

Amended by Ord 9/1953

Special Supplement to the Royal Gazette, Vol. 116, No. 56, dated 13th June, 1947.



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 14—1947.

[L.S.]

I ASSENT,

J. V. W. SHAW,

Governor.

9th June, 1947.

AN ORDINANCE for the incorporation of the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association.

[13th June, 1947.]

Commencement.

WHEREAS there has been established in the Colony an Association known as the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association: Preamble.

And Whereas it is expedient that the said Association should be incorporated for the purpose of carrying out the objects and exercising the powers hereinafter set forth:

BE it therefore enacted by the Governor of Trinidad and Tobago with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows: Enactment.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association (Incorporation) Ordinance, 1947. Short Title.

Incorporation
of Association.

2. The Association known as the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association shall be and is hereby created a body corporate by the name of "The Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association" (hereinafter called "the Association"), and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and may sue and be sued in all courts of justice by that name, and shall have and use a common seal which may from time to time be changed in accordance with the rules of the Association.

Functions of
Association.

3. The functions of the Association shall be—

- (a) to provide education and training as well as full placement and social services for blind persons;
- (b) to assist, develop, extend and co-ordinate the activities of agencies (public or private), institutions and associations for the blind now operating or hereafter to be established, which may be deemed advantageous and for the welfare of the blind of the Colony;
- (c) to co-operate with any other institution or association having objects similar in whole or in part to those of the Association;
- (d) to do all such other acts and things as are incidental to the attainment of the objects of the Association, and generally to promote the best interests of the blind of the Colony.

Powers of
Association.

4. (1) Subject to the provisions of any Law (including this Ordinance) and any rules thereunder from time to time in force, the Association shall have the powers hereinafter set forth and such other powers as are appropriate to its objects and are from time to time specified in any such rules, that is to say,—

- (a) to acquire by purchase, transfer, donation, exchange, devise, bequest, grant, gift, conveyance, or howsoever otherwise, any real or personal property or interest therein;
- (b) to take over any real or personal property at the commencement of this Ordinance, vested in the Board of Industrial Training by virtue of the Industrial Training Ordinance and derived or accruing from the activities of the Board in relation to the Institute for the Blind maintained and carried on by the Board prior to the commencement of this Ordinance; ^{^ ^ ^}
- (c) to accept surrenders and re-conveyances and to enter into contracts;

Ch. 22 No. 1

Amended by 9/53

(d) subject to any restraint, reservation or condition contained in any document under which the Association shall have acquired title thereto, to sell, demise, mortgage or otherwise dispose of and deal with, any property which may from time to time be vested in or acquired by the Association.

(2) The powers conferred by this section shall be exercised subject to the rules of the Association.

5. All documents requiring the seal of the Association shall be sealed with its common seal in the presence of the President, or, if the President is not available, a member of the Council nominated by the Council for the purpose, and the Secretary who shall both sign every such document, and such signing shall be *prima facie* evidence that the said seal was duly affixed and that the same is the lawful seal of the Association.

Mode of execution of documents.

6. The Association shall at all times have a fixed address for the service of documents on the Association and such address shall be registered with the Registrar General. Any document may be served on the Association by leaving the same at, or by sending the same by registered post to, the address so registered.

Service of documents on the Association.

7. The Association may make rules for the proper conduct of its proceedings and discharge of its duties: Provided that until any such rules are made, the rules contained in the Schedule to this Ordinance shall be the rules of the Association and any of such rules may be varied or revoked or added to by the Association.

Rules.

8. Nothing in this Ordinance shall affect the rights of His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, or of any bodies politic or corporate or of any other persons except such as are mentioned or referred to in this Ordinance and those claiming by, through, from or under them.

Saving of Crown or other rights.

SCHEDULE

Rules of the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association.

I.—NAME

1. The name of the Association shall be the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association.

II.—MEMBERSHIP

2. The Association shall consist of ordinary members, junior members, honorary members, corresponding members, and associate members.

3. Junior members shall be persons of or under the age of eighteen years and ordinary members shall be persons above the age of eighteen years: Provided that subject to these Rules, any junior member on passing the age of eighteen years shall automatically become an ordinary member.



4. The Council of the Association may elect as honorary members such persons in the Colony or elsewhere who have done meritorious work on behalf of the blind; and as corresponding members such persons resident outside the Colony who by virtue of their activities on behalf of, or interest in, the blind are willing and able to communicate useful information and assist the Association in research.

5. Associate members shall be blind persons resident in the Colony, duly elected as such, who do not become junior members or ordinary members of the Association.

6. Every ordinary member in good standing and present at any meeting shall be entitled to vote and shall have one vote but no junior, honorary, corresponding or associate member shall be entitled to vote.

7. An application for membership of the Association shall be endorsed by two ordinary members of the Association in good standing and forwarded to the General Secretary for submission to the Council of the Association. Upon a majority vote of the members present and voting at a meeting of the Council for the purpose the applicant shall be declared a member of the Association of the appropriate class and, upon agreeing to abide by the rules of the Association and to assist in every possible and legitimate manner, shall be entitled and subject to the privileges and obligations of membership.

III.—FEES

8. Ordinary members shall pay annually the sum of three dollars: Provided that where a husband and his wife are ordinary members the sum of five dollars annually shall be payable in respect of them both: Provided further that payment in one sum of fifty dollars shall qualify a member for life membership.

9. Junior members shall pay annually the sum of sixty cents.

10. No fees shall be payable by honorary, corresponding or associate members.

11. The annual fees of members shall become due immediately upon their election and thereafter shall be payable to the Association in advance within one month after the commencement of each new year of membership. Contributions by ordinary and junior members made either before or after election or before or after subsequent due dates of payment of fees shall be credited as payment of fees for the current year.

