. The Director may speak on all matters but may not vote.

Article VI – Amendments

1. These By-Laws may be repealed, amended, or added to by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the current elected Board Members in service.
2. If these By-Laws are to be changed, the substance of the change first must be presented in writing to the Board at a prior meeting, the notice of which must include notice of consideration of the By-Laws.

Voted on and adopted April 3, 2006.