



## MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

web page: <http://mophtucson.webs.com/>

email: MOPHChapter442@comcast.net

### MINUTES: Jun 15, 2015

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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, David Bertagnoli; Sr-Vice Cdr, Mike Dyer; Jr-Vice Cdr Johnny Thompson; Finance Officer Jim Zimmerman; Judge Advocate, Bob Slocum; Trustee Year 1, Frank Giroux; & Trustee Year 2, John Moore.. Absent were Sgt-at-Arms, Ruben Campos & Trustee Year 3, Mike Ryan. A quorum was present.

**Attendance:** 11 chapter members and 2 guests were in attendance.

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the May minutes was made by Mike Dyer & 2nd by Bob Slocum. The minutes were approved unanimously. (See the May minutes)

**Guests:** Soulistic Hospice (non-profit organization) gave a presentation on their hospice services. They are contracted with the VA hospital and provide services to veterans. Service are 100% covered by Medicare or VA benefits. More information is available at 520-398-2333.

### Reports:

**Finance Report:** The Finance Officer issued the finance report for May. The beginning balance was \$32,938.65. We received donations totaling \$861.32 & we spent \$10,744.55. The ending balance was \$23,055.42. A discussion was held on what checks have not cleared yet. A motion to approve the reports was made by David Alegria and seconded by John Moore. The finance report was approved unanimously. (See the May finance reports.)

**Americanism:** Frank Giroux asked that he be provided with the schools who did not cash the JROTC award checks so he can follow-up with the schools. Frank gave an overview of the Department meeting. It went well. New Department by-laws were issued. Frank received Patriot Slocum's Department Patriot of the Year award at the meeting and presented it to Bob who was recognized by the chapter membership. Frank gave an overview of the Americanism report he will be submitting on the chapter's Americanism efforts. Purple Heart Part is replacing the park sign with a new one. The wording may change on the sign.

### Old Business:

**Bingo:** David Bertagnoli will not be at bingo for June. Dave will contact Mike to see if he will call. Bob Slocum will bring the bag.

**Expenditures:** We had approved \$500 for the badges of merit but with shipping it was \$520. Mike Dyer moved we approve the \$20 for shipping and Bob Slocum made the 2nd. The motion was approved unanimously. The officers held an email vote to approve \$562 for meals for the Tucson Stand-down in June. Jim Zimmerman made a motion that the full membership approve the expenditure. Johnny Thompson made the second and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Assistance to a member:** Frank Giroux indicated that Leslie Warman is still having financial problems and behind on bills. Frank is trying to connect her to the NSO. The consensus is that we have helped her several times already as a group. Individuals can help her if they want.

**CFR 38 Letter:** The commander will get it finished in the next few weeks. He has been out of town. Concept to send a letter from the chapter was approved at the last meeting. Individuals can use as a guide to do their own letter if they desire.

### **New Business:**

**PTSD Funding:** Bob Slocum sent info out on the Purple Mt. Institute. Purple Mt. has a "Mindful Veterans Project" that treats veterans with PTSD at no charge. A discussion was held about their program. Bob Slocum made a motion that we donate \$4000.00 to Purple Mt Institute to provide PTSD treatment to 10 veterans. Mike Dyer seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**Marana Purple Heart Town:** Mike Dyer reported that the proclamation has been placed for display in the town hall.

**PH Classic Final Report:** David Alegria provided a written copy of the AAR on the PH Classic that he briefed the membership on in the May meeting. Bob Slocum made a motion to place the report in the record. Jim Zimmerman made a 2nd and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Assistance Policy:** The commander has approved a new assistance policy. A motion was made to place the policy into the record by Bob Slocum. David Alegria made a second and the motion was approved unanimously.

**P.O Box:** John Moore indicated that he got in contact with Pat Kilburn and the P.O. Box we are using is Pat Kilburn's personal box. Frank Giroux made a motion that the chapter get P.O. Box at a cost not to exceed \$200 for a year. Mike Dyer made a 2nd and the motion approved unanimously.

### **Good of Order:**

**Veterans Day:** David Alegria reported on the City of Tucson's expanded Veterans Day activities. Lee Greenwood will give a concert on 13 Nov at the Fox Theater. On 14 Nov the Tucson Pops Orchestra will play at Reid Park. There will be food truck, bands, fireworks and other activities. More info will follow. The Mayor will proclaim Tucson a Purple Heart City.

**Purple Heart Pens:** Bob Slocum reported that the AZ State Veterans Home and VA Hosp are looking at how to identify PH recipients to received the Purpleheart Wood pens from SAWA.

**Bingo Books:** Bob Slocum now has the info on how to order the coupon books for when we order in the future.

**Students Volunteering for Veterans:** Bob Slocum reported that it costs \$40 to host a student volunteer. The applications for the summer 2016 session will be available in Jan. Bob will get information on had to sponsor students. Several members will support 2 students. The student's volunteer hours count towards our volunteer hours. Mike Dyer will check with his youth group at his church.

**Department Website:** Frank Giroux indicated that the state is looking into a department website and has a committee looking into it.

**Meeting Time:** John Moore suggested moving the meetings to 5:00PM to help those that don't drive at night. Bob made a motion to move the meetings to 5:00PM. John Moore made a second and the motion was approved unanimously.

**July/August Meeting:** The chapter will go dark and not meet in July or August. Mike Dyer will look into hosting an informal gathering at his house and get back to us.

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

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM. Next meeting is Sep 21, 2015.