

Filing Fee \$35.00

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**

**NON-PROFIT CORPORATION**

**ORIGINAL ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

The undersigned, acting as incorporator(s) of a corporation under Chapter 7-6 of the General Laws, 1956, as amended, adopt(s) the following Articles of Incorporation for such corporation:

FIRST: The name of the corporation is Battery "B" First Rhode Island Light

Artillery, Incorporated

SECOND: The period of its duration (if perpetual, so state) perpetual

THIRD: The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is organized are:

- 1) Living history demonstrations and/or reenactments
- 2) To perpetuate the military tradition of Battery B (service dates August 13, 1861 to June 13, 1865)
- 3) Provide public education regarding the United States Civil War, and Rhode Island's participation

FOURTH: Provisions (if any) for the regulation of the internal affairs of the corporation, including provisions for the distribution of assets on dissolution or final liquidation, are:

(Note 1)

Provisions: Constitution and By-Laws as attached

87 PAID

CP35  
CHEK  
0124A001

35.00  
35.00

NOV 30 1987

MR

FIFTH: The address of the initial registered office of the corporation is Benefit Street Arsenal,  
176 Benefit Street, Providence, RI 02903 (add Zip Code),  
and the name of its initial registered agent at such address is: Captain Ronald G. Tracey

SIXTH: The number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors of the corporation is \_\_\_\_\_,  
and the names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as the initial directors are:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
Philip DiMaria, Jr.	Box B, RR1, Foster, RI 02825
Richard Pickles	RR#1, Box A-103, Pascoag, RI 02859
Barbara Hall	123 Setian Lane, W. Warwick, RI 02893
Robert Bromley	51 Locust Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
Victor Cantoni	334 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360
Raymond Patten	50 Hollyhock Drive, Cranston, RI 02920
Raymond Pedro	51 Locust Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

SEVENTH: The name and address of each incorporator is:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
Philip DiMaria, Jr.	Box B, RR1, Foster, RI 02825
Richard Pickles	RR#1, Box A-103, Pascoag, RI 02859
Barbara Hall	123 Setian Lane, W. Warwick, RI 02893
Robert Bromley	51 Locust Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
Victor Cantoni	334 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360
Raymond Patten	50 Hollyhock Drive, Cranston, RI 02920
Raymond Pedro	51 Locust Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

EIGHTH: Date when corporate existence to begin (not more than 30 days after filing of these articles of incorporation): December 13, 1987

Dated November 18, \_\_\_\_\_, 1987

*Philip DiMaria* *Richard Pickles*  
*Barbara J. Hall* *Robert C. Bromley*  
*Victor J. Cantoni* *Raymond D. Patten*  
*Raymond A. Pedro, Jr.*  
Incorporator(s)

NOTE:

1. If no provision for the regulation of the internal affairs of the corporation or for the distribution of assets on dissolution or final liquidation are to be set forth, insert "None." In an appropriate case provisions relating to members, their qualifications and rights (Section 7-6-15) may be inserted here.

#1

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

SENATOR  
JOHN W. LYLE, JR.  
405 Front Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02905



Committee on Judiciary

Committee on  
Special Legislation

Joint Committee on  
Environment and Energy

Providence, Rhode Island 02905

Senate Chamber

3 June 1986

Phil and Mary DiMaria, Jr.  
Box 220 BRRI  
Foster, Rhode Island 02825

Dear Phil:

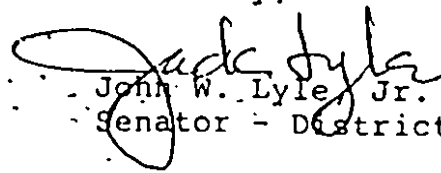
It was with great honor and pleasure that I represented Governor DiPrete on Sunday May 25, 1986 at the Civil War tribute in Warwick.

Indeed, it was my pleasure to bring you the news of your reactivation. I know that you will serve the state well.

Again, congratulations! You have earned your reactivation.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

  
John W. Lyle, Jr.  
Senator - District 34

JWLJ:sa



MINUTES •

Battery B  
First Rhode Island Light Artillery

March 8, 1987

A meeting of Battery B, First Rhode Island Light Artillery was held on March 8, 1987 at the Benefit Street Arsenal, Providence, Rhode Island.

Present were: Russ Moulico, Ray Patten, Richard Lufkin, Phil DiMaria, Richard Pickles, Victor Cantoni, Robert Bromley, Ray Pedro, and Lisa Roy.

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m., by Richard Pickles.

Communications:

None

Old Business:

None

New Business:

NCO meetings: The purpose of NCO meetings is to organize the meetings for the general membership. There will not be any voting at these meetings.

