



## MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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

**Attendance:** 6 chapter members present. No guests were present.

#### Reports:

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the May minutes was made by Patriot Thompson & 2nd by Patriot Gilbert. No discussion & approved unanimously (see May minutes).

**Finance Report:** The beginning balance was \$49,481.24. The ending balance was \$42,607.47. The chapter had \$4,351.89 income & \$11,225.66 in expenditures. Motion to approve the report was made by Patriot Moore. No discussion & 2nd by Patriot Gilbert. Approved unanimously (see Finance report).

**Americanism:** No report this month.

**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. Patriot Thompson will get more info on how many are needed. The Blind Rehab requested some funding for tickets to take clients out to various museums, etc for July. Poly-Trauma Clinic has started the staff training that we are funding.

**Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report:** Patriot Grand reported that Toastmasters is on a 3 week break. It looks like

**PH Golf Classic:** Patriot Moore indicated the PH Classic Brochure has been updated for 2018 by Patriot Asbell. It has been placed on the website. Patriot Dyer made a motion to approve not to exceed \$300.00 for printing the brochures. Patriot Gilbert made a second and the motion passed unanimously. Patriot Asbell will order the brochures.

#### Old Business:

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

**Quilts for Valor:** Patriot Moore gave an overview of the organization. A \$300 donation provides one veteran with a quilt. After discussion the chapter felt we could better use our funds for other activities.

**Apache Junction Chapter Van:** The commander will give their chapter our suggestions.

**Annual Reports:** Annual reports were submitted on time. Copies sent to MOPHAZ and National.

#### New Business:

**Expenditures:** The elected officers voted by email to pay the gas bill for a veteran in need, Dennis Pieffer. The bill was \$315.33 and was paid directly to the utility company.

**State Inspection:** The state inspector contacted Patriot Moore and he will inspect the chapter in September or October.

**P.O Box:** Patriot Moore reported that the PO Box is due for renewal in August. It was \$75 dollars last year. Patriot Dyer made a motion to not to exceed \$100 to renew the PO Box. Motion was seconded by Patriot Zimmerman and passed unanimously.

**Trustee Audit:** The trustee audit is due in September. Trustees, the finance officer, and commander need to meet at 16:00 to conduct the audit.

**Assistance to Gold Star Mother:** Patriot Dyer reported on the situation of a Gold Star Mother, Sharon Jones, who son was killed in the War on Terror. She is out of work and needs help with her electric bill. Patriot Dyer made a motion to pay her electric bills for June, July, and August. After discussion the motion was amended not to exceed \$900.00 total. 2nd by Patriot Gilbert passed unanimously.

**501(C)3:** A discussion was held on the how to proceed to become a 501(C)3. The commander will continue to investigate establishing a 501(c)3. Patriot Moore made a motion to approved \$275.00 as a processing fee for the 501(C)3. Patriot Grand made the 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Good of Order:**

- Patriot Gilbert briefed on current happenings at EEE. Part of EEE (the new buildings) is now section 8 housing. This may affect how this affects funding. Our concern is that our food donation goes to the veteran residents.

- Patriot Gilbert provided a letter from 1-Veterans Foundation explaining how they used our donation.

- Patriot Dyer still has concerns about getting feedback from organizations we provide donations to. A discussion was held on the issue. A letter/form can be sent with the donation check asking for feedback. We need an assurance that our funds are helping veterans.

- Patriot Moore reported that Patriot Alegria no longer wants to serve as the chapter DEC representative so that position is vacant. Patriot Alegria has ordered the Badges of Merit from Tiger Promotions and gave me the contact information. Still need to get an answer on the large Purple Hearts.

- Patriot Dyer has tried to contact Patriot Perkins and he has not responded. We will need to replace him as sgt-at-arms due to absences.

- Patriot Dyer conducted services for a former service member (Spangler) at Evergreen. He recommends we provide them with a certificate. We need a name, etc for the certificate.

- Patriot Moore indicated that Patriot Giroux deserves kudos for the last Purple Heart Park Memorial Day service. It was the best one ever. Patriot Moore will make certificates for the singers.

- Patriot Zimmerman informed the membership that because we are changing FY accounting and he will be filing a second 990N.

**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 Sep 18, 2017.