

from the CVM BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Purpose

Understanding the history of our community is basic to our democratic way of life, gives us a better understanding of our state and nation, and promotes a better appreciation of our American heritage. Within this precept, the purpose of the Chippewa Valley Museum, Incorporated, (referred to as “the Museum”) shall be to collect, preserve, and interpret the history and culture of the Chippewa Valley and its people.

In order to increase understanding of regional history, the Museum shall provide learning experiences for all ages as well as other related services and activities. The Chippewa Valley Museum, Incorporated, is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2. Collections

a. The Museum shall discover and collect materials which establish or illustrate the history of the Chippewa Valley. The intent of the Permanent Collection is to interpret regional life, conditions, events, and activities of the past and the present.

b. The Permanent Collection shall consist of archival and museum materials relating to the history, natural history and culture of the Chippewa Valley. The Museum may also maintain limited Study Collections of materials 1) for use in educational programming or 2) of national or international materials if these enhance understanding of Chippewa Valley history.

c. Within the limits of its human and financial resources, the Museum shall 1) provide for the preservation of the Collections; 2) ensure access to all who wish to examine or study them; 3) cooperate with officials in ensuring the preservation and accessibility of the records and archives of the County and its cities, towns, villages and institutions; and 4) undertake the preservation of historic buildings, monuments, and markers.

d. Within the limits of its human and financial resources, the Museum shall follow standard professional practices and procedures in collecting, accessioning, cataloguing, using, and exhibiting museum and archival materials. The Museum shall use as its standards the practices and procedures recommended by 1) the State Historical Society of Wisconsin Office of Local History; 2) other divisions of the State Historical Society; and 3) the American Association of Museums.

e. The Museum will cooperate with the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in collecting and preserving materials of state-wide significance so, that these materials can be made available to students and scholars.

Section 3. Archives, Museums, and Historic Sites

a. Within the limits of its human and financial resource and as the will of the members dictates, the Museum shall establish and operate a museum and archive of regional history and one or more historic sites.

These facilities may be combined into one facility or may be separate facilities. Singly or in combination, they may be developed and operated solely by the Museum or they may be developed and operated in cooperation with any other educational organization, city council, county board, or state or local agency or non-profit organizations qualifying for affiliation with the State Historical Society of Wisconsin under the provisions of section 44.03 (2) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Section 4. Public Program and Priorities for Interpretation

a. Within the limits of its human and financial resources! the Museum shall create and offer to the public 1) long-term and short-term exhibits; 2) educational programs; 3) publications; 4) media productions; and 5) other programs which increase understanding of the history and culture of the Chippewa Valley.

b. Long-term exhibits shall interpret the history, natural history and culture of Eau Claire, Eau Claire County and the Chippewa Valley as a whole.

c. The history, natural history, and culture of Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, and the Chippewa Valley shall be the first priority in short-term exhibits and other interpretive programming. The second priority shall be programming which interprets American and international history, natural history, and culture with preference for issues which have an impact on or relevance to the Chippewa Valley.

Section 5. Research and Publication

a. Within the limits of its human and financial resources, the Museum will disseminate information on the history and culture of the Chippewa Valley through support of original research and creation of publications and media productions.

b. The Museum may purchase books, research materials and other literature or publications related to its purpose for use in any of its facilities.

c. Materials described in Paragraphs (a) and (b) may also be made available for resale or for free distribution to members, schools, libraries, and such other institutions. The Board of Directors shall determine the appropriate methods of distribution.