The following events for 1987 were announced:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| March 14  | Irish Heritage Day (not participating)   |
| March 19  | Council of Historic Commands meeting 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., cost is \$12 per person. Dinner is New York Sirloin Steak, topics are Militia Day, Heritage Day, Distinguished Service Medal, and standard operating procedure for Militia. |
| March 28  | LHA Mid-winter Social, Sturbridge, Massachusetts. Cost \$25 per person. Fee includes dinner at the Publick House and a magic show at Sturbridge Village, followed by a snack.  |
| April 3-5 | Shiloh, Tennessee. The Union and Confederate Volunteers have reserved 30 seats with Amtrak: cost \$150. If interested contact Rich Johns.  |

April 12	Remembrance Day at Massachusetts State House, Boston. The Sons of the Union Veterans will be hosting the 125th Anniversary of the GAR.
May 1-2	Brigade Artillery drill at the New England Plantation, Wilmington, Vermont. Features school of the soldier and artillery school and is open to Revolutionary War and Civil War eras.
May 25	Memorial Day Parade, Glocester, Rhode Island, 10 a.m. (not participating)
June 5-7	Antietam Creek at Darien Lake, New York. There will be a battle followed by a military ball.
June 12	Gaspee Day Parade, Warwick-Cranston, Rhode Island. No rain date.
June 12-14	Edaville Railroad, South Carver, Massachusetts, hosted by the First Massachusetts Cavalry.
June 12-14	Look-Out Mountain, Liberty Mountain State Park, Liberty, New York, hosted by the 143rd New York Volunteer Infantry. Registration is \$4 per person.
July 3-12	15th Sons of the Union Veterans Encampment, Geneva, New York. There will be various competitions and Awards, ladies activities, and a military ball.
July 4	Plymouth Parade, 9:30 a.m. The raindate is the following Saturday. Parade length is 3.5 miles, followed by a Unit cook-out.
July 24-26	Ghent, New York. John Miller has asked the unit to participate in an all-Union living history exhibit.
July 31-August 2	Fort Warren, Boston harbor
August 6-8	Culpepper, Virginia at the Culpepper Cavalry Museum. The Unit will be going to the reenactment as part of the 125th Anniversary series

March 8, 1987

September 18-20

Wompatuck State Park

October 9-11

LHA Timeline, New England Plantation, Wilmington, Vermont. This will feature camps from 1200 AD to World War II. At this time 600 participants are expected. There will be various competitions and awards, craft booths, and sutlers. Registration is \$3 per person.

(No date)

Fort Independence Garrison, Boston Harbor

The following nominations were made and seconded for pro tem corporate officers:

President	Richard Pickles Phil DiMaria
Vice President	Richard Pickles
Secretary	Lisa Roy
Treasurer	Bob Bromley

The pro tem election results were as follows:

President	Phil DiMaria
Vice President	Richard Pickles
Secretary	Lisa Roy
Treasurer	Bob Bromley

A committee was formed to establish By-Laws. Those serving on the committee are the elected officers, Ray Patten, and Richard Lufkin.

It was decided that all voting will be by quorum (50% plus 1). Emergency meetings will be called as necessary. Any issues not requiring immediate action will be placed before the general membership. Mail-in ballots will be allowed, as necessary.

All meetings will be held on the third Sunday of the month at the Benefit Street Arsenal unless otherwise announced.

March 8, 1987

The Unit is in need of 25 pounds of black powder for the Dalgren. Members are asked to pick up 4AF or 1F cannon powder. Money has been allocated for this purpose.

Fifteen dollars was allocated to Lisa Roy to purchase supplies for the first aid box.

There are two tents remaining. In order to purchase a tent, the member must make a downpayment of at least \$50. As two tents are paid for in full, two more will be ordered.

A drill and ceremonies was conducted by Sgt. Raymond Patten. The next meeting will be March 15.

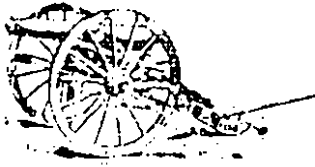
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Roy*  
Lisa Roy  
Secretary

/bjh

\*Please note that these minutes were reconstructed from notes left by the secretary which were taken by her at the meeting.



## MINUTES

### Battery B

#### First Rhode Island Light Artillery

A meeting of Battery B, First Rhode Island Light Artillery was held on Friday, August 7, 1987 at the Providence Marine Corps of Artillery Amory, Providence.

Present were: Bob and Karen Bromley, Russ Moulico, Anita Szurley, Victor Cantoni, Phil and Mary DiMaria, Charlie and Barbara Hall, Shelly and Richard Pickles, Steve and Monia Bisette, and Ray Patten.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Vice President, Richard Pickles.

The minutes of the previous meeting of May 31, 1987 were recorded and read by the Vice President and were accepted.

The treasurer's report was distributed and read by Bob Bromley and accepted.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

Victor read a letter from the organizers of the Plymouth July 4 parade thanking us for our participation and inviting us for July 4, 1988. Since we will be at Gettysburg then, he recommended we send them a letter stating this fact, thanking them for the invitation, and letting them know of our wish to participate in the future. The membership concurred.

Vic also read a letter from John Miller thanking those Battery members who provided a fine encampment at the Martin Van Buren home in New York. Phil stated he received a similar letter.

### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

The applications of Steve and Monica Bisette were unanimously approved by the members present, and Phil welcomed them into the Battery. They were given a round of applause by the membership.



August 7, 1987

OLD BUSINESS:

Phil announced there are three tents still available. The cost is \$110 each.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Phil recommended that a new secretary be appointed until the annual meeting due to the resignation of the former Battery secretary. Barbara Hall was appointed with the approval of the members present. It was voted that the secretary provide receipts for postal expenses on a monthly basis to be reimbursed.