IV.—STANDING AND FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP

12. Members, duly elected, who have paid their fees and have not forfeited their membership by conduct detrimental to the ideals and interests of the Association shall be deemed members in good standing.

13. Members neglecting to pay their dues within three months after the dates on which the same are due, and members of any class guilty of unbecoming conduct as defined in rule 12, as to which the Council shall be sole and final judge, shall, upon a two-thirds vote of the members of the Council present and voting, have their names struck off the roll of membership forthwith; and the name of any person so struck off shall not be restored to the roll except upon a two-thirds vote of the members of the Council present and voting.

V.—COUNCIL

14. (1) The Governing Body of the Association shall be a Council consisting of not less than ten nor more than thirty persons.

(2) The first members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor and shall be—

- One member of the Medical Department ;
- One member of the Education Department ;
- One member of the Social Welfare Department ;
- One member of the Industrial Adviser's Department ;
- One representative of the Swanston's Home for Blind Lads ;
- One representative of the St. Mary's Home for Blind Girls ;
- One representative of the St. Dunstan's Association ;
- The members of the Committee of the Institute for the Blind now conducted by the Board of Industrial Training ;
- Such other persons as the Governor may determine.

(3) The first members of the Council shall hold office for three years after which at least one-half of the members of the Council shall be elected as hereinafter provided.

15. The Council may make such rules for the general conduct and management of the business, affairs, property and estate of the Association, as the Council may deem necessary or advisable; and may, in its discretion, delegate any of its powers to any person, department, committee or association upon such terms and subject to such conditions as it may determine.

16. The Council shall engage such officers, servants, agents and employees of the Association as it may think fit.

17. The Council shall meet as often as the interests of the Association demand, and meetings of the Council may be called by the President or any two members of the Council at any time. Seven members shall form a quorum for the transaction of business and, subject to the provisions of these Rules, all matters dealt with at meetings of the Council shall be decided on a majority vote.

18. No paid official or employee of the Association shall be a member of the Council.

VI.—OFFICERS

19. The officers of the Association shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a General Secretary, one or more Assistant Secretaries, a Treasurer, one or more Auditors, and such other officers with such duties as the Council may from time to time determine.

20. The Council may, in its discretion elect an honorary President and one or more honorary Vice-Presidents.

VII.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

21. The President or, in his absence or at his request, a Vice-President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, the Council and any committee of the Council: Provided that in the absence of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the members present at a meeting shall elect one of their number to be chairman of that meeting.

22. The paid officials of the Association shall perform such duties as the Council may from time to time prescribe, subject to the provisions of these Rules and the terms of their employment.

23. The General Secretary shall be the custodian of the Seal of the Association and shall certify documents issued by the Association save as otherwise provided. He shall act as Secretary to the Council but shall not vote at meetings thereof.

VIII.—EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

24. The execution of documents shall be carried out in accordance with the terms of incorporation of the Association.

IX.—AUDITORS

25. All accounts and other records relating to the finances of the Association shall be audited at least once in every year. The balance sheet and financial statement of the affairs of the Association for its fixed year shall be accompanied by the certificate of audit and report of the auditor or auditors. The auditor or auditors shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Council which shall fix the remuneration to be paid to him or them.

X.—FISCAL YEAR

26. The fiscal year of the Association shall end on the 30th day of June.

XI.—MEETINGS

27. A general meeting of the Association shall be held at least once in every year at such time and place as the Council may determine: Provided that the annual general meeting shall be held within three months of the end of the fiscal year.

28. Notice convening any meeting of the Association shall state the time and place of meeting and, in the case of special business, the general nature of such business, and shall be sent by post to members at least fifteen days before the meeting.

29. The business of the annual general meeting shall be to receive and consider the accounts and reports of the Council, to elect members of the Council whenever necessary and appoint an auditor or auditors and to transact such other business as may be transacted at a general meeting.

30. Twelve members shall form a quorum at meetings of the Association.

31. The chairman of any meeting of the Association, the Council or any committee of the Council shall have an original, and, in the event of a tie, a casting vote.

XII.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

32. (1) The members of the Association shall at a meeting convened for the purpose sometime before the expiry of the term of office of the first members of the Council determine by vote the number of members, not being less than ten nor more than thirty which should constitute the Council for the ensuing and succeeding years and the proportion of such number to be elected by the Association for the ensuing year, and shall proceed to the election of the same: Provided that the number of members to be elected by the Association shall not be less than half of the total number of members of the Council.

(2) The Governor shall appoint to be members of the Council a sufficient number of persons to complete the complement determined upon by the Association.



XIII.—SUBSIDIARY AND AUXILIARY ASSOCIATIONS

33. The Association may establish and support, or aid in the establishment and support of, associations or committees to provide local administration for services in appropriate areas.

XIV.—FURTHER POWERS OF ASSOCIATION

34. The Association may seek paying members.

35. The Association may raise and acquire funds for the purpose of advancing its activities, by Government grants, private subscriptions and donations, the proceeds of special efforts, and by any other lawful means within the powers of the Association.

36. The Association may invest such moneys of the Association as are not immediately acquired in such securities as the Association may from time to time determine.

XV.—AMENDMENT OF RULES

37. No amendment to any rule of the Association shall be made except at a general meeting of the Association of which at least two weeks' notice has been given. Such notice shall also indicate the nature of the proposed amendment and no amendment shall be carried unless at least two-thirds of the members present and voting shall declare in favour thereof.

Passed in Council this twenty-third day of May, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-seven.

G. E. CHEN,
Clerk of the Council.

