



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Mar 21, 2016

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at the AZ State Veterans Home Tucson, Community Room, 555 E. Ajo Way, Tucson, AZ.

Opening Ceremony: Honors rendered to the Flag. Pledge recited. Invocation given.

Roll Call: Present were Cdr Bertagnoli; Sr-Vice Cdr Dyer; Jr-Vice Cdr Thompson; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Trustee Giroux; Trustee Ryan & Trustee Moore. Excused were Judge Advocate Slocum & Sgt-at-Arms Campos. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 14 chapter members were present. Kent Margason of LifeWave was a guest. Richard Perkins, Afghanistan veteran, was in attendance to join the chapter.

Guest Speaker: Kent spoke on the LifeWave technology to treat pain and inflammation issues. It is approved for veterans with disabilities who have VA award letters. Those who would like to can see Kent after the meeting. It is funded by a 2.5 million dollar grant through the Florida MOPH. It is basically free to the veteran.

Reports:

Minutes: A motion to approve the February minutes was made by Patriot Dyer & 2nd by Patriot Thompson. The minutes were approved unanimously. (See the Feb 2016 minutes)

Finance Report: The finance officer issued the finance report for February. The beginning balance was \$28,365.77. The ending balance was \$42,687.20. The chapter had \$14,321.43 in income and \$500.00 in expenses. A motion to approve the reports was made by Patriot Dyer and seconded by Patriot Moore. The finance report was approved unanimously. (See the Feb 2016 finance report.)

Americanism: Patriot Giroux updated on the JROTC award program. Presentations start on April 7 at the high schools and run until the end of April. Frank reviewed who the presenters are. This is the last year for JROTC at Ray HS. Patriot Alegria made a motion to fund the JROTC awards for \$1,400 (\$200 each). Patriot Ryan made a 2nd and the motion was approved unanimously. Frank will brief on the Memorial Day Ceremony at Purple Heart Park at the April meeting. It will be held at 10:00 AM on May 30th.

Welfare Report: Tabled until April

Trustee Report: The trustees conducted the semi-annual audit. No major issues but all warrants were not signed in a timely manner by the commander. This is primarily due to geography of where everyone lives. (See the Mar 2016 trustee report).

PH Golf Classic: Patriot Asbell reported that we are looking good for the classic. Bob feels that we will net about \$45,000.00 to \$50,000.00 range. Expenses will run about \$12,000.00. Bob is working on the brochure for the dinner. T-signs need to be in soon in order to get printed. Bob needs the certificates for the gold sponsors by April 4th. John will bring to the meeting. Patriot Alegria presented the proposed donations to give out at the banquet: \$3000 to Purple Mt. Institute; \$2,000 to 1-Veterans Foundation; \$3,500 to the Polytrauma Center; \$2,500 to Boots for Troops; \$5,000 to Find Your Fins; \$6,000 to VeloVets; \$8,000 to TROT; & \$10,000 to the AZ Fisher House. David gave a description of each program. Patriot Bertagnoli recommended we give 1 Veterans Foundation \$3,000. Patriot Alegria explained that we were initially denied the State Veterans Grant because of the amount of money on our end of year financial report. We need to give out most of the money before the end of the fiscal year. Patriot Dyer made a motion we approved the donations not to exceed \$41,000 to hand out at the banquet. Patriot Zimmerman made a second and the motion passed unanimously. Items are needed for the auction and raffle.

Old Business:

Bingo: Bingo at the VA will be on Mar 26th . Patriot Slocum, Patriot Ryan and Patriot Bertagnoli will be at Bingo.

Expenditures: Patriot Dyer made a motion to approved automatic transaction fees from PayPal of \$7.55, \$14.80, \$29.30, \$1.75, \$17.70, \$1.75, & \$7.55. Patriot Alegria made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously. Patriot Alegria made a motion that the full membership approve the email votes the officers took to provide \$500 in assistance to help Clarissa Geborkoff visit her wounded warrior son at Walter Reed's Fisher House and \$159 to pay half the water bill for a young single dad veteran with children (another veterans group will pay the other half). Patriot Dyer made the 2nd and the vote passed unanimously. Patriot Zimmerman requested a copy of the bill be attached to the warrant.

New Business:

Elections: Patriot Bertagnoli and Patriot Dyer were nominated for Commander. Patriot Dyer declined to run. Patriot Dyer was nominated for Sr. Vice Commander. Patrick Herron was nominated as Jr. Vice Commander. Patriot Zimmerman was nominated as Finance Officer. Patriot Perkins was nominated as Sergeant-at-Arms pending approval of his membership by national. Patriot Gilbert was nominated as Trustee. Patriot Moore was nominated as Trustee. Patriot Ryan was nominated as Trustee. Patriot Giroux was nominated for Judge Advocate. Elections will be held at the April meeting.

Boots for Troops: Tabled. Members were encouraged to look at their website.

Sahuarita Veterans Memorial: Tabled. No new information.

Dept of Labor Homeless Grants: The chapter is not eligible since we don't hire and employ.

Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame: The HOF has asked for nominates for the AZ HOF. Patriot Dyer nominated Patriot Alegria. Patriot Ryan made a 2nd and the chapter approved unanimously. Patriot Moore will get David the packet and the chapter will provide whatever assistance is needed.

Good of Order: Patriot Giroux read Gen Washington's acceptance speech on appointment as Commander of the Continental Army. Patriot Alegria went to the retiree orientation at DMAFB. The retire office will assist any military retiree with taxes. Once a month the JAG office has 5 lawyers that will provide legal advice. Retirees need an appointment to take advantage of the services offered. Patriot Alegria will attend a PH presentation for Harry Dursema at Senator Flake's office. Patriot Dyer reminded everyone about the new Veterans Cemetery Dedication Ceremony on Mar 26 at 10:00AM. Patriot Thompson will be adding a Purple Heart display to the displays he puts on at various organizations. Patriot Alegria mentioned that the VA will have a ceremony for National Vietnam Veterans Day on March 29th. He is the guest speaker. Patriot Zimmerman donated two Vietnam themed paintings he won to the chapter to use to raise funds.

Closing Ceremony: Moment of silence for departed Patriots. Benediction. Honors to the Flag.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM. Next meeting is May 16th, 2016.