2. The need for an authenticity committee for the active members was discussed with regard to uniform, camp, weapons, and safety. A motion was approved and so voted to form a "Uniform and Weapons Authenticity Committee." Phil appointed Ray Pedro, Chairman and Ray Patten committee member. This will be a special committee; therefore, it will not be necessary to incorporate it into the By-Laws. This committee shall develop guidelines on correct uniform and acceptable weapons, as well as total appearance of the camp. The Quartermaster (Vic) shall carry out the uniform policies developed by this committee.

A separate Safety Committee which is already incorporated into the By-Laws would initially inspect the weapons purchased for firing by Battery members and then possibly every six months thereafter. Phil appointed Victor chairman of this committee.

Mary DiMaria was voted chairman of the Associate Members' Authenticity Committee by the associate members present. She appointed Anita Szurley Co-Chairman and stressed that all associate members would be committee members and have input in the making of this committee's guidelines and policies.

Phil appointed Bob Bromley chairman of the Music Committee.

Charlie Hall was appointed by Phil with Victor's approval to the Safety Committee to provide supervision of the flammable and combustible materials.

After lengthy discussion it was decided that Phil would be the chairman of the Membership Committee. He will try to obtain an original application to adapt to our needs for prospective members to fill out.

The Nominating Committee chairman will be appointed in December to fulfill the constitutional requirements for annual elections.

Ray Patten was appointed by Phil as chairman of the Parliamentary Committee.

Phil, as Battery Captain will be chairman of the Public Relations Committee in accordance with the constitution.

Bob Bromley has been chairman of the Constitution Committee with Ray Pedro and Ray Patten, members. They will continue to serve in this capacity.

The Program Committee will be chaired by Richard Pickles with Vic as committee member as appointed by Phil.

Phil appointed Steve Bisette Battery Historian.

All standing committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee are now chaired.

3. Russ suggested we start formulating ideas to raise money for the Timeline event to be held October 10-11. Vic stated that he would receive the schedule of events for Timeline in about a week, after which we could make plans that would not conflict with those of the event organizers. Bob suggested planning "after hours" activities for encampments such as baseball played in an authentic manner. Battery members thought these were all good suggestions.

4. Vic reported he and Phil attended the July 28 meeting at the GAR Hall, Rockland, Massachusetts held for the purpose of forming up a New England Brigade of Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery. He read his report of the outcome of the meeting which was that the idea was not well received because we and other units are already organized into the New England Lightening Brigade. The next meeting of this group will be August 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the GAR Hall, Rockland, Massachusetts. Vic announced that everyone is invited to attend.

5. Vic also announced our invitation to the following events: An encampment at Newmarket, Virginia on May 8, 1988 and a parade in Weymouth, Massachusetts on July 3, 1988.

No action was taken on the encampment. We would have to decline the parade due to our participation in the Gettysburg event.

August 7, 1987

GOOD OF THE BATTERY AND CRITICISMS:

Ray Patten suggested we be more conscientious about correct military behavior in areas of high visibility (e.g. parades and encampments). Phil also mentioned using discretion when eating in encampments (e.g. soda cans, etc.). Battery members should either eat in their tents or use authentic equipment. Ray also felt the Battery was getting lax in gun drills and that guncrew members must follow all safety rules. If they are unable to do so, they should be assigned alternate positions. This would be the responsibility of the gun commander.

Phil suggested that anyone who is reminded of an infraction of authenticity or safety not be offended because one infraction or act of carelessness reflects negatively on the entire battery.

Bob suggested having a banquet during the off-season.

All of the above comments and suggestions were received favorably by the members present.

PRESENTATION:

Charlie Hall then gave a presentation of the emergency medical kit and its contents. He will prepare health questionnaires for all members to complete and said that anyone who is on any medication or who has any allergies and would like to have his medications included in the emergency box is encouraged to do so. Karen Bromley is certified in CPR and expressed an interest in providing emergency care as well.

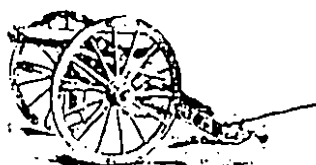
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m. by the Vice President.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Hall*

Barbara Hall  
Secretary

ADDENDUM: A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to purchase friction primers with funds from the treasury.

MINUTES

Battery B  
First Rhode Island Light Artillery

May 31, 1987

A meeting of Battery B, First Rhode Island Light Artillery was held on May 31, 1987 at the Benefit Street Arsenal, Providence, Rhode Island.

Present were: Phil and Mary DiMaria, Bob and Karen Bromley, Ray and Tammy Pedro, Richard and Shelly Pickles, Victor Cantoni, Richard Lufkin, Ray Patten, Russ Moulico, Anita Szurley, Normand and Lisa Roy, Barbara and Charlie Hall, and Gerry Pion.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

( Old Business

None

New Business

The following events were announced:

June 12-14	Edaville Railroad
June 12	Gaspee Days Parade
July 4	Plymouth Parade
July 4	1812 Overture
July 26	Kingston Parade
July 31-August 2	Fort Warren
August 7-9	Culpepper
September 5-7	Monroe Village
September 18-20	Wompatuck State Park

September 25-27	Antietam
October 10-12	LHA Timeline event
November 11	New Bedford Veterans Day parade
(No date)	Heritage State Park

The Constitution was presented by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. Each article was voted on after discussion. The results were as follows:

Article I	Passed
Article II	Passed
Article III	Passed
Article IV	Passed
Article V	Tabled
Article VI	Passed
Article VII	Passed
Article VIII	Passed
Article IX	Passed
Article X	Passed
Article XI	Passed
Article V	Passed
Article XII	Passed
Article XIII	Dropped
Article XIII (new)	Passed
Article XIV	Passed
Article XV	Passed

The committee, consisting of Ray Patten, Ray Pedro, and Bob Bromley were thanked for their hard work.

