



**MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART  
FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442**

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**MINUTES: March 15, 2021**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at the Bridge Church. Meetings are being temporarily held at this location due to COVID19 restrictions at the AZ ST Veterans home.

**Opening Ceremony:** Honors rendered to the Flag. Pledge recited. Invocation was given.

**Roll Call:** Present were Cdr Dyer; Jr. Vice-Cdr Thompson; Adjutant Moore; Trustee Slocum; Sgt-at-Arms Grand; Chaplain Giroux; Finance Officer Zimmerman, Sr. Vice-Cdr Bertagnoli, & Trustee Gilbert. There was a quorum present.

**Attendance:** 10 chapter members were present.

**Guests:** none

**Reports:**

**Minutes:** Minutes for the March meeting were available. Patriot Gilbert moved the minutes be placed into the record. No discussion and Patriot Grand 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Finance Report:** Finance Officer provided the finance report for February. Beginning balance was \$79,703.22 and the ending balance was \$79,968.28. The finance officer highlighted deposits and expenses. Patriot Giroux moved the Finance reports be placed into the record. No discussion and Patriot Moore made the 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOPH Golf Classic:** Commander Dyer reported that we are tentatively planning for the next PH Golf Classic to be in the spring of 2022. Patriot Asbell is coordinating with the MOAA as a possible partner for the event. More information will follow in the April meeting. For this year Patriot Dyer stated that the chapter will ask key donors to continue to support the chapter in lieu of the classic. A solicitation letter will go out in the spring.

**Americanism:** Patriot Giroux reported that the city is still indicating no public ceremony for Memorial Day at PH Park. Patriot Bob Metzger at Department is ordering the JROTC/ROTC awards. Many schools may not have formal ceremonies due to COVID.

**VAVS/Welfare Report:** Patriot Thompson reported that the VA has asked for donations of crackers for the shot tents at the VA Hospital. More to follow. If the VA approves Patriot Thompson will ask for funding for flag cases for the veterans who pass away while in the VA Hospital. They are going to get flags from the post office.

**Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report:** Patriot Slocum reported that the Four Chaplains ceremony went well. Due to Covid there was limited participation. He presented the MOPH wreath during the ceremony. There will be a MIAP mission on April 17<sup>th</sup>. More info to follow. The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Osprey Memorial Ceremony to honor the 19 marines who died at the Marana Airport will be on Apr 10<sup>th</sup>. More info to follow.

**VA VSO Meeting:** Signup for or watch for the VA Tip of the Week.

**Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans Report:** No report. Stand-down as reported before is moved to August. It will be a one day only event.

**Commander's Report:** Patriot Moore attended the Feb zoom Department Commander's Cdr's Call. Notes were emailed out. Nominations are open for Department Officers. Contact the department adjutant if willing to serve or to nominate someone. The Department Convention will be by Zoom on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Patriot Moore reminded Convention delegates that if they don't attend the convention. The commander gets an additional vote as proxy for the delegate.

### **Old Business:**

**Bingo:** Cancelled due to COVID19 restrictions from VA.

**Camp Corral:** Patriot Slocum reported that \$300 was taken in on the first day of the raffle. Ch 442 funded the raffle prize. You can purchase tickets from the cashier at the Thornydale Golden Corral.

**Arizona Veteran Cemetery:** Patriot Dyer reported that the PH monument at the cemetery will cost \$1,100.00. He also recommended a \$500.00 donation to the cemetery foundation. Patriot Slocum made a motion to purchase the monument for \$1,100 and make a donation of \$500 to the foundation for a total of \$1,600. Patriot Lohman made a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Patriot Zimmerman asked if this would require 2 checks. Patriot Dyer indicated it would. Motion passed unanimously. The monument will be dedicated in a ceremony on PH Day in August.

### **New Business.**

**Expenditures:** The officers approved by email vote 1 assistance request for Veteran Stone's rent for \$234.67. The total was much larger but was divided between several other organizations. The officers also approved \$1,000.00 for 40 \$25 credit cards to go into individual backpacks being given to the veterans attending stand-down. Patriot Grand made a motion to place in the record. No discussion and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patriot Gilbert. It passed unanimously.

**JROTC Stipends for 4 new schools:** Tabled until April. Need more info.

**Assistance Request:** TVSV has a request for Veteran Rameriz for rent of \$3,734. He is behind because of COVID and lost his job. Patriot Slocum made a motion to approve \$450 contingent on TVSV finding other partners to obtain the entire amount. Patriot Giroux made a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion was to make sure we did not send to TVSV and then they could not get the entire amount. Patriot Moore followed up.

**Trustee Audit:** The semi-annual Trustee Audit is due in April. The Trustees, adjutant, and finance officer will meet at 4:30 PM prior to the chapter meeting to conduct the audit.

**Chapter Patriot of the Year:** Patriot Dave Bertagnoli is the chapter's Patriot of the Year. Dave was presented with a framed chapter certificate of appreciation and was thanked by the membership.

**Nominations for chapter officers:** At the February meeting officer nominations were Patriot Dyer as commander, Patriot Bertagnoli as Sr Vice, Patriot Thompson as Jr. Vice, Patriot Zimmerman as Finance Officer, Patriot Slocum as Trustee 2<sup>nd</sup> year, Patriot Grand as Sgt-at-arms, & Patriot Holman as Trustee 1<sup>st</sup> year. Patriot Thompson indicated he could not serve. Patriot Gilbert was nominated as Jr-vice cdr by Patriot Slocum. Patriot Gilbert declined the nomination. Patriot Moore nominated Patriot Grand as Jr-vice commander. Patriot Grand accepted the nomination and withdrew his name as Sgt-at-Arms. Patriot Slocum nominated Patriot Gilbert as Sgt-at-Arms. Patriot Gilbert accepted the nomination.

**Election of Officers:** Since there was only one nominee for each position Patriot Giroux moved that the slate be accepted by acclamation. Patriot Slocum made the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the officers were elected unanimously. Cdr Dyer appointed Patriot Moore as adjutant and Patriot Giroux as Chaplain. Both accepted. Department Sr Vice Commander Moore administered the oath of office to the new officers.

**Good of Order:** Patriot Moore reminded everyone to report welfare and Americanism hours.

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

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM. Next meeting is April 19th. Meeting place will continue to be the Bridge Church.