



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

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MINUTES: Oct 26, 2020

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; Sr. Vice-Cdr Bertagnoli; Adjutant Moore; Trustee Gilbert; Trustee Slocum; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Sgt-at-Arms Grand, Trustee Bob Slocum. Excused was Chaplain