A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to have copies of the Constitution made and distributed to the members for a second reading. These will be sent to members by June 13. The membership was instructed to sign the last page and return it.

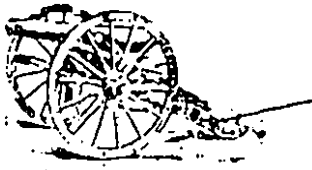
A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to pay the copying and postage costs of the Constitution out of the funds of the treasury.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Richard Pickles*

Richard Pickles  
Secretary Pro Tem



### MINUTES

#### Battery B First Rhode Island Light Artillery

November 11, 1987

A meeting of Battery B, First Rhode Island Light Artillery was held on Wednesday, November 11, 1987 at the Secretary's home, West Warwick, Rhode Island following Battery participation in the East Greenwich Veterans Day Parade.

Present were: Ray Patten, Victor Cantoni, Bob and Karen, Bromley, Russ Moulico, Anita Szurley, Phil and Mary DiMaria, Richard Pickles, Richard Lufkin, Steve and Monica Bessette, and Barbara Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by the Vice President, Richard Pickles.

The reading of the minutes of October 21, 1987 was dispensed with due to the lengthiness of these minutes.

Bob Bromley reported that there was currently \$2231 in the Battery checking account with approximately \$400 due the Battery. He recently received a check from the Museum Village at Monroe for the Labor Day 1987 event. He anticipates that by the end of the year there will be \$2500 in the checking account.

### Communications

Phil gave the dates for events at the New England Plantation for 1988 (attached). He also announced that Battery B received a plaque award for "Best Artillery" at the 1984 Civil War weekend, Monroe Village, Monroe, New York as well as a plaque award for "Best Artillery" at the First Annual Timeline Event, New England Plantation, Wilmington Vermont, 1987. Phil asked if the Battery would be interested in participating in any of the aforementioned events at the New England Plantation. The membership was interested in several of the events, and Victor said that the Southbury, Connecticut event (September 9-11) could be a good one to attend.

Steve announced that he sent a letter of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. George Vibberts for the generous donation of a Civil War photo album and the commission papers of Cpl. Henry Vibberts.

Phil read a letter from the Michigan Sesquicentennial Commission regarding a video they have available on "Artillery Through the Ages." The order form will remain with the Battery files should anyone decide to order one.

Barbara read a letter from Hank Kluin who is the new proprietor of F. Burgess & Co. Mr. Kluin will carry the same high quality items Frank did. Frank has begun a new business "Burkshire" dealing with original artifacts.

#### Old Business

Bob announced that the people at Heritage State Park were pleased with the event the Battery recently held there. They would like to make it a yearly event alternating an indoor museum with an outdoor encampment. They will contact other State Parks and let them know of our programs.

#### New Business

Phil asked if the Battery would like to have a raffle; the proceeds of which could be put towards purchasing 1840's accoutrements to enable the Battery to do an encampment at Sturbridge Village. The idea was well received.

Barbara presented the draft of the incorporation papers. A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to accept the Articles of Incorporation as written and file them and the other necessary documents with the Office of the Secretary of State to be effective as of December 13, 1987. Barbara asked the Constitution and By-Laws Committee if they would put forth a motion to change the name of the Constitution to the Constitution and By-Laws, to fulfill the requirements of the 4th article of the Articles of Incorporation. Ray Patten, speaking for the committee put forth the motion, it was seconded and so voted to change the name of the Constitution to Constitution and By-Laws. Barbara asked the membership to put forth a motion for a check for \$35 from the Battery funds to cover the State fee for filing the Articles of Incorporation. A motion was made, seconded, and so voted. Also Richard Pickles who was Secretary Pro-tem on May 31, 1987 will provide the minutes of the meeting at which the Constitution was accepted to be included with the Articles of Incorporation. The application for tax exempt status was read, and the Battery agreed to apply for such with the State Division of Taxation.

Phil asked the Battery members if they would like to order some tents to keep on hand. The members felt that it wasn't necessary at the present time. Phil also asked if the Battery would like to purchase a fly or tent to house the Gettysburg Gun display. Much discussion followed on the merits of a fly vs. a wall tent, but no specific decision was made. This will be tabled until a future meeting.

Phil also announced that the Gettysburg Gun carriage is somewhat weak and that care must be taken in moving it. Victor will contact Dick Cater to discuss the best way to preserve the wheels and other steps necessary to ensure that the carriage will not deteriorate. Phil suggested getting the wheels up so there will not be any pressure on them during transportation. Also there are some minor things missing from the gun which will need to be replaced.

A trailer needs to be rented to transport the James gun from the Varnum Armory to the Benefit Street Arsenal. Phil will call for prices and check with Jim Dunbar to see if he would be willing to lend Newport Artillery's trailer for this purpose.

