



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Nov 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 - Cdr Bertagnoli; Sr-Vice Cdr Dyer; Jr-Vice Cdr Herron; Judge Advocate Giroux; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Trustee Moore; & Trustee Gilbert. Excused - Trustee Ryan. Absent - Sgt-at-Arms Perkins. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 12 chapter members present. No guests attended the meeting.

Reports:

Minutes: Motion to approve the Oct minutes was made by Patriot Dyer & 2nd by Patriot Gilbert. Approved unanimously.

Finance Report: The beginning balance was \$18,983.48. The ending balance was \$17,564.25. The chapter had \$1,030.77 in income & \$2,163.66 in expenditures. Motion to approve the report was made by Patriot Dyer & 2nd by Patriot Slocum. Approved unanimously.

Americanism: Patriot Giroux is still looking for a vendor who can make the Badge of Merit patch. He does not want to use a vendor who will outsource the order overseas. Patriots Asbell and Gilbert provided some suggestions. Patriot Giroux will follow up. Patriot Moore reminded everyone to give there Americanism hours to Patriot Giroux.

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: The new Veterans Cemetery is still having problems getting signage on I10. They are still selling pavers. DIC claims are a problem. The boards have been instructed to decrease the number. There is a big backlog. Operation Exodus is still short volunteers. Time slots are still available for signup. The next MIAP mission is schedule for Apr 8th but will be moved because it conflicts with the Osprey Memorial Ceremony which also is on Apr 8th. The 4 Chaplains Ceremony is on Super Bowl Sunday at 1:00 PM at Kino Veterans Memorial.

Welfare Report: No Report.

PH Golf Classic: Patriot Asbell indicated the tournament is a go. He had a good meeting with the Fisher House and they are fully on board. We will need a lot of volunteers the day of the tournament and the night of the dinner. Patriots Asbell and Alegria are looking at sources but we need more from the chapter this year. Empower Inc. is going to donate us 70% of what they take in this year. Patriot Moore went over the accounting procedures for the tournament. All donations come to him to and get logged in and deposited. Patriot Alegria stress the importance of everyone selling T-Signs.

Old Business:

Bingo: Bingo at the VA is Nov 26. Patriot Slocum & Patriot Bertagnoli will be at Bingo. Patriot Herron provided para-cord bracelets he had made for Bingo prizes. Patriot Slocum recommended we look at restocking bingo prizes. Mini-flashlights are a popular item.

Toastmasters: Patriot Grand briefed that Veterans Toastmasters club has chartered 25 members. They are meeting at the Pima College Downtown Campus on Friday's at 3:30 to 4:30 PM. All are welcome to come and observe. They have had 3 meeting with attendance at about 18 per meeting. A motion for \$500 to help fund the toastmasters was made by Patriot Grand & 2nd by Patriot Dyer. Approved unanimously.

New Business:

Certificate of Appreciate: The commander presented Patriot Asbell with a certificate for his work for the chapter over the last year. The membership also thanked Patriot Asbell.

Bronze Star (WWII): Patriot Thompson, chapter historian, provided an info sheet on obtaining the Bronze Star for WWII veterans who have the CIB. After the war congress authorized CIB recipients the Bronze Star. Those already separated may not have received it and he explained how to help WWII vets to request it. Patriot Thompson will help those who want to request awards. A discussion was held on requesting missing awards for all eras.

Christmas at VA: Patriot Dyer's church has another project this year and can't assist. They will provide some blankets they have made. Patriot Moore will coordinate with the Veterans Home for a 1:00 PM gift pass on Christmas Eve day. Patriot Moore will inventory the tote bags we have in storage. Patriot Thompson will talk to the church ladies in his neighborhood. Patriot Slocum will be Santa if available.

Routine Expenditures: The officers voted by email to approve \$200.00 for the family of the Tucsonan soldier killed in Jordan. \$150.00 for Wreaths Across America at Evergreen Cemetery. \$500 dollars for dental surgery for a Veteran's wife with stage 4 cancer.. Patriot Alegria made a motion to place the expenditures into the record & Patriot Slocum made the 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

Recruitment of Members: Patriot Dyer asked for ideas on how to get more members. A discussion was held on ideas to increase membership. Patriot Herron suggested we have a brochure to leave on autos that we see with PH plates. Patriot Giroux suggested we add a label with chapter info to the brochure. Patriot Moore will come up with a label to go on the brochures we have from national and bring to the next meeting.

VAVS Representative: We need a VAVS/Welfare Officer. Patriot Herron has an employment conflict and can't be the representative. The meetings are held once a quarter. Patriot Thompson agreed to be the primary representative and the commander will be the alternate. The adjutant will get the letter requesting the change done for the commander's signature.

Good of Order: Patriot Slocum went over a list of clothing needed for the January Stand-Down. 4 Jan will be the clothing sort day. Patriot Slocum made a motion that we fund the Stand-Down with \$1,000.00 & Patriot Gilbert made a 2nd. After a discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Patriot Slocum briefed on the Oro Valley First Responders Memorial kick-off gala on Jan 27th. Invites will be sent to chapter and department leadership.

Patriot Alegria suggested that we need a special meeting to plan on how to use our funds we raise in the year going forward. We will meet at 3:30 PM on Dec 19th here at the community room. If interested in planning the use of funds for next year please attend this meeting.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM. Next meeting is Dec 19, 2016.