

Assistance Committee Motions First Quarter 2010

Quarter Total = \$ 9,642.80

Areas of Operation:

- Thailand	\$ 6,610.20
- Laos	\$ 1,400.00
- Student Aid Fund	\$ 1,632.60
- Total ACA Funded Projects to date	\$ 40,904.33

Grand Total to Date = \$ 267,635.61

Motion 01-10 Quality of Life

Budget Amount = \$ 1,895.00 Actual Amount = \$ 1,250.96

John Middlewood has made the following motion:

A. Recommend 3500 baht(\$110.00) be approved to purchase 22 kindergarten sleeping mats for Ban Na Ratchakwai Noi elementary School. These mats will replace those purchased 5-6 years ago.

B. Recommend 2500 baht (\$765.00) be approved to purchase 28 kindergarten sleeping mats for Nong Nang Don Elementary School. This will be a first time for this school.

C. Recommend 9600 baht (\$295.00) be approved to purchase 6 cement tables and benches for Na Deua Elementary School. This will provide seating for all students and complete this project.

D. Recommend 15,500 baht (\$475.00) be approved to purchase 10 cement tables and benches for Wang Gra Sae Elementary School. This will provide full seating for this lunch area.

E. Recommend approval of 8,000 baht (\$250.00) to purchase two water filter units for Phon Suwang Elementary School

Exchange Rate 32.78 baht per 1 USD 2 January 2010

Motion 02-10 Medical Assistance

Budget Amount = \$ 305.00 Actual Amount = \$ 300.98

John Middlewood has made the following motion:

Recommend 10,000 baht (\$305.00) be approved to continue funding medical assistance for Siriluk and Nawaphon. Siriluk travels to Ubon every 2-3 weeks for treatment at a cost of 1500-2000 baht for each trip and Nawaphon will be traveling to Khon Kaen for surgery this month. Exchange Rate = 32.78 baht per 1 USD.

Motion 03-10 Student Aid Fund Withdrawal
Budget Amount = \$ 560.00 Actual Amount = \$ 541.80

John Middlewood has made the following motion:

A. Recommend 18,000 baht (\$560.00) be approved to fund the continuing Student scholarship program.

High School Students: 12 (@ 1,000 Baht per month each)

1. Amnuay Pilan
2. Amporn Athan
3. Chatdree Srika
4. Daroonee Jantana
5. Gasida Yamsin
6. Pataya Kawnsai
7. Phuvadon Thumtheang
8. Sirlinda Toomsan
9. Siripong Yapong
10. Surasuk Paravan
11. Wanida Hoomphang
12. Wasan Phaoom

College Students: 3 (@ 2,000 Baht per month each)

1. Achara Newkanyan
2. Prawanee Jaikang
3. Sangdao Wichasaa

Exchange Rate = 32.78 baht per 1 USD 2 January 2010

Motion 04-10 Chom Thong Primary School, Laos
Budget Amount = \$1,400.00

Mac Thompson has made the following motion:

PROPOSED: That up to \$1,400 be approved for repairs and modification of a school building at the Chom Thong Primary School, Muang Kham District, Xieng Khouang Province, for use as a combined Life Skills assembly and meeting hall and workshop room.

BACKGROUND: The Chom Thong Primary School is located in the town of Muang Kham, about one hour east of Phon Savanh, the provincial capital. (This town was more commonly known as "Ban Ban" 40 years ago.)

The school has three buildings, with 11 classrooms and 12 teachers and 298 students;

One building is 12 years old, with a concrete floor and brick-cement plaster walls, tin roof, 40 meters long with five rooms of which one is a classroom, one room is used as a library. The building has cracks in floor and walls. The doors and windows are askew and hard to open due to earth settling and cracking. The surface of the earth in many places in Kham District is unstable volcanic soil and cracks in buildings often happen. This leads to problems for building construction unless larger reinforced concrete footing, flooring and columns are used.

Funding is requested to rebuild/repair three rooms and convert them to a assembly hall / meeting / workshop room.

Labor to be provided by the villagers.

The tin roof can be used for 2-3 more years.

IMPLEMENTATION: The funds would be delivered to the representative of the Xieng Khouang PES (Provincial Education Service), Mr Soundeuan, during a visit to the school, in the presence of the school director and local district officials. Mr Soundeuan has suggested a change to the local handling of funds which we think is good. The funds will be put in a PES bank account and set up with a four-person sign-off for activity plan and for budget disbursement, including one each from: the PES, DEB (District Education Bureau) Kham, the school principal, and Soundeuan to disperse and follow-up on construction.