Regarding plans and publicity for the Gettysburg Gun, as suggested by Capt. Tracey, Phil will contact Tom Morgan to see if he would be able to cover this story from the time the gun is picked up at the State House, through restoration, the State and Gettysburg tours, and the return to Providence. Phil appointed Monica, Steve, and Barbara to work on the commemorative flyer as per the minutes of October 21, 1987. Steve Squizzero of 2nd Vermont Light Artillery will provide prices for this flyer.

The Battery voted to pursue a grant from the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities to cover the cost of the commemorative flyer and our other associated costs of the Gettysburg Gun tour. Bob Bromley volunteered to write the grant proposal. Steve will do a graphics search at the Rhode Island Historical Society Library for photographs of Battery B and the Gettysburg Gun.

Both Phil and Mary recommended that the Battery and the Varnum Continentals sign an agreement regarding use of the James gun; specifying its present condition, necessary repairs, etc. Photographs should be taken of its present condition and of the step-by-step restoration and/or repairs, and length of use.

The Battery agreed to have a party and also invite the 2nd Vermont Light Artillery. Russ will check with Wright's Farm for availability of Saturday and Friday dates in January as well as prices.

#### Upcoming Events

December 4	St. Barbara's Night at the Newport Artillery
December 5	Artillery Review, Cranston Street Armory



MINUTES

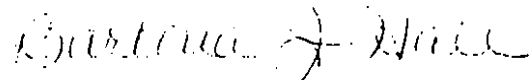
-4-

November 11, 1987

All brass is to be polished before these events.

The next meeting will be Sunday, November 29 at noon at the Benefit Street Arsenal. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barbara J. Hall".

Barbara J. Hall  
Secretary

Battery B  
First Rhode Island Light Artillery

CONSTITUTION  
and  
BY-LAWS

#6  
See page 11  
to cover  
fourth pro-  
vision of  
Articles of  
Incorporation

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be: Battery B First Rhode Island Light Artillery, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "Battery B" (field unit) and "Battery B, Inc." ( whole organization)

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of the "Battery" shall be to promote the historical significance of the Battery B First Rhode Island Light Artillery through living history demonstrations or reenactments and in memorial exercises,

Section 2. To work on historic research, preservation, and the authentic reproduction of nineteenth century practices and dress,

Section 3. To instruct Battery members and the public about the American Civil War,

Section 4. To do other things necessary and appropriate for the advancement of these purposes and the welfare of the Battery members.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERS

Section 1. Members of Battery B First Rhode Island Light Artillery, Inc. currently on the roster shall be charter members and are exempt from the membership application procedure. Said members shall assume the classification of membership as described in Article III, Section 6.

Section 2. Battery, Inc. membership is open to any person residing in the United States of America, who is seeking to become a historically correct portrayal of a person of the era known as the American Civil War, 1861-1865,

Section 3. Those persons seeking Battery, Inc. membership shall complete an application form and return it to the membership committee chairman,

Section 4. All applicants shall be personally interviewed by

the Membership Committee Chairman or his designee, who will provide a written report to the Executive Board.

Section 5. Applicants shall then be elected for membership by Active Battery members by means of a 2/3 vote on a secret ballot,

Section 6. Categories of membership shall be as follows:

a). ACTIVE MEMBERS: Active members are members of the Battery who have attained the age of 18 years, have the basic uniform as approved by the Quartermaster, have sufficient knowledge in areas of safety and of Battery procedure. Active members shall portray and recreate persons who were documented to have been in the original Battery as described in the Regimental History of Battery B, Rhode Island Light Artillery, by John Rhoades, 1892, or other portrayal with the approval of the Battery Captain and Non-Commissioned Officers. Active members shall have full voting privileges in both military and corporate matters, and may be elected to hold any corporate or military office, consistent with Article V, Section 1 and Article VI, Section 1.

b). ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Associate members are members of the Battery who have obtain the age of 18 years, and shall have basic knowledge of the era of the American Civil War. Associate members may portray those persons other than those in said Regimental History (described in Article III, Section 6a) providing their costumes and portrayal are consistent with those documented in published non-fiction books and documents of the period 1861-1865. Their portrayal and costume shall be approved by the Associate Members' Authenticity Committee. Associate members shall have full voting privileges in Corporate matters only. They may hold the offices of Corporate Secretary or Treasurer. Their presence on the battlefield is subject to approval of the Battery Captain or NCO's, whose decision shall be final,

c). JUNIOR MEMBERS: Junior members are those members of the Battery, who have not yet attained the age of 18 years. Their portrayal and costumes shall be approved by the Quartermaster or Associate Members Authenticity Committee, whichever is appropriate. All junior members shall be accompanied to all events by a parent or gaurdian who is a member of the active or associate staff, who shall be responsible for their behavior and well being. Junior members shall not be eligible to vote or hold office. Their participation on the battlefield and in other events shall be subject to the approval of the Battery Captain as well as their parent or gaurdian.

d). HONARARY MEMBERS: Honorary membership may be granted to a person who has made a substantial contribution to the Battery while not an actual active or associate member of the Battery. Honorary membership must be nominated by a Battery member and approved by the Active and Associate Battery members in an election with a 2/3 majority approval. Honorary members shall not vote, hold office or pay any dues or assessments.

