



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Nov 16, 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 Cdr, Dave Bertagnoli; Sr-Vice Cdr, Mike Dyer; Jr-Vice Cdr Johnny Thompson; Judge Advocate, Bob Slocum; Trustee Year 1, Frank Giroux; Trustee Year 2, & John Moore. Excused were Finance Officer Jim Zimmerman; Trustee Year 3, Mike Ryan; & Sgt-at-Arms, Ruben Campos. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 11 chapter members and 1 guest, Larry Trush. Larry is joining the chapter.

Minutes: A motion to approve the Oct minutes was made by David Alegria & 2nd by Joe Stroud. The minutes were approved unanimously. (See the October minutes)

Reports:

Finance Report: The adjutant issued the finance report for October. The beginning balance was \$13,779.82. The ending balance was \$14,739.42. The chapter had \$1,300.59 in income and \$340.99 in expenses. A motion to approve the reports was made by Mike Ryan and seconded by David Alegria. The finance report was approved unanimously. (See the October finance report.)

Americanism: Frank Giroux asked that if you find out about any changes in the JROTC schools you present at to let him know. David Alegria reminded everyone to send Hats-Off-To-Heroes hours to Frank for the Americanism 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.

Commander's Report: - The commander reported that Leo Silverstein had passed away. The chapter helped him receive his Purple Heart last month from WWII. The family needs help with burial expenses. The commander will call the family for specifics. Bob Slocum will check with the Jewish War Veteran rep at the Veterans Affairs Council.

- The Oro Valley fundraiser went well. We made \$802.65

- We will start nominating for new officers in February and elect in March. The adjutant will send out an email. Bob Slocum indicated he will hold any positions in the next term. He will finish out the term for the Veterans Affairs Council.

Old Business:

Bingo: Bingo at the VA will be on Nov 28th. Mike Ryan, Bob Slocum, & Dave Bertagnoli will cover. It was reported last month that bingo only had a couple of months of canteen books left as prizes. John Moore made a motion that \$750.00 be allocated to purchase canteen books. David Alegria made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Christmas Gift Bags: The ladies from the Bridge Church are working on the current wish list from the home. There are 114 veterans in the home. 7 are female.

Hats Off to Heroes: David Alegria briefed that the event went really well. Area military organizations and veterans groups had displays and resource tables. The Tucson Pops Orchestra and the American Bombshells put on a great concert. They have been booked for next year. The

event will be on Nov 12, 2016. The Mayor proclaimed Tucson a Purple Heart City. The fireworks show was great. The crowd was small but it was the first year we did it. The city is starting early planning for next year.

Veterans Day Parade: The parade went well. The crowd was the largest in the last five years. We had 6 vehicles in the parade.

PH Classic: Bob Asbell briefed on how to talk to donors and golfers. Stress to them that this is a pure fundraiser and 100% of the monies stay in the Tucson area and go to veterans programs here. Bob Asbell and David Alegria presented a plan to bring the Fisher House board in as a partner in the PH Classic. (See Fisher House Partnership Handout). Bob Asbell made a motion to accept the plan and Mike Dyer made a second. The motion was approved unanimously. The golf committee presented the proposed budget for the PH Classic. Estimated \$63,700.00 in income, \$13,700.00 in expenditures, for a net income of \$50,000.00. The projected program use for the income will be for the Polytrauma unit, TROT, Fisher House, Purple Mt Institute, VA Homeless program, VeloVets, and emergency assistance. (see budget handout). Bob Asbell made a motion to accept the budget and Joe Stroud made a second. The motion was approved. A discussion was held on the benefits of an ad for the PH Classic. Mike Dyer made a motion to place an ad in the Daily Star for the classic not to exceed \$2000.00. Joe Stroud made a second and the motion was approved.

Esperanza En Escalante: Bob Slocum reported that EEE still has the need for assistance that he and Roger Gilbert briefed on last month. Bob Slocum made a motion that we provide EEE with \$1,000.00. Frank Giroux made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans: David Alegria made a motion that we provide TVSV an additional \$1,000.00 for the next stand-down. John Moore made the 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Leo Silverstein Funeral: A discussion was held on authorizing an amount of money paid to the funeral provider for Leo's burial expenses. David Alegria made a motion to provide \$250.00 for burial expenses. Mike Dyer made a 2nd and the motion was passed unanimously.

Expenditures: The officers by email voted to approved \$280.31 in emergency assistance to a widow of a PH recipient for her gas bill and \$532.18 for her electric bill. Bob Slocum made a motion that the full membership approve the expenditures authorized by an email vote of the officers. Frank Giroux made the second and the motion was approved unanimously.

Good of Order:

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

PH Hall of Honor: Frank Giroux recommended everyone get there story placed in the hall. Information is on the website.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. Next meeting is Dec 21, 2015.