

Mormon Battalion Election Meeting
July 30, 2020

Attendance:

Members: Laura Anderson, Craig Anderson, Blaine Bachman, John Bascomb, Norma Bench, Maranda McKinley, Thomas Brown, David Byland, Charla Conover, David Day, John A Fife, Jerome Gourley, Tom Griggs, Linda Griggs, Dakota Griggs, Denny Henson, Kevin Henson, Denny Hoeh, Max W Jamison, M Gordon Johnson, Margaret Larson, Carol Larson, Terry Latey, Randy Madsen, Gary Smith, Lynn Smith

Others:

Peter Guilbert, Mary Ann Kirk

A few individuals wanted to vote verbally before the meeting started. The following voted for Jerome Gourley, Greg Christofferson and recommendations of governance committee for Board of Directors: Jerome Gourley, Tom Griggs, Dakota Griggs, and Linda Griggs.

Open Meeting:

Carl Larson welcomed everyone.

Opening prayer: Gary Smith

Carl turned the meeting over to Jerome Gourley. Jerome hoped everyone had read the brief bios about each candidate. He turned the time over for the election process to Mary Ann Kirk from the governance committee.

Mary Ann thanked everyone for attending. She noted that the bylaws suggest all candidates should have an opportunity to address the membership at an election meeting which implied the elections were held at that election meeting. So a go-to-meeting was created to facilitate that election process since we live all over the country. The requirement to attend the meeting in order to vote may change in the future.

Candidates who were in attendance were invited to address the membership. Several candidates were not able to attend because of other conflicts.

The following candidates addressed the membership.

Gary Smith

Terry Latey

Gordon Johnson

Denny Hoeh

Kevin Henson

Peter Guilbert

John Bascom

Blaine Bachman

Jerome Gourley (Jerome also introduced Greg Christofferson who could not attend.)

Jerome feels that we can restructure and develop the leadership that will drop in place as time goes forward. He is honored to associate with us and is knocked out over the quality of those willing to serve.

Gordon Johnson said he was willing to share, free of charge, a video he created about the History of the Battalion. Contact him if you are interested.

Mary Ann noted that the bios were reduced significantly so she appreciated the opportunity each candidate had to add a little bit more about themselves. She was so impressed with their backgrounds which she believes will make a great Board of Directors.

Mary Ann explained that you must be a member and attend the meeting to vote. Voting can occur via email or text until 10 pm this evening. She will post results tomorrow.

She shared her experience of uploading documents from pension files on Family Search and how people have responded. They are excited to read documents about their ancestors. She believes this is something that this organization can provide. She thanked those who are committed to helping this organization share their stories.

Kevin asked how can we capitalize on what we are putting on family search. Jerome agreed that should be discussed. Mary Ann said when people respond to her, she replies back and notes she is working with the Mormon Battalion Association and invites them to check out the website and hopefully people will want to join. Kevin suggested we need someone “in the saddle” for that.

Jerome thanked everyone who has worked on the election process. He wanted to express sincere gratitude to Max Jamison for his many years of service. We will be sending him a plaque with an expression of gratitude from all of us.

Jerome announced an open membership go-to-meeting on Thursday, September 17 at 7 pm. He wants to lay out the balance for the year at that time. He is grateful for the talent and testimonies that have come our way.

He encouraged everyone to get their hands on Gordon’s video. He asked if people are willing to help with transcription to contact Laura Anderson. He also encouraged people to put Jan 2022 on their calendars and attend the 175 reunion in Old Town San Diego.

Max Jamison wanted to express his gratitude for those who have come forward to help. He is grateful for the plaque but nothing compares to the many qualified people who have stepped forward.

Carl noted he has been part of the Mormon Battalion Association for many years. He is really pleased with what we are doing. We have some great talent on the screen he is looking at and it is absolutely wonderful to see us get going again.

Laura said she has been digitizing Carl’s work. First she did Margaret’s data base and now she is

working on Carl's research files. The amount of research this man did has put him #1 on her list of people who have done things for the battalion. Kevin Henson is #2 with his research about the trail. She stands in awe of what they have done.

Carl shared how he would go back and forth from Cache Valley to Salt Lake. When he got to the last man and found his data, he gathered up all his papers. As he was walking across the street, he had a most remarkable experience. He heard, "Thanks Carl for recognizing us." He wept. They care. They are not just a bunch of names on a page. They are real people.

Tom Griggs thanked Mary Ann and Maranda for their work on the election process. Jerome also thanked Laura for her work.

Jerome called the meeting to a close with the next meeting scheduled for September 17.

Closing Prayer: Charla Conover