#### ARTICLE IV: BATTERY MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY

Section 1. All Battery members and their dependents are responsible, at all times for all items and accoutrements owned by the Battery member and dependent.

Section 2. All members of the Battery are responsible for themselves and their dependents' behavior. Lewdness, foolishness, harrassment, or any other improper manners or behavior, not in proper character for a person of the mid-nineteenth century and is deemed detrimental to the appearance or safety of the Battery, will not be tolerated by the Battery. Difinitions of lewdness, foolishness and harrassment shall be defined as such found in the Webster Dictionary most updated version.

Section 3. Each Battery member shall treat with respect the property belonging to the Battery, as well as other Battery members.

Section 4. Any member of the Battery conducting in irresponsible behavior or improper manners, that is deemed detrimental to the Battery, himself, or others; shall receive a warning from the Executive Board. Any member of the Battery receiving more than three (3) warnings for improper behavior from the Executive Board, shall be asked and required to withdraw their membership from the Battery by the Battery membership.

Section 5. Each Battery member is responsible for knowing the essence of this Constitution and to uphold it.

Section 6. Each Battery member shall do everything possible to present a positive image of the Battery to the public and media and to work together for the common good of the Battery.

Section 7. All Battery members wanting to carry or discharge any type of firearm as a member of the Battery must possess all necessary permits or licences required by the state that the Battery member resides. Any Battery member failing to possess the necessary firearm permits or licenses required by the state of residence, shall not be permitted to carry or discharge said firearm as a member of the Battery.

#### ARTICLE V: THE OFFICER AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER STAFF AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. The officer and non-commissioned officer staff, shall be chosen by the Active members of the Battery. To be eligible to receive or attain a rank in the Battery, a person must be an Active Battery member, having at least one (1) year of Battery membership (non-Honorary), and have demonstrated to the members of the Battery a responsible behavior, an interest to further their knowledge of the position of rank, and a demonstration that the person can responsibly hold and maintain the position of the given or attained rank.

Section 2. The responsibilities of those possessing positions of rank, shall have the same status as the positions of those of the United States Army Artillery during the American Civil War 1861-1865, as described in aforementioned Regimental History.

Section 3. The officer and non-commissioned officer staff, with the corporate officers, may meet prior to a monthly meeting to determine the order and items of the monthly meeting agenda.

Section 4. Numbers of officers and non-commissioned officers needed shall be determined by the Battery Captain in conjunction with the Active members of the Battery.

Section 5. Election, responsibilities, and suspension of officers and non-commissioned officers shall be consistent with Articles IV and Article XI of this Constitution.

#### ARTICLE VI: CORPORATE OFFICERS OF THE BATTERY

Section 1. The Corporate Officers shall be as follows:

a). The Battery President shall be responsible for conducting the order of each Battery meeting and, with the approval of the Battery membership, the president shall attend meetings or other functions as the official representative of the Battery, to conduct Battery business or good will. Eligibility to become the Battery president, is open to all Active members of the Battery having a membership in good standing for a least one (1) year. The Battery president need not be a Battery officer or non-commissioned officer, but must be portraying an accurate historical characterization of a possible person within the "Battery" during the time periods of 1861-1865 as described in the aforementioned regimental history. The president shall be initially elected on "odd" years, and thereafter annually. He shall be considered to have served his term if he has completed six months or more of it. He may be re-elected once and sit out one year before being eligible for re-election.

b). The Battery Vice-President shall possess all responsibilities and duties of the president and shall perform these responsibilities and duties upon the consent of the Battery president and of the Battery active members. Eligibility to become the Battery vice president shall be the same as the president as described in Article V, Section 1 (a). The vice president shall be elected on "even" years and thereafter annually. He shall be considered to have served his term if he has completed six months or more of it. He may be re-elected once then must sit out one year before being eligible for re-election.

c). The Battery Secretary, shall be responsible for maintaining the minutes of each Battery meeting and for the reading of the minutes of the the past Battery meetings at each Battery meeting. The secretary is also responsible for all

communications issued by the Battery and its officers, only on their specific request, and for the notification of all meetings to all Battery members. Eligibility for the position of the Battery secretary shall be open to all Battery members and there shall not be any stipulations of a required membership term. The secretary shall be elected on "odd" years initially and thereafter annually. The secretary will be considered to have served his/her term if he/she has completed six months or more of it.

d). The Battery Treasurer, shall be responsible to see that all financial obligations of the Battery are met and satisfied. The treasurer, shall maintain all financial records, including a checking account and shall provide to the Battery at each meeting an accounting of the Battery's financial situation. The treasurer, shall also provide an annual report to the Battery at the annual meeting of the Battery. Checks issued by the treasurer shall be co-signed by the Battery president. Eligibility for the treasurer's position, shall be the same as that of the Battery secretary in Article V, Section 1 (c). He/she shall be considered to have served his/her term if he/she has completed six months or more of it.

e). The Battery Immediate Past-President having served the full term of his office of president in good standing shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Board and will serve as an advisor only, but shall retain the voting privileges of other active members. If the immediate past-president resigns his position on the Executive Board or if he does not fulfill his obligation of President, this position will remain vacant until an annual election provides an immediate past-president.

#### ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The executive board in conjunction with the president, shall be responsible for conducting the everyday business activities and for order of each Battery meeting.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall consist of the corporate officers and the officer and non-commissioned officer staff. They may meet prior to a monthly meeting to determine to determine the agenda of the monthly Battery meeting.

Section 3. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum in the Board.

Section 4. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President and shall be called by him with the written request of five (5) members of the Board. No business other than that for which the special meeting is called shall be transacted except by unanimous consent of the Board.

Section 5. The Executive Board may make its own rules and bylaws not in conflict with those of the Battery.

Section 6. The Board and committee chairmen shall also fill vacancies in standing committees, except a vacancy in the committee chairman which will be filled by an appointment from the Battery president.

Section 7. The Board shall be the Grievance Committee, and shall have original jurisdiction and plenary power to settle and adjudicate all grievances and charges from which there shall be no appeal. All such matters shall be decided by a 2/3 vote of the entire board membership.

Section 8. All votes of the Board relating to grievances or charges for suspension or expulsion from office or membership shall be by open ballot. All other votes shall be by not less than a majority of the members present and voting, a quorum being present, and may be decided by any form of voting.

Section 9. The Board shall, at the annual meeting, present the Battery's budget for the ensuing year, which shall be open to amendment and debate. The budget shall be approved by a 2/3 vote of the Battery members voting thereon.

Section 10. The Board shall have power to fix the compensation for officers and for guest speakers and instructors.

Section 11. The Board shall have power to recommend to the Battery any proposals, including amendments and revisions to this Constitution. The Battery shall then decide these proposals in due course of proceeding. The Board's own recommendations on all matters shall be taken up under new business, unless otherwise ordered by a 2/3 vote of the Battery members.

Section 12. The Board shall carry out all lawful orders and instructions of the Battery.

Section 13. Each Executive Board member shall conduct himself/herself in the manner prescribed in Article IV, Sections 1 through 7.

Section 14. A Battery member or Board member who feels a Board member is not acting in accordance with the Constitution or for the good of the Battery may receive a written warning from the Executive Board, if needed. After being issued three (3) written warnings from the Executive Board the offending person shall be removed from the Board and may be required to withdraw his/her membership from the Battery.

#### ARTICLE VIII: VACANCIES

Section 1. The office of secretary and/or treasurer shall be appointed by the president should a vacancy occur. That person(s) shall remain in said office until the next annual election.

Section 2. If a vacancy in the president's position should occur, the vice-president shall become president and nominations

and elections shall be held for the office of the vice-president at the next regular or special meeting.

Section 3. If the president and vice-president are unavailable for a regular or special meeting, the secretary shall preside over the meeting, and a battery member chosen by the secretary shall record the minutes of that meeting. The secretary acting as president shall not be allowed to make any policy decisions in the president's and vice-president's absences or vote in his/her place(s) but shall only preside over the meeting and keep the order of the meeting.

Section 4. Vacancies of committee chairmen shall be appointed by the president and board. Committee members vacancies shall be appointed by the committee chairman of that committee.

Section 5. If the Battery secretary is unavailable for a meeting, the president shall appoint a battery member to record the minutes of the meeting. It is the responsibility of the Battery secretary to deliver the minutes of the last meeting to the president before the meeting takes place, of which the secretary will not be attending.

#### ARTICLE IX: STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be the following standing committees; Membership, Nominating, Parliamentary, Public Relations, Program, Safety, Constitution, Associate Members' Authenticity, and Music.

Section 2. Standing Committees shall consist of a Chairman who shall be appointed by the Board and a number of members of the Battery that the chairman and president feel are necessary to the functioning of the committee. Committee members are appointed by the president and Board.

Section 3. Standing Committees shall serve for a period of one year, and the chairman and committee members may be reappointed indefinitely.

Section 4. All decisions of a standing committee shall be by majority vote.

Section 5. All findings and recommendations of any committee within the Battery shall be brought to the attention of the Board, who then bring it before the Battery membership.

Section 6. The membership committee shall procure applications for membership, collect the quarterly dues from all applicants, and promptly present the completed applications to the Executive Board for a vote at the next regular meeting of the Battery.

Section 7. The Nominating Committee shall accept nominations from the Battery members and present them to the Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the establishe annual meeting.



Section 8. The Committee on Parliamentary Law shall use and follow ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER which shall be the final authority on Parliamentary procedure not covered in this Constitution.

Section 9. The Public Relations Committee shall be the intermediary with the public and the media. The chairmanship shall be filled by the Battery Captain or his designee.

Section 10. The Program Committee shall present to the Battery all invitations and recommendations for participation in events for a vote of the active and associate membership.

Section 11. The Safety Committee shall see that all active members have received safety instructions and that they are following such procedures when operating on the guncrew. The safety committee shall also maintain a file copy of each Battery members' current firearm permit should members wish to carry or discharge any type of firearm. All necessary permits and licenses are required by the state the battery member resides. Any Battery member failing to possess the necessary firearm permits or licenses required by their state of residence shall not be permitted to carry or discharge said firearm as a member of the Battery. The Safety Committee shall also devise and maintain a manual on safety procedures within the Battery and shall update this manual annually if needed, prior to the annual meeting. All members wishing to use firearms shall receive a copy of this manual, (see ARTICLE IV, SECTION 7).

