



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Jan 15, 2018

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

Attendance: 10 chapter members present.

Guests: - Patriot Parkinson, State Inspector

Reports:

Minutes: Motion to approve the Dec minutes was made by Patriot Dyer. No discussion & 2nd by Patriot Gilbert. Approved unanimously (see December minutes).

Finance Report: The beginning balance was \$27,814.35. The ending balance was \$31,056.28. Motion to approve the finance report was made by Patriot Dyer. No discussion & 2nd by Patriot Moore . Approved unanimously (see Finance reports for December).

PH Golf Classic: Patriot Asbell asks that we contact the organizations we provided funding to and ask them to assist in selling T-signs and sponsorships. Members were assigned to contact the donor recipients.

Americanism: No report. Patriot Moore reminded everyone to report their Americanism hours.

Commander's Report:

VAVS/Welfare Report: Patriot Thompson is arranging for VeloVets to present to the chapter at the next meeting. Patriot Thompson updated the membership on the flag case project. The 30 cases will cost \$502.50. We had originally approved \$500.00. Patriot Dyer made a motion to approve the new amount of \$502.50. A discussion was held on 501(c)3 and 501(c)19 donations. Patriot Gilbert 2nd the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: Patriot Grand reminded the membership that the 4 Chaplains Ceremony is at Kino Veterans Memorial at 1:00PM on Feb 4th. Patriot Moore will bring the wreath and Patriot's Grand & Moore will present the wreath during the ceremony. WWII veterans will be special guests. Provide the names to Patriot Grand to be recognized during the program. There is a new training program online called "Be Connected". It provides training for suicide prevention, crisis management etc.

Old Business:

Bingo: Patriot Bertagnoli will cover Bingo. Last month the Air Force helped with a dozen volunteers. It went well. We always need help to cover Bingo.

Christmas Eve: The visit to the Veterans Home went well. The Bridge Church provided the gift baskets.

New Business:

February Meeting: The commander reported that the February meeting will be held at the Golden Corral to celebrate George Washington's birthday. No business will be conducted. Patriot Moore will get a head count. Patriot Dyer will contact Golden Corral.

Stand-down - Patriot Slocum reported that stand-down is March 15-17. The hotel for this year is the Grand Lux Hotel at 1325 W. Grant Rd. TVSV has 60 rooms and reception area for the homeless veterans being

served. Call Patriot Slocum if you want to volunteer for the clothing area. The Tucson homeless street count will take place on the 22nd thru 24th. Patriot Slocum will report on how TVSV and DAV4 used the money we donated next year.

Wall that Heals: Patriot Dyer reported that the travelling wall will be in Oro Valley March 15 to 18. They have a need for some volunteers for security. We can have a booth/table if we want. We need volunteers to man the table if we put one there. Patriot Moore will send the info out the chapter. The commander would like us to man a table.

Elections: Elections will be held in April for the 9 elected officer positions. The chapter elects officers for two year terms. Officers can serve in the same position again but it is encouraged to have change in the positions. Patriot Moore will email the information out the membership. *Note: after the meeting National moved elections up to March for this year only due to convention dates.*

Staffing/OR Pay at VA: Vice Cdr Herron reported that the VA is planning on reducing pay/grade for GS medical assistants in the OR. Reduction would be to GS6. Most are veterans who it will affect and also affect the quality of care in the OR. HR said that they could reduce grades but they can't reduce the pay. Nothing in writing has come down. Once the facts are available the chapter will write a letter to the VA.

Assistance for Perkins: Patriot Perkins had a request for \$200.00 assistance. TVSV has funded that request and we don't need to take action. Patriot Slocum reports he seems to be on the right track and wants help. The MOPH Service Officer at the VA has taken his case.

Good of Order: - Nothing.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM. Next meeting is Feb 19th, 2018. The location will be at the Golden Corral on Thornydale.