

Mormon Battalion Association

Minutes – Executive Leadership Meeting

7:00 PM, Thursday, 20 February 2020

LTC Max Jamison Residence and via GoToMeeting.com

189 E. 1864 South, Orem, UT 84058

The Mormon Battalion Association Executive Staff meets at least once per quarter on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm, except when that day is a holiday or conflicts with another event. In that case, the meeting will be re-scheduled and the Executive Leadership will be notified of the change. Members of the public are invited to attend. *Policy:* As with U.S. Congressional minutes, anyone can read appropriate items into the minutes. In the interest of expediency, all participants should be familiar with our proposed minutes *before* each meeting. We will only address items requiring discussion and decisions. We are posting our Action Item Review separately on our website with Sunset Dates for completion.

Executive Staff Attendance: The following were present: LTC Max W. Jamison (Battalion Commander), COL Jerome Gourley (Battalion Commander’s Chief Advisor and Executive Secretary of the Board of Directors), MAJ Laura Anderson (1st Executive Director – External Affairs/Senior Historian), MAJ Steve Cannon (Membership Officer), MAJ Val John Halford (Reenactor Coordinator), Ronald Kirkpatrick (Senior Finance Officer), and Kevin Henson (Trails Experts).

The following were absent: MAJ Thomas Griggs (2nd Executive Director – Internal Affairs/Adjutant General and Eastern Idaho Squad Commander), Greg Christofferson (Acquisitions/Fund Raising), MAJ David Jamiel (Legislative Relations Officer and Colorado Squad Commander), and CSM David Munford (Command Sergeant Major).

Board of Directors Attendance: The following was present: Peter Guilbert.

The following were absent: Chair Edwin Kimball, and members Mike Anderson, Smokey Bassett, Ashley Hall, Dennis Holland, Terry Latey, and Al Matheson.

Local Leadership Attendance: The following was present: SGT Larry Bilyeu (Cedar City Squad)

Welcome / Call to Order / Recognize Guests / Administrative Items

Invocation

Peter Guilbert

General Business:

Approval of Minutes of Prior Executive Leadership Meeting

Membership Reports:

Affiliate Organization Reports

Early Saints Working Group Annual Meeting – Next Tuesday, 2:00-4:00 pm

Historical Pioneer Research Group, Omaha, NE – Wagon train 23-25 Jul 2021 – short local tour led by Russ Ledger.

Board of Directors Reports

Local Unit Reports

Cedar City Squad – *See New Business*

Membership Advisory Committee Reports:

1. 2021-2022 Sesquicentennial Celebration Planning – Kevin Henson & MAJ Laura Anderson: One Voice Children’s Choir considering singing Jo Ellen Fankhauser and Daniel Carter’s music “Refuge and Rest.” *LTC Jamison was authorized to purchase seven copies of the score for analysis and personal use. MAJ Anderson provided the following link to a planning calendar:* https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1IAFtVTxHyVnD9iZDTpOF0HG3gdh4r5sKJWL_OUCI5_g/edit#gid=0

Continental Support Staff Reports:

1. 1st Executive Director (External Affairs/Senior Historian) – MAJ Laura Anderson:

Meeting with Clive Romney (UAC) – He wants me to come do presentation for his artists to spark their writing songs and dialog about the Mormon Battalion experience

Research Progress – Need volunteers on Tuesdays at the Church Family History Library in downtown Salt Lake City. Contact Maj Anderson by email at paffanatic10@yahoo.com or phone at (801) 898-9085.