As an aside, Mr Soundeuan has proven himself very capable in handling such projects funded by the TLCB. He has already supervised two such in the past, Ban Phosy, Motion #39-08 and Ban Phak Khae, Motion 16-08. In addition, he accompanied Art Crisfield and myself on the overnight trip in June 2009 to Muang Mok to investigate a potential project there, and subsequently recommended against funding it, at that time. He is careful with TLCB funds.

Travel is planned for mid-January 2010 in conjunction with a completion inspection of the Ban Pakhe Dorm II follow-on project, Motion 28-09.

RECOMMENDATION: That the project as described above be approved

Motion 05-10 Quality of Life

Budget Amount = \$ 1,467.00 Actual Amount = \$ 1,462.01

John Middlewood has made the following motions:

A. Move that 15,500 baht (\$470.00) be approved to purchase 10 cement tables and benches for Nong Yang Sin School. This will complete this project.

B. I move that not more than 8000 baht (\$242.00) be approved to purchase materials to put in a new classroom ceiling in the building we have been rehabing at Nong Ya Sai Elementary School. This is another piece in a continuing suport to build additional classrooms for this school.

C. Purchase materials to rehab and tile three kindergarden classrooms at Ku Ru Kook School; at a cost not to exceed 25,000 baht. (755.00) This school has a new principal that we have followed from another school. This is her first effort at improving this school and I expect we will be helping her in the future.

Exchange rate a/o 2 Feb 2010 = 33.14 thb per usd.

Motion 06-10 Special Pla Pak Noi Project

Budget Amount = \$ 1,660.00 Actual Amount = \$ 1,540.92

John Middlewood has made the following motion to complete the project started with Motion 31-09 Special Pla Pak Noi Project :

A. Move that not more than 55,000 baht (\$1,660.00) be approved for the special school construction project at Pla Pak Noi elementary school. This will provide about 350 square yards of cement floor for the new building.

Exchange Rate a/o 2 Feb 2010 = 33.14 thb per usd.

Motion 07-10 Student Aid Funding

Budget Amount = \$ 545.00 Actual Amount = \$ 542.70

John Middlewood has made the following motion to fund the Student Aid Program:

A. Move that 18,000 baht (\$545.00) be approved for the continued support of students in high school and college.

High School Students: 12 (@ 1,000 Baht per month each)

1. Amnuay Pilan
2. Amporn Athan
3. Chatdree Srika
4. Daroonee Jantana
5. Gasida Yamsin
6. Pataya Kawnsai
7. Phuvadon Thumtheang
8. Sirlinda Toomsan
9. Siripong Yapong
10. Surasuk Paravan
11. Wanida Hoomphang
12. Wasan Phaoom

College Students: 3 (@ 2,000 Baht per month each)

1. Achara Newkanyan
2. Prawanee Jaikang
3. Sangdao Wichasaa

Exchange Rate as of 2 Feb 2010 is 33.14 thb per usd.

Motion 08-10 Udorn Project

Budgeted Amount = \$ 700.00 Actual Amount = \$ 700.00

Mac Thompson has made the following proposal for Udorn.

Udorn, some TLCB members might ask? Why not? Let's get something cranked up again if possible. We've been out of there for several years now since the bust up with the VFW there. Fine, no problem with that, but this proposal has NOTHING TO DO WITH THE VFW. They are completely out of the picture.

PROPOSED: That the TLCB co-fund a project at the Ban Charoen Suk School, Amphur Nam Som, Udorn, Lat/Long: 17-46-40N 102-08-18E. [check it out on Google Earth]
The TLCB contribution would be for \$700.

BACKGROUND: A site visit was made by Udorn residents Mike and Niyom Cosenza on 7 December 2009.

The school is about 35 years old and in pretty bad shape. It is located about 1-1/2 hours drive northwest of Udorn city up towards the Lao border. The school has two buildings, the original wooden classroom and a newer concrete one which also houses the admin offices of the school. The school has 83 students (Kindergarten 1 & 2, and Primary Grades 1-6) and five teachers. The majority of the students have no parents remaining in the village and are being cared for by relatives. The parents are working in other parts of the country or have just walked away from

them. The situation at the school is pretty grim with little to no money coming from the government. The government typically shells out baht 10 per student per day for lunch, however, for whatever reason, that money is no longer forthcoming thus forcing the teachers to buy food for the children. They have done this over the recent past but can no longer afford to carry on so.

The teachers have organized the children to take care of many of their own needs. They are growing their own vegetables and raising fish in a local pond to help feed themselves. One boy student was trained how to cut hair and is now the official barber for the boys. A girl student handles the same job for the girls. The classrooms are passable but they are dire need of chairs for the students, as most are broken or about on their last legs.

