



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Sep 19, 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; Judge Advocate Giroux; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Trustee Moore; & Trustee Gilbert. Excused - Sr-Vice Cdr Dyer; Jr-Vice Cdr Herron; & Trustee Ryan; Absent - Sgt-at-Arms Perkins. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 9 chapter members present. Ed McGlynn, Dept of AZ MOPH Inspector was a guest.

Reports:

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

Finance Report: The beginning balance was \$17,072.75. The ending balance was \$20,646.30. The chapter had \$7,551.61 in income & \$3,978.06 in expenditures. Motion to approve the report was made by Patriot Gilbert & 2nd by Patriot Alegria. Approved unanimously.

Americanism: A discussion was held about the monetary award that we provide to the JROTC leadership awardees. Is this money well spent? The Cdr wants us to think about it for discussion at the Oct. meeting.

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: The Four Chaplains Ceremony will be held on Feb 2. Hats Off to Heroes will be held at Reid Park on Nov 12th. The AZ Dept of Veterans Services/VVA is holding a Vietnam Veterans Appreciation free lunch on Sep 30. There are 200 slots & only 85 attendees so far. Honor Flight returns to TIA tonight after the meeting. We are presenting a purpleheart wood pen & challenge coin to a B-17 waist-gunner who is on the flight. MIAP mission is on Oct 15th. 25 veterans & 2 spouses will be interred at the Marana Veterans Cemetery.

Welfare Report: No Report.

PH Golf Classic: Patriot Alegria gave an update on the partnership with the Fisher House. He briefed on changes in the plans to track income this year. With the amount of monies we have coming in we need to have a good accounting system. A concern was mentioned about refunds for golfers on the stand-by list. The Finance Officer & David Alegria said we have done it in the past & we issue a debit warrant. All donations this year will go to the adjutant who will make the deposits. A meeting will be held later to work out the details on tracking. Fisher House will provide clerical staff (Liz) to manage the database of donors. The vendor for the Challenge Coins appears to be out of business & David is looking for a new vendor. The printed brochures are now available. We need to get them passed out to local businesses, etc.

Old Business:

Bingo: Bingo at the VA is Sep 24. Patriot Slocum & Patriot Bertagnoli will be at Bingo.

Toastmasters: Patriot Grioux asked the adjutant by email to inform the group that he only needs 2 more veterans for the Veteran's Toastmasters group. The adjutant has the applications if anyone knows anyone interested..

New Business:

DEC Meeting: Patriot Alegria & Patriot Giroux will attend the DEC meeting in Oct. One topic will be fundraising & funding sources. We provided the Department with a summary of what we do. Patriot Slocum asked that funding for stand-down be addressed. Money from the Alliance does not seem to get to

the folks on the ground here in Tucson. Patriot Alegria indicated that that issue had already been addressed. Patriot Slocum requested that our reps ask for monies specifically for the Tucson Standdown.

Operation Exodus: Bob Slocum made a motion to support Operation Exodus with \$100 & the Four Chaplains Ceremony with \$100. Patriot Giroux made the 2nd & the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Report: The trustee's conducted the semi-annual audit of the Finance records on Sep 19. No major problems were noted. One warrant had a 3 cent error which was corrected by the adjutant. Patriot Slocum made a motion to place the audit into the record. Patriot Giroux made the 2nd & the motion passed unanimously.

Accountability of Recipients of our Donations: Patriot Dyer asked the Cdr by email that we discuss this at the meeting. A discussion was held. Patriot Alegria will take care of this for the organizations the classic donates to. When we make donations we will ask organizations to let us know how the monies are used.

Mini-PH Medals for MIAP: Patriot Slocum made a request that he be authorized to purchase mini-PH medals at \$16 each for the urns of the homeless being buried in the MIAP. Patriot Alegria made a motion that Patriot Slocum purchased the required number for each MIAP mission. Patriot Giroux made the 2nd & the motion passed unanimously.

Veterans Day Parade: Patriot Moore has the application & will get it into the American Legion. The theme is Remembering Pearl Harbor. We currently have 4 cars in the event. Patriot Slocum's father-in-law is a Pearl Harbor survivor & will ride with us. We have one chapter member who is a survivor who Patriot Moore will contact.

Hats Off to Heroes: We will have a MOPH table at the event. Patriot's Moore, Bertagnoli, & Zimmerman will man the table.

Routine Expenditures: The officers voted by email to approve \$263.61 for new checks/finance supplies, \$475 for rent assistance to a PH widow, \$2,000.00 deposit for the PH Golf Classic golf course, \$70.00 to renew the PO box, \$150 for school supplies for school kids of homeless veterans at EEE, \$279.96 for the electric bill for a PH widow, \$500.00 for the June Stand-down, \$163.66 to print the brochures for the PH Classic & \$500.00 for Dept of LA MOPH for flood relief for veterans. Patriot Alegria made a motion to place the expenditures into the record & Patriot Gilbert made the 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

Spending to Support Veterans: Patriot Alegria proposed we hold a separate meeting to brainstorm ideas for spending the monies we have. We need a focus before we chose organizations to assist. Patriot Slocum recommended that for transparency it should be a special meeting that includes all members. He would like to see support for Standdown, EEE, & Honor Flight. Early Nov looks good for the meeting.

EEE: A discussion was held on supporting EEE for food. EEE has 75 residents including 12 children. Patriot Giroux made a motion that we fund 3 months of food at \$1,500.00 (\$500.00 per month) for the last quarter of the year. Patriot Slocum made a 2nd. The motion passed unanimously. Patriot Giroux made a motion to provide EEE with \$500 for cleaning supplies. Patriot Slocum made the 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

1 Veterans Foundation: A discussion was held on funding training of service dogs. Patriot Slocum made a motion to provide \$1,000.00. Patriot Giroux made a second & the motion passed unanimously.

Good of Order: Patriot Zimmerman briefed that NamJam is on Oct 8th & is free. Patriot Slocum briefed that the YMCA is holding a Military Ball for active, reserve, veterans on Nov 11th. A call tree has been started for veteran funerals at the new veterans cemetery for internments where no one is in attendance for the burial. Patriot Slocum briefed that local veterans organizations want to form a consolidated honor guard. Patriot Moore will email the membership. Patriot Moore read the thank you cards/letters we had gotten for some of our donations. Patriot Moore read the names of 6 departed Patriots since the last life membership report. Patriot Thompson briefed on his displays he is setting up for Veterans Day week/weekend. His focus is on WWII/Korea. Marana's Cotton Festival is on Oct 15th if we want to have a table.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM. Next meeting is Oct 17, 2016.