Section 12. The Constitution Committee shall see to it that each member receives and signs a copy of the Constitution. The Constitution Committee shall review said Constitution yearly and bring any revisions or amendments before the Executive Board to be voted on at the annual meeting or at any other time as deemed necessary. Prior notice to members and a copy of said revisions or amendments shall be provided to members in advance of the voting.

Section 13. Associate Members' Authenticity Committee shall be chaired by a member of the associate member staff. This committee shall be responsible for the authenticity of dress and portrayal of its members. He/she shall be elected by the majority of the Associate members annually. He/she shall use as his/her guidelines "THE CIVIL WAR LADIES SKETCHBOOKS" by Kathleen York, "GODEY'S LADIES BOOKS 1855-1865", "PETERSON'S" and other published non-fiction works on fashion and behavior of the period 1855-1865. If this committee receives a grievance, the parties shall bring it to the Executive Board if they are unable to solve the grievance within the committee. The Executive Board's decision shall be final.

Section 14. The Music Committee shall research, practice and perform music from the time period of the American Civil War.

## ARTICLE X: MEETINGS

Section 1. The Battery shall meet at least monthly and shall have an annual meeting to conduct the business of elections. Time and places of the monthly meetings and annual meeting shall be prescribed in the Constitution.

Section 2. A quorum at a regular or special meeting shall be a percentage of 51% of the total membership.

Section 3. Annual meetings are to be set by the Executive Board with a thirty (30) day notice being issued to the Battery membership as to the annual meeting time and place. The annual meeting must held prior to January 31ST of each year, for the purpose of elections, reading of reports, and other such business that may properly come before the Battery.

Section 4. Special meetings may be consistent with ARTICLE X, SECTION 1 of this Constitution.

Section 5. The quorum at a special meeting shall be consistent with ARTICLE X, SECTION 2.

Section 6. The Battery may by a 2/3 vote hold an open meeting once a year to which the public, interested in Civil War history or possible membership may attend under such conditions and at such times that the Executive Board may determine.

## ARTICLE XI: ELECTIONS

Section 1. All elections at the annual meeting shall be by secret ballot or proxy.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected by a majority vote and they shall then be members of the Executive Board.

Section -- 3. The election shall take place under new business unless otherwise ordered by a 2/3 vote.

Section 4. In the event of a failure to elect any officer by majority vote, further balloting on that office shall continue until a majority vote has been attained.

Section 5. In the event of a tie vote in the election, the election thereon shall be decided by lot.

Section 6. All nominations for officers shall be made to the Executive Board by the Nominating Committee consistent with their category of membership in their ability to hold office as prescribed in ARTICLE III, SECTION 1 and ARTICLE V, SECTION 1 & 2.

Section 7. All members not present at the time of the vote or not voting by proxy will automatically waive their right to vote and may not vote on the election after the close of nominations

and voting.

Section 8. Newly elected officers shall be installed at that meeting.

#### ARTICLE XII: PETS AND ANIMALS

Section 1. Battery members, dependents, or friends that own pets (other than a Battery horse) may be allowed to bring into a camp a pet or animal providing that the pet or animal is not "camping" with the Battery or staying overnight within the Battery camp and that the pet or animal is within the established time period of the American Civil War. Any pet or animal not historically correct for the time period or the camp living history portrail will not be allowed to remain within the Battery camp for an extended period of time.

Section 2. When the Battery is attending any event or living history demonstration that the event organization or person has requested that no pets be allowed to attend or participate, then no pets or animals of the the Battery membership, dependents or friends will be allowed to stay within the Battery camp area, this does not pertain to Battery horses.

Section 3. Horses shall not be included into the pet category, providing that the horse(s) is present for historical accuracy for an individual or for the "Battery".

Section 4. The By-Laws concerning pets or animals shall not pertain to individuals, who are visiting the "Battery" camp display and are not remaining within the "Battery" camp for an extended period of time.

Section 5. Any pet or animal, regardless of ownership, that is disrupting the normal duties of the camp or is damaging the equipment of the Battery or of the Battery members will not be tolerated by the Battery and the owner of the pet or animal will be requested to remove the pet or animal immediately.

#### ARTICLE XIII: DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1. Dues and assessments will be levied by the Executive Board with a 2/3 vote of the Battery membership.

Section 2. Dues are due and payable quarterly.

Section 3. If said dues have not been paid by the time of the annual meeting, those Battery members in arrears shall not be allowed to vote.

Section 4. Honorary and Junior members of the Battery are exempt from all dues and assessments.

Section 5. The treasurer shall collect all dues and assessments and provide a receipt thereof.

#### ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1. This Constitution and By-Laws may be ammended at the regular, special, or annual meeting by a 2/3 vote of the Battery members present and voting or by proxy, provided that a one (1) week notice including the subject of the proposed amendment(s) has been given in the call for the meeting.

#### ARTICLE XV: DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Upon the dissolution of Battery B, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, Inc., the Executive Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation in such manner, or to such an organization(s) organized and operating exclusively for caritable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization(s) under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Executive Board shall dertermine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for the purposes or to such organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are operated exclusively for such purposes.

May 31, 1987

Revision dates

10/11/87

I hereby acknowledge that I have received, read, and accept this Constitution of Battery B, First Rhode Light Artillery and that I will follow the covenants of this Constitution to the best of my ability.

-----  
Battery Members Signature

-----  
Date