



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Mar 16, 2015

Call to Order: The meeting of Ft. Lowell Chapter 442 of the MOPH 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: Members rendered honors to the Flag. Pledge led by the Commander. Invocation given by the Chaplain.

Roll Call: Present were Cdr, David Bertagnoli; Trustee Year 3, Mike Ryan; Sr-Vice Cdr, Mike Dyer; Jr-vice cdr (elect) Johnny Thompson; Finance Officer Jim Zimmerman; Trustee Year 1, Frank Giroux & Trustee Year 2, John Moore. Excused was Sgt-at-Arms, Ruben Campos & Judge Advocate, Bob Slocum. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 10 chapter members & 2 guests were in attendance. Veronica Harper was a guest. Veronica introduced herself to the membership. She lives in Marana and is the daughter of a PH recipient (deceased) and also the mother of a PH recipient. She is applying for association membership to continue her father's legacy with MOPH. The membership welcomed Veronica to the chapter. Mr. Gomez from Vantage West explained the credit card readers for the smart phones for use at the PH Golf Classic.

Minutes: A motion to approve the Jan & Feb minutes was made by Mike Dyer & 2nd by David Alegria. The minutes were approved unanimously. (See the January & February minutes).

Reports:

Finance Report: The Finance Officer provided the finance reports for December, January & February. The beginning balance was \$16,351.74. The ending balance was \$30,401.11. We received donations totaling \$19,021.70. We spent \$5,022.33. A motion to approve the reports was made by Mike Dyer and seconded by Mike Ryan. The finance reports were approved unanimously (see the Finance Reports). Mike Ryan on behalf of the membership thanked Jim Zimmerman for taking over the Finance Officer position upon David Warman's death. The commander stated we all owe Jim a thank you for his work on the Finance records.

Americanism: Frank Giroux gave an overview of who is presenting the 11 JROTC & ROTC leadership awards in April. Frank Giroux, the Americanism Officer, presented Veronica Harper with a Badge of Merit and PH necklace in honor of her father wounded in Vietnam & her son who was wounded in Afghanistan. A discussion was held on the amount and purpose of the JROTC awards. If the cadet is a "no show" without a good reason for the award, bring the check & award back to the chapter. Do not leave it with the JROTC department. Frank is encouraging thank you cards from the cadet. The chapter decided to continue the \$200 leadership awards "as is" from the chapter. Frank Giroux made a motion to approve \$1400.00 for the 7 awards. Mike Ryan made the second & the motion was unanimously approved. The chapter will research if monies can be given to the ROTC department instead of the cadet.

Old Business:

Purple Heart Golf Classic: David Alegria reported that the PH Classic will bring in excess of \$50,000.00 and expenses will be about \$11,000. David made a motion that we award \$21,000.00 to the following organizations: \$5,000.00 to Therapeutic Riding of Tucson,

\$5,000.00 to the VA PolyTrauma/TBI program at the VA; \$5,000.00 to the Fisher House; \$3,000.00 to Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans for Stand-down; & \$3,000 to the VA Homeless program in Tucson. Mike Ryan 2nd the motion and it passed unanimously. The checks will be presented at the dinner the evening of the PH Classic.

Bingo: Bingo at the VA will be on the 28th. Mike Ryan & David Bertagnoli will cover Bingo.

Expenditures: Mike Ryan made a motion to approve \$108.07 for Finance Officer supplies. 2nd by Mike Dyer and unanimously approved. Dave Bertagnoli made a motion to approve \$74.55 for Adjutant supplies. Frank Giroux made a 2nd and the motion was unanimously approved. Dave Bertagnoli made a motion to approve \$200 for a Safeway card for David Warman's widow. Mike Ryan made a 2nd and the motion was unanimously approved. Dave Bertagnoli made a motion to approve \$50 for the pastor for David Warman's memorial service. Mike Ryan made a 2nd and the motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

Fairway Mortgage: Fairway Mortgage will give us table space and attendance for 2 at their boot camp on April 15 for real estate professionals assisting Veterans purchase homes. The activity is at the Pima Air Museum. The commander asked Johnny Thompson to check with the museum on the particulars.

Displays for PH Classic: Johnny Thompson has displays on WWI through Vietnam that he can make available for the Golf Tourney if the chapter would like them setup. If we want them the displays should focus on Vietnam. The club house entry going to the dining room would be a good place to set the display up. The membership thought it would be a good idea. The Golf Committee would need to approve it.

Special Election: The commander opened the floor to any additional nominations for the positions of Jr. Vice Commander. Johnny Thompson was nominated for the position at the March meeting. Nominations were closed. John Moore made a motion that the slate be accepted unanimously by the membership. Mike Ryan made the 2nd. The election was held and the slate of Johnny Thompson for Jr. Vice-Commander was unanimously approved by the membership. Installation will take place at the Apr meeting.

Good of Order: Mike Ryan mentioned that a veteran, Jackson Metzger, at NAU. He need helps with his GI Bill that NAU won't help with. Frank suggested contacting Billy Weldon for help. Johnny Thompson is setting up a display for the PolyTrauma/TBI wing at the VA. Dave Bertagnoli is helping a Veteran who declined a PH 5 years ago obtain his PH award. He will turn the file over to the State Commander for help.

Closing Ceremony: Moment of silence for departed Patriots. Benediction by the Chaplain. Honors were rendered to the National Flag.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM. Next meeting is Apr 20, 2015.

John R. Moore
Adjutant
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Military Order of the Purple Heart
Tucson, AZ