

## BY-LAWS OF ERIE YESTERDAY

(adopted March 25, 1981)

### ARTICLE I. Name.

The name of this organization shall be Erie Yesterday; herein referred to as the organization.

### ARTICLE II. Purpose.

A. The purpose of the organization shall be to:

1. promote awareness of the history and heritage of Erie County.
2. promote Erie County historical sites and museums.
3. provide a unified voice for expanding and improving liaison/communications with governmental units including coordination of efforts for funding.
4. provide coordination for public relations activities as appropriate and serve as a clearing house for each member organizations' programs.
5. *provide a forum for interaction between members.*
6. *provide improvement activities for members and other interested parties.*

B. This organization does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise, to its members. No part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any individual, and no substantial part of its activities shall carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation, and it shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

### ARTICLE III. Membership.

A. Voting membership in Erie Yesterday shall be open to all organizations or institutions belonging to or eligible to belong to the American Association of Museums or non-profit organizations or institutions that are involved in local history, historic preservation, or research. Exceptions may be made by an affirmative vote of one more than half of the total eligible voting members of the organization. Each voting membership institution shall be entitled to one vote.

B. Full dues for the current calendar year maybe assessed upon the approval of the membership by majority vote of those in attendance and when approved shall be payable at a rate established by the majority vote of those present at the meeting. No dues shall be proposed or assessed without written notification one month prior to the meeting at which dues are to be discussed. Delinquencies shall be considered on an individual basis.

*C. (Provide for individual memberships, not to exceed a set percentage of the member organizations. If the quorum is lowered to one-third as suggested below, 25% would be an appropriate number.)*

#### ARTICLE IV. Officers.

The officers of the organization shall consist of a chairman, vice chairman, a secretary and a treasurer. These shall be selected by a Nominating Committee which shall report two months prior to the meeting at which elections are to be held. Officers shall serve for one year. No member shall hold more than one office at a time nor serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Officers shall constitute the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE V. Duties of Officers.

##### A. Duties of the Chairman

1. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
2. The Chairman shall be required to co-sign all checks with the Treasurer.
3. The Chairman will supervise plans for extending, unifying, and rendering more efficient the work of the organization.

##### B. Duties of the Vice Chairman

1. The Vice Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman in the absence or inability of the Chairman.
2. The Vice Chairman shall serve as the public relations coordinator for the organization.

##### C. Duties of the Secretary

1. The Secretary shall keep in good order all documents and permanent records pertaining to the organization and keep a correct record of all meetings of the organization.
2. The Secretary shall also conduct the correspondence of the organization.

##### D. Duties of the Treasurer

1. The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the organization; shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures and shall pay all bills only as authorized by the organization.
2. The Treasurer's accounts shall be audited annually by a committee appointed by the Chairman or by a reputable accounting firm.

#### ARTICLE VI. Meetings.

Meetings of the membership shall be held at least quarterly or at the call of the Chairman or a majority of the membership. One half of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Any resolution or action of the membership, except as noted, shall be determined by a majority vote of such quorum.

#### ARTICLE VII. Committees.

A. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the organization appointed by the Chairman. The consent of each candidate shall be obtained before his/her name is placed in nomination.

B. The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer and two other members appointed by the Chairman. The Finance Committee shall prepare an annual budget for each fiscal year beginning in January. The budget shall be presented to the association for its approval.

C. Other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the Chair.

#### ARTICLE VIII. Amending the ByLaws.

By-Laws may be amended by an affirmative vote of one more than half of the total eligible voting members. Proposed changes to the By-Laws are to be presented at a membership meeting, sent out with the minutes, and voted upon at the next membership meeting.

#### ARTICLE IX. Dissolution Clause.

Upon the dissolution of the corporation the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such a manner or to such organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at that time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law), as the Executive Committee shall determine.

#### ARTICLE X. Non-Discrimination Clause. (Amended to the by-laws September 26, 2012)

Erie Yesterday does not discriminate on the basis of race/ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, veteran status, or age in the recruitment and selection of officers, membership policies and other organization administered programs and activities.