



Executive Order Number 23

The Erie County Historical Commission

WHEREAS, understanding the history of our region, people, and the nation and world in general is key to creating a better community for all our residents; and

WHEREAS, in the coming years Erie County will be at the center of several significant celebrations and commemorations regarding important historical events of the past, including the bicentennial of the Erie Canal in 2025, the 250th anniversary of the birth of our country in 2026, and many other commemorations following; and

WHEREAS, Erie County government will increase our efforts to ensure our region properly commemorates and educates our residents about the importance of these events.

NOW, THEREFORE, I MARK C. POLONCARZ, Erie County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Erie County Charter Sections 301, 302 and 2205, do hereby order as follows:

Section 1. Creation:

- A. Pursuant to Erie County Charter Section 2205, I hereby create an advisory board entitled "The Erie County Historical Commission" (the "Commission") for the below described purposes.

Section 2. Purposes:

- A. To make recommendations to the county executive that will assist our county to preserve and promote the history of Erie County, its communities, and population.
- B. To foster diverse groups, organizations, and individuals in observing and commemorating the history of Erie County.
- C. To promote opportunities to engage the community in historical events and commemorations.
- D. To create educational opportunities and partnerships involving local and county history.
- E. To help promote cultural and heritage tourism throughout the county.

Section 3. Membership:

- A. Members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the county executive.
- B. Members shall not be compensated for their service but are entitled to reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in service to the Commission.

- C. Members shall serve three-year terms and may serve no more than two consecutive terms; those who have served two consecutive terms shall be eligible again after a two-year absence.
- D. If a member leaves a board before the end of his or her term, the replacement shall serve for the duration of the term; if the time remaining in the term is less than eighteen months, the replacement shall still be eligible for two consecutive full terms at the conclusion of the partial one.
- E. The Commission shall elect one of its members to serve a two-year term as chair; no chair may serve more than two consecutive terms.
- F. The original members of the Commission shall be the following:

Melissa Brown (Director, Buffalo History Museum)

Susan Buttaccio (Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, Manager of the Grosvenor Room)

Dr. LaGarrett King (Professor, SUNY at Buffalo)

Douglas Kohler (Erie County Historian)

Melissa Leonard (Indigenous Representative)

Spencer Morgan (Director of Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site)

Rich Pyszczek (Buffalo City Schools/Niagara Frontier Council for the Social Studies)

Dr. Barbara Seals-Nevegold (Historian)

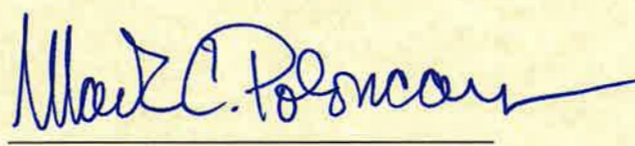
Carrie Stiver (Director of Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village)

Lindsey Lauren Visser (Buffalo City Historian)

Dr. Lillian Williams (Professor, Buffalo State University)

GIVEN, under my hand and the Privy Seal of the County of Erie in the City of Buffalo this 27th day of June in the year two thousand twenty-four.

COUNTY OF ERIE

BY: 
MARK C. POLONCARZ
ERIE COUNTY EXECUTIVE