



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

web page: <http://mophtucson.webs.com/>

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MINUTES: Sep 18, 2017

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

Attendance: 11 chapter members present.

Guests: - Ray Flores from See4Vets talked about their program and thanked us for the recent donation for Central Arizona College's Veterans Center.

- LTC Donald Spiece (Ret) & Col Phil Hall (Ret) presented the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Lapel Pins on behalf of AUSA to the Vietnam Veterans present.

- Auburn of the Girl Scouts made a presentation of her gold star project, "PAWS4Purpose" which helps fundraising for service dogs & needed supplies.

Reports:

Minutes: Motion to approve the June minutes was made by Patriot Giroux & 2nd by Patriot Gilbert. No discussion & approved unanimously (see Jun minutes).

Finance Report: The beginning balance was \$42,607.47. The ending balance was \$27,033.19. Motion to approve the report was made by Patriot Giroux. No discussion & 2nd by Patriot Gilbert. Approved unanimously (see Finance reports for Jun, July, & Aug).

PH Golf Classic: No changes in status. Chapter will begin gearing up for it soon.

Americanism: Tucson Veterans parade will be on Saturday Nov 11th. Start time is 10:30 this year. Same location in downtown Tucson. Patriot Moore will submit our application.

VAVS/Welfare Report: The chaplains at the VA would like flag cases be donated. They provide a flag in a wooden case to families of patients that pass away. VA pays \$80 each. VA will let groups buy the cases and they are much cheaper from other sources. Patriot Thompson will get more info on how many are needed. Patriot Thompson reported that the new VA Director at the hospital is making things happen.

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: No Report.

Old Business:

Bingo: Patriot Bertagnoli and cover Bingo. August does not have anyone to cover bingo. The adjutant will email the membership for help. The commander will contact Patriot Slocum.

Sgt-at-Arms: Patriot Gilbert made a motion that Patriot Perkins be removed as Sgt-at-Arms. He has been absent from meetings for over 6 months. Patriots Dyer & Moore have both tried to contact him with negative results. Patriot Giroux made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Election of Sgt-at-Arms: Patriot Moore nominated Patriot Grand for the position. 2nd by Patriot Thompson. No other nominations were made for the position. The adjutant will notify the membership of the vacancy for nominations. The election will be held in October.

New Business:

Expenditures: The elected officers voted by email while we were dark for the summer to approve the following expenditures: \$5,000.00 to See4Vets; \$500.00 to the Women's Veterans Program at PCC; & \$1,730.21 in rent/utilities assistance to 4 veterans. Motion to approve by Patriot Stroud. 2nd by Patriot Zimmerman. Motion approved unanimously.

Dance Group at Veterans Home: Patriot Dyer is arranging to have a dance group from the Bridge Church perform at the veterans home several weeks prior to Christmas. He will keep us posted.

Trustee Audit: The semi-annual trustee audit was conducted prior to the meeting.. Trustees, the finance officer, and commander checked the finance records. We had one typo on the warrant log which resulted in a \$1 error. It was corrected by pen & ink. Motion was made by Patriot Gilbert to accept the audit. 2nd was made by Patriot Giroux and the motion passed unanimously.

UofA as a PH University: Patriot Dyer is working on getting in contact with the president of the university to see if this can be done.

DEC Meeting: Patriot Giroux and Patriot Bertagnoli will attend. Reference the recently issued department guidance the chapter 442 commander has the full support and blessing of the chapter.

Links on Website: Tabled until next meeting.

Purple Mt. Institute Funding Request: PMI has requested for \$20,000 to fund two programs. One for women veterans and one for training of staff. Patriot Moore made a motion that we don't support the training request. Patriot Thompson made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously. A discussion was held on the \$10,000.00 for the women's program. Patriot Slocum in an email would like to see some level of support for this program. Patriot Moore reported we have provided \$7,000.00 in the last 2 years to PMI. Tabled until the commander can invite them to a meeting.

Wreaths Across America: Patriot Giroux made a motion that we approve \$300.00 for 10 wreaths for Evergreen Cemetery and 10 wreaths for the Marana Cemetery. Patriot Gilbert made a 2nd and the measure passed unanimously.

Honor Flight: Patriot Moore reported on the honor flight. The chapter funded the trip for a D-Day Omaha Beach PH recipient, Carlos Vasquez, to go on honor flight. He was thrilled and the family appreciated the support. He would not have been able to attend without our assistance. His daughter wrote us a nice thank you letter.

Good of Order: - Patriot Giroux talked about Patriot Dolsi from Casa Grande. He has cancer, his wife left, and he is living with his sister. Patriot Giroux has the address for those who want to send cards.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 PM. Next meeting is Oct 16, 2017.