Priority for funding will be, with the children first, as follows:

1. jackets, shoes, and socks for all the students
2. 60 classroom chairs
3. water pump, hose, and fittings to irrigate their gardens with water from the pond.
4. cement to allow them a clean hard surface around the flagpole. This area is now dirt. Sand and gravel to be provided by the villagers
5. enamel paint and primer for the flag pole

All labor will be provided by the villagers or other volunteers.

Mike and Niyom Cosenza knew an American in Udorn very well, this man, Gary, died in 2009 and bequeathed about \$3,500 to the Cosenzas to provide for "good works" in the Udorn area. Note that the Udorn VFW is not involved in any way in this project, the group has not performed any community development effort for the past several years. This new project will be a strictly private effort between the Cosenzas and the TLCB.

Mike and Niyom made an initial distribution at the school on Christmas Day of the following items:

- Shoes (1 pr each)/Socks (2 pr each) - baht 13,276 (83 students)
- Chairs Plastic (60 each) - baht 5,100
- Bikes (6) - baht 7,400 [done by a drawing, one for each class]
- Jackets - baht 9,800 (83 students)
- Games Educational (Kindergarten) - baht 1,000
- plus some miscellaneous items

Total: about baht 38,000, approximately \$1,550

Items remaining and proposed for TLCB funding:

- cement
- water pump, pipe, and fittings for the school garden

Several photos attached of the school and the Christmas Day distribution.

IMPLEMENTATION:

This area which the teachers want the concrete for is the assembly area where all the students and teachers gather before class to pledge their allegiance to the King take attendance. It's an important part of the daily school life. The area is also used for play time during class recess. Mike met with the owner of a local Home Mart outlet (similar, but smaller, than Home Depot in the U.S.) to ask for some help with the cement. The owner advised that he would be happy to help supply the cement at below cost and transport it free to the school. Mike was floored because the other help offered was going to cost me 65,000B!!!

1. Dimensions of assembly area to be covered in concrete: 19 meters x 31 meters x 10cm thick
2. Bags of Portland cement (Tiger Brand): 300 bags @ baht 100 per bag = baht 30,000
3. Transportation to school: FREE, provided by Home Mart
4. All labor to be provided by local volunteers
5. To save money the teachers will use bamboo as reinforcing material in the concrete instead of steel
6. The teachers/villagers will obtain the sand and stone themselves
7. A water pump to irrigate the veggie/fruit garden (food for the students) will cost an additional baht 5,000

NOTE: Total comes to baht 35,000 or about \$1,070. The Home Mart manager is offering to make up the difference between the TLCB allocation and this amount.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the sum of \$700 be allocated for the Ban Charoen Suk School, Amphur Nam Som, Udorn.

Motion 09-10 Quality of Life

Budget Amount = \$ 1,060.00 Actual Amount = \$ 1,050.77

John Middlewood has made the following motion:

A. I move that 15,500 baht (\$478.00) be approved to purchase and additional 10 cement table sets for Nong Sang Elementary School. The school has around two hundred students. These additional tables will provide seating for about 180 students. Their current dining area has no room for more tables at this time.

B. I move that not more than 19,000 baht (\$585.00) be approved to purchase materials to complete classrooms and health station at Nong Ya Sai Elementary School. This will complete a project that has been in the mill for about 10 months now.

Exchange rate as of 1 March 2010: 32.53 thb per one usd.

Motion 10-10 Medical Assistance

Budget Amount = \$ 308.00

Actual Amount = \$ 304.56

John Middlewood has made the following motion:

A. I move that 10,000 baht (\$308.00) be approved for medical assistance. We currently have three children two going to Khon Kaen and one to Ubon on a regular basis. All other students that TLCB has assisted are cured and no longer have to go or on an annual checkup.

Exchange rate as of 1 March 2010 is 32.53 thb per usd.

Motion 11-10 Student Aid Expenditure

Budget Amount = \$ 554.00 Actual Amount = \$ 548.10

John Middlewood has made the following motion

A. I move that 18,000 baht (\$554.00) be approved for the student assistance program. This will be the last for this school year. April will be a closed month for the schools and May will begin the new school year. At that time a new list of students will be submitted for approval.

Exchange Rate as of 1 March 2010 = 32.53 thb per usd.

High School Students: 12 (@ 1,000 Baht per month each)

1. Amnuay Pilan
2. Amporn Athan
3. Chatdree Srika
4. Daroonee Jantana
5. Gasida Yamsin
6. Pataya Kawnsai
7. Phuvadon Thumtheang
8. Sirlinda Toomsan
9. Siripong Yapong
10. Surasuk Paravan
11. Wanida Hoomphang
12. Wasan Phaoom

College Students: 3 (@ 2,000 Baht per month each)

1. Achara Newkanyan
2. Prawanee Jaikang
3. Sangdao Wichasaa