



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: May 15, 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; Trustee Moore; & Trustee Gilbert. Excused - Trustee Ryan, Finance Officer Zimmerman; & Judge Advocate Giroux;; Absent Sgt-at-Arms Perkins. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 7 chapter members present. No guests were present.

Reports:

Minutes: Motion to approve the Apr minutes was made by Patriot Thompson & 2nd by Patriot Gilbert. No discussion & approved unanimously.

Finance Report: The beginning balance was \$82,305.38. The ending balance was \$49,481.24. The chapter had \$7,397.26 income & \$49,481.24 in expenditures. Motion to approve the report was made by Patriot Gilbert. No discussion & 2nd by Patriot Dyer. Approved unanimously.

Americanism: Patriot Moore for Patriot Giroux reminded everyone about times for our Memorial Day Ceremony at PH Park on May 29th. Patriots Moore, Dyer, Giroux, Grande, Bertagnoli, & Thompson will participate.

VAVS/Welfare Report: No Report no meeting this month.

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: Patriot Grand reported that the TVAC will be dark in July/August. Patriot Gilbert reported that the Traveling Wall will be in Bisbee May 25 - May 29. Patriot Gilbert will participate.

PH Golf Classic: The 2018 PH Classic will be held on 14 April at the Omni Resorts Tucson National. Patriot Bertagnoli needs the email addresses of donors we have emails for. Patriot Moore will get it to him. Patriot Bertagnoli paid the deposit for the 2018 PH Classic. Patriot Gilbert made a motion to reimburse Patriot Bertagnoli the \$2,000.00 deposit. No discussion. Patriot Thompson made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Bingo: Patriot Bertagnoli and his wife will cover Bingo.

New Business:

DEC Meeting/State Convention: Patriot Bertagnoli asked if we had a disabled chapter member we could nominate for the National Purple Heart Truck. If anyone has a suggestion get to the Commander, ASAP. Patriot Bertagnoli reported Department has a new website and would like chapters to use it also. He would like Patriot Moore to contact the department's webmaster and link our site with theirs.

Apache Junction Chapter Van: The Apache Junction Chapter is 5 miles outside of the authorized range for VA Hospital vans to transport veterans to the VA Hospital. They need funding help to purchase a \$30,000.00 wheel chair capable van to transport vets to the VA. The commander proposed a \$1,000.00 contribution to their chapter. The membership discussed the issue and offered several suggestions that the commander will provide them. Item tabled until more information is available.

July/August Meeting: Patriot Bertagnoli recommended that chapter go dark in July and August. A motion to not hold meetings in July/August was made by Patriot Moore. No Discussion & 2nd by Patriot Dyer. The motion passed unanimously.

Annual Reports: Patriot Moore reminded everyone that annual reports were due in May & June.

State/Federal Exemptions: State law does not exempt non-profits from transaction taxes (sales tax). Patriot Moore has the state law on it and can mail it out to anyone who wants to see it.

501(C)3 Status: A discussion was held about the benefits of forming a 501(C)3. Patriot Moore made a motion that the chapter form a 501(C)3. Patriot Grand made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Pusch Ridge Recognition: A discussion was held on how to recognize Pusch Ridge for the work they did for the PH Classic. Suggestions included a certificate and or a plaque. We will give them a certificate now.

Quilts of Valor: Request for funding. Tabled pending more information. Patriot Moore will call them and get more info.

S.E.E.4Vets: Patriot Dyer contacted the organization. They are legitimate and will be beneficial to young veterans getting through college. All indications are that this is a good organization. Patriot Moore made a motion to amend our funding of \$5,000.00 approved last month to include all veterans not just PH recipients. A discussion was held. Patriot Dyer made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Department Patriot of the Year: Patriot Thompson was selected as the Arizona Department MOPH's Patriot of the Year. Commander Bertagnoli presented him with the beautiful AZMOPH Patriot of the year plaque. Patriot Thompson was enthusiastically thanked by the membership.

Good of Order: Patriot Moore indicated reported that Patriot Perkins has repeated excused absences and we need a Sgt-at-Arms. Patriot Dyer will contact him. Patriot Grand would consider the position if open.

Patriot Bertagnoli asked if we want to try and buy the two large Purple Hearts from Patriot Alegria depending on the cost. Patriot Thompson would like to buy one for his displays and then the chapter could buy one. Patriot Moore will try and contact him.

Patriot Dyer reported that DAV's storage locker and stole 2 of the batteries for the wheel chair we had donated to DAV. We may need to consider funding replacement of the 2 batteries.

Patriot Dyer would like to consider nominating Patriot Asbell for the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame for next year. Patriot Dyer made a motion that we nominate Patriot Asbell. Patriot Thompson made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM. Next meeting is Jun 19, 2017.