

**MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
9 July 2007 - 11 a.m.  
9458 Quail Hollow Drive, Sandy, UT 84093**

**Conducting:** COL Norman T. Erekson

**Attending:** COL Norman T. Erekson, LTC Jerome Gourley, MAJ Richard H. Bullock, PRES Anne Erekson, VP Erma Bullock, LTC Max Jamison

**Invocation:** LTC Jerome Gourley

1. **Welcome:** COL Norman T. Erekson

2. **Financial:** COL Erekson reported that the finances of the operating fund were lower in June due to the costs associated with Heritage Day.

3. **Nominations:** The nominations for officers was discussed. LTC Max Jamison **offered** to run for the office of financial officer and **suggested we approach** MAJ Johnnie Hayes about serving as publicity officer. LTC Jerome Gourley said he would call the Company officers for suggestions.

4. **Comments:** COL Norm Erekson indicated that we had been invited to lead the Days of '47 Parade again. A group from Sacramento were considering attending. We need local members to also march in the parade. Sheldon Teeples was mentioned.

COL Erekson indicated that the Department of Commerce had sent him a sheet to renew the Skull Logo copyright for another 5 years. Cost would be \$22.50 in fees. A motion to renew for 5 years, but discourage use of the logo was made by VP Erma Bullock, seconded by MAJ Richard Bullock. Vote passed. COL Erekson will investigate what is required to register the Battalion Man and Woman. LTC Max Jamison will forward an electronic copy of the Battalion Woman to Colette Tyler for her to improve the image.

5. **Trek 2008:** LTC Jerome Gourley reported that the Trek 2008 is underway and that Battalion pins have been sent on consignment.

6. **Building:** COL Norm Erekson made the statement that the building cannot proceed until the money is present to finish it. **[He passed out an article from the Ensign.]**

The monuments were not in the original plan but the cost of placement was given to the Battalion. **The soil tests for the west monument showed no problems, but those for the east monument failed.** The east monument must have a better footing by adding a

concrete restroom and **control** facility under it for support that is tied into **the front retaining wall of the** building foundation. This we can accomplish but then we run out of funds.

MAJ Bullock commented that the Eccles Foundation had promised \$50,000 when construction had started, but it hasn't been received to date.

A fund raising letter had been prepared by LTC Robert Paul and presented to Elder Wood. The letter was read in full to the Executive Committee. [A copy is in the file]

LTC Max Jamison commented that **the Mormon Battalion is at a crossroads. He asked the Committee members to recommit themselves to the success of the Battalion. Is this just a once a month hobby meeting or a vital mission to us? He stated that we need a long term Battalion business plan. [He then passed out copies of past articles from *The Valiant* about the 2007 Groundbreaking and 2008 Heritage Day program, and a proposed business plan "straw man" previously distributed for review but tabled without action. Copies in the file.] Are we going to continue the same old thing and get the same old failing answers, or do we seek new vision? We need proper vision to succeed. What is our purpose? Do we wish to just passively honor our heritage, or do we wish to build our own legacy of service that we can pass on to future generations by actively emulating the original Battalion? We don't know the purpose or proper size of the building at the present time. We need to know what to do with the building after it is completed. How will it be staffed? Maintained? This is because we have left out some steps. There is a proven procedure to building planning and construction. First, a formal study is done to establish the purpose and goals of the building. All of these factors help to (2) create building specifications for the building, which are in turn (3) used to create drawings, all of which (4) culminates in actual construction. We cannot be successful if we leave out any steps. We can learn from the mistakes of the Kanesville Tabernacle and SUP headquarters, and the successes of Martin Cove and numerous "handcart" youth conferences all over the nation. We need to look for a grant writer to collect funds, and we need to have Executive Committee oversight of the project.**

LTC Jerome Gourley then commented that we need to know more about the Heritage Park policies. Who is the building being built for? It should give us an opportunity to teach the youth about the Battalion. It needs to be interactive. After doing the restroom **and control facility, plus the front** building footing **required to support the east monument**, we need to **erect the two monuments and then halt the project until these things are answered and the money is in place.**

**Summary:** Norm and Jerome need to hold a meeting with Elder Ballard to request apostolic guidance about our future direction.

We need to complete (1) our Battalion Business Plan, (2) a formal study of the purpose, goals, and correct size of the building, (3) specifications for the building, and (4) review Ed Kimball's drawings before we talk with LTC Bob Paul and Ed Kimball to find out what their concept of the building is going to be.

A motion to direct LTC Bob Paul to finish the drawings, construct the restrooms, the front retaining wall, and monuments, and then stop work to look at the future direction was made by LTC Jerome Gourley, seconded by MAJ Richard Bullock. Vote was unanimous approval.

**Benediction:** VP Erma Bullock