Request for \$372.80 Hotel Reimbursement Stipend for OCTA Convention, Yuma, AZ – I am attending to further the chance that OCTA will join us in 2021 and 2022 for our 175th Anniversary.

a. Legislative Relations Officer – MAJ David Jamiel:

Meeting with Congressman Chris Stewart's Office – Attendees: Celeste Maloy for Hon. Stewart, Travis Boley and Bill Marting for OCTA, Reba Wells Grandrud for the Partnership for National Trails System (PNTS), and MAJ Anderson, MAJ Halford, MAJ Jamiel, and Kevin Henson for the Mormon Battalion Association. For detailed minutes, see: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NeG6ccBbaAbJFnhDithB3fOBDU5Zt4fUXLboCcsHclU/edit>

Action Items:

- Boley: Investigate advisability of joining with other proposed trails or going for a separate Mormon Battalion Trail. Once a plan of action is determined, provide such to Maloy so she can help move things forward.
- Maloy: Contact National Park Service to determine the process.
- Anderson, Grandrud, and Maloy, *et al*: Meet in early February prior to the committee meetings as part of the Hike the Hill conference.
- Grandrud and Jamiel: Connect by phone.

b. Reenactor Coordinator – MAJ Val John Halford: 12-14 June 2020 California Trail Days in Elko, NV

c. Webmaster – LTC Max Jamison: Website Release 4.0 review

d. Acquisitions/Fund Raising – Greg Christofferson: Agreed to renew efforts to fund BYU research

2. 2nd Executive Director (Internal Affairs/Adjutant General): MAJ Thomas Griggs

a. Quartermaster/Logistics Officer – MAJ Thomas Griggs: Need more slides soon, and renew contacts with BSA.

b. Chief Finance Officer – Ronald Kirkpatrick & LTC Jamison: Financial Report

c. Membership Officer – MAJ Steve Cannon: Getting call to serve mission in the Idaho Falls Temple Visitors Center. Will poll membership to ascertain those eligible to vote in elections.

Commander's Report:

1. **Bylaws Review** – Section 5.02 of the *Bylaws* states: “The two Battalion Commanding Officers (Battalion Commander and Battalion Executive Officer) shall be elected by the general membership for no more than two full 2-year terms.” COL Norman T. Erekson resigned as Battalion Commander in November 2009, and COL Jerome G. Gourley automatically succeeded him, appointing me his Battalion Executive Officer. We were elected to a single 2-year term in September 2010, but he resigned on 17 March 2012, and I automatically succeeded him. I completed the final eight months of his term, plus two 2-year terms of my own. In the absence of anyone willing to take my place, the Board drafted me to serve another three years and four months. Next month, I will have served 10 years and four months as a Battalion commanding officer, eight years of that as your Battalion Commander. Only COL Fred M. Reese, our founder, has served longer. (He served almost 20 years in three stints.) It is long, long past the time for new leadership blood! Last month, I advised you that I hoped that someone would step up to serve as your Battalion Commander after my move to be with my new wife in Toledo, Ohio. Per advice from Mary Ann Kirk in an email yesterday, we need to proceed in a careful and deliberate manner:

1. Per Article II of the *Bylaws*, Membership Officer should ascertain membership eligible to vote in elections,
2. Per Section 6.02 of the *Bylaws*, Board of Directors should meet and appoint an independent Governance Committee,
3. Per Article VII of the *Bylaws*, the Governance Committee should hold elections ratifying the currently appointed Board of Directors, and a new team of Battalion Commander and Battalion Executive Officer.

Please note that Section 5.03 of the *Bylaws* states: “The [two] Executive Directors are hired and/or appointed positions by the Board of Directors and serve on an at will basis.” However, it would be wise for the Board to reaffirm their appointment.

New Business

(Open to Floor)

1. Request for Funding Battalion Display Case: SGT Larry Bilyeu requested funding for Battalion locking display case in Frontier Homestead Museum in Cedar City, Utah. *A motion carried to research funding for the display. See Action Item.*

Action Item Assignments

- LTC Jamison: Contact Daniel Carter to purchase seven copies of score to music "Refuge and Rest."
- SGT Bilyeu: Contact a local high school wood shop to build such a display case, as they could probably do it for the cost of materials only.

Benediction

SGT Larry Bilyeu

Next Executive Staff Meeting:

7:00 PM, Thursday, 19 March 2020
via GoToMeeting.com and at Residence of LTC Max W. Jamison
189 E. 1864 South
Orem, UT 84058