



## MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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### MINUTES: Oct 19, 2015

**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 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 & Trustee Year 3, Mike Ryan. Excused were Cdr, David Bertagnoli; & Sgt-at-Arms, Ruben Campos. A quorum was present.

**Attendance:** 10 chapter members.

**Agenda:** A motion to place the agenda for the meeting into the record was made by Bob Slocum. It was 2nd by John Moore and approved unanimously.

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the Sep minutes was made by David Alegria & 2nd by Mike Ryan. The minutes were approved unanimously. (See the Sep minutes)

### Reports:

**Finance Report:** The Finance Officer issued the finance report for Jun, July & August. The beginning balance was \$13,354.27. The ending balance was \$13,779.82. A motion to approve the reports was made by Mike Ryan and seconded by Bob Slocum. The finance report was approved unanimously. (See the Sep finance report.)

**Americanism:** No report.

**Welfare Report:** Bob Slocum reported that the donated bicycle had been repaired by a local cycle shop for free and the veteran has it. He is appreciative and getting to work. Bob indicated we had a lot of hospital visit hours this past report period. Bob indicated that there are housing units available that need furniture for homeless vets. David Alegria gave Bob info on the furniture that should be in the city warehouse. Frank made a motion to accept the welfare report. Mike Ryan made a second and the motion was approved unanimously.

### Old Business:

**Bingo:** Bingo at the VA will be on Oct. 31st.

**Hats Off to Heroes:** Tucson will be proclaimed a PH city by the Mayor. PH recipients if they give David Alegria their name they will be put on the VIP food tent list. Nov 14th at Reid Park. There will be activities all day. A email will be sent out to the membership. MOPH should have a resource table there. John Moore will look at it.

**Veterans Day Parade:** Our application is in and approved. We have space for 8 cars in the parade. Be lined up by 10:15 AM. Map and staging info will follow.

**Storage Locker:** Bob Slocum reported that he and John Moore had moved to the new donated (free) locker at Ina Rd Self Storage.

**Oro Valley Fundraiser:** Bob Slocum reminded everyone that the fundraiser is on Nov 6 & 7. Contact him or John Moore if you can help.

**Esperanza En Escalante:** At the commander's request Bob Slocum checked on needs for EEE. The primary need is for cleaning supplies since the veterans can't use their food stamps for the supplies. The cost is about \$500 per month. Bob made a motion to give them \$500 for this month. It was 2nd by Frank Giroux. After a discussion where other ideas were discussed Bob withdrew the motion. He will contact some businesses about donating supplies. The chapter officers will look long term at what homeless programs to fund from the PH classic.

**PH Classic:** Nov 4th at 10:00 AM the golf committee and any officers who want to attend are welcome. It will set responsibilities for management and record keeping for the classic. David Alegria will do an application to the State Veterans Fund again this year for \$5,000 for the classic. A discussion was held on 501(c)3 donations. We are working with National on the issue.

#### **New Business:**

**PH Recognition for Honor Flight:** Bob Slocum is looking at ways to recognize PH recipients that are on honor flight. Looking at ways to present them the PH writing pens. Also looking at doing a card to include in mail call on the return flights. More to follow. Looking at getting a chapter in the DC area involved.

**Welcome Home Program at VA:** Bob Slocum had a meeting with the VA to look at how to identify PH recipients. The welcome volunteers have Bob's business cards to give to patients that are PH recipients. We will work on a flyer for the welcome volunteers to use to help ID patients that are PH recipients. We will see how it is going in January.

**DEC Meeting:** Frank Giroux briefed on the State DEC meeting. There are now 11 chapters in the state. The State now has a website and a Facebook page. Frank Giroux submitted our request for \$1,000 for the Tucson Stand Down. State issued \$3,000 to the Alliance in June which will dole out the money. They asked for us to hold our request until they see how the \$3,000 was handed out .

**Walmart Gift Card:** Walmart donated a \$25 gift card to the chapter. David Alegria made a motion that the gift card be used for finance officer supplies. Bob Slocum made a 2nd and the motion was approved unanimously.

**PH Award Ceremony at State Vets Home:** David Alegria briefed on the ceremony of the award by Martha McSally to Leo Silverstein, a 93 year old WWII veteran.

**Expenditures:** The officers by email voted to approved \$13.71 to ship PH Coins to state; credit card swipe fee of \$10.00; brochure mailing of \$8.70; mini PH medal for MIAP \$15.40; PH Golf classic brochure printing \$257.89; and deposit for the PH golf classic golf course \$500.00. David Alegria made a motion that the full membership approve the expenditures authorized by an email vote of the officers. Mike Ryan made the second and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Christmas Gift Bags:** The ladies from the Bridge Church has started collecting gifts for the Christmas gift bags.

#### **Good of Order:**

**MIAP:** The interment of the homeless/unclaimed veterans remains is this Saturday Oct 24th at 8:30 AM. They will depart to Sierra Vista at 10:15 AM. Contact Bob Slocum on details for the mission.

**New State Cemetery:** The new veterans cemetery in Marana will open in January. Bob has info on the back table.

**Operation Exodus:** Bob gave the times for the missions this holidays and the signup procedures. He will put out more info next meeting.

**Returned PH:** Mike Ryan has a recovered PH engraved with recipient's name. John Moore will contact National to get it reunited with the owner.

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

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 PM. Next meeting is Nov 16, 2015.