

Mormon Battalion Draft National Staff Meeting 18 Mar 06 11:10 am 420 S 800 E, SLC, UT 84102

Conducting: COL Norman T Erektion Pledge: LTC Jerome Gourley Invocation: MAJ Roger Grua

Attending: COL Norman T Erektion, LTC Jerome Gourley, MAJ Richard Bullock, LTC Max Jamison, MAJ Roger Grua, Jay Todd, MAJ Don Schurtz, MAJ Terry Wirth, CPT Jay Bowen, CPT Dale Read, MAJ Val John Halford, COL Clayton Fairbourn, MAJ Robert Cole, LTC Gaylen Maynes, CPT Earl Gillmore

Excused: LTC Robert P Paul, MAJ Gloyd Sprouse, Ladies Auxiliary, MAJ Robert Welti, MAJ Tom Coyne

1. Welcome: COL Norman T Erektion

2. Minutes: Minutes of 2-18-06 were presented for approval. Motion to accept made by MAJ Richard Bullock, Seconded by MAJ Don Shurtz. OK

3. Calendar: Presented for discussion. Two changes made.

4. Lifetime Pins: Still in progress.

5. New Members: COL Erektion presented Hollis Barber of Elk Grove, Ca, Norman Larsen of Elk Grove, CA, Patrick M Pace of Brawley, CA, Melissa Garff Ballard of North Salt Lake, Norma Ricketts of Mesa, AZ and Kathryn Larkins of Kaysville, UT as new members of the Battalion. Proposal to accept them as members made by CPT Earl Gillmore, seconded by CPT Jay Bowen, approved.

6. Elections: MAJ Roger Grua presented the names that have been selected for elections.

Commander: COL Norman T Erektion, Exec Officer LTC Jerome Gourley, Finances, MAJ Tom Coyne, Adjutant, MAJ Richard Bullock, Membership, MAJ Gloyd Sprouse, Publicity, LTC Max Jamison

7. Other: A discussion was led by COL Erektion about the Battalion Trails and re-enactment activities in San Diego and Michigan areas. Kevin Henson is active in his area in Michigan.

8. Building: No change. Still working on funds to start construction

9. Finance: LTC Gaylen Maynes reported that the Battalion operated in the black for last month.

10. Valiant: LTC Jerome Gourley indicated he needs relevant articles for the Valiant by the 15th of April. MAJ Bullock suggested a one page biography of each member of the Battalion. LTC Max Jamison volunteered to write an article on Trail Re-enactment.

11. Heritage Day: Jay Todd reported that plans are progressing well. Bob Evans of Channel 13 will emcee. Re-enactors will be able to carry their guns. The Sterling Singers, some 80 in number, will sing several pieces to new music. CPT Dale Read will offer the Invocation and Jovann Nuttall the benediction. LTC Max Jamison indicated that John Hayes is already being considered for an award for his work on the 10 minute video.

12. Essay Contest: MAJ Roger Grua indicated the contest is now under way at all CES locations.

13. New By-Laws: COL Erektion read a letter of 18 Mar 06 explaining the reasons for changing the Articles of Inc and Bylaws and summarizing the changes. Left the floor open for discussion. CPT Earl Gillmore; felt that the Church leadership should pass on the changes and also MAJ Roger Grua: also to get the lawyers to qualify the changes. CPT Earl Gillmore; This will protect the non-profit status and the name of the Battalion. COL Erektion; The IRS penalized us because of not filing returns properly with the correct name. Now clarified and no penalties are due. Need to protect the names that we have used in the past. About eight groups have expressed interest to get involved with us. COL Clayton Fairbourn; expressed his comments on the proposed changes. Against changing the name, against making changes just for the Ship Brooklyn group, wants to remain military, opposes the change to Auxiliary. In short opposed every suggested change. Stressed that we should strive to obtain growth from within. CPT Jay Bowen expressed that he has 46 persons as members of Company A but only 9 come to the monthly meetings. CPT Earl Gillmore; its what within the organization that counts. Jay Todd; Heritage as part of our name is very important to retain as part of any new organization. It is sending the correct message to others that we are historical. LTC Max Jamison; He has a hollow organization in the Midwest. Gets questions like, Do I have to be a descendant?; Do I have to pay dues?; What's in it for me?; We need to be an open organization to accept all who want to join. Those who want to wear uniforms may continue as in the past. In fact nothing about the operation of the Companies changes. CPT Earl Gillmore' We need to reach out to all groups and help each other. CPT Terry Wirth; Current Articles state Commander commanding others. We should be leaders. Retain the U. S. Mormon Battalion as part of the name. We need to reach out. Uniforms are an important symbol. MAJ Bullock; Detailed the decline in membership in the Ship Brooklyn Association because they are not willing to progress. From nearly 3000 to only about 150 today. COL Erektion; Its obvious we need to change and COL Clayton Fairbourn; agrees it is needed, but we need to do it logically. Pres Anne Erektion; We want to remain as an Auxiliary and keep our own funds separate. We will assist with joint expenses. We feel that three of the nine voting members of the new Executive Committee should be Auxiliary members and that they will pay full dues. We feel the paid membership of the Auxiliary should have the right to vote on all National elections and business matters.

14. Other: LTC Max Jamison indicated that John Hayes has been nominated for two awards for the 2005 Heritage Day recording. There is a \$50 entry fee for each category and if he wins he gets \$150 in return for each award. The awards are for Religious Category for a live event and Religious Category for special presentation. A motion to enter the competition was made by LTC Jamison, seconded by LTC Jerome Gourley. Passed.

MAJ Terry Wirth presented Company B's resolution to honor Staff Sgt Gregson Glenn Gourley for services rendered to his country. Motion by MAJ Wirth to accept, seconded by CPT Earl Gillmore. Passed.

Benediction: LTC Jerome Gourley Dismissed: 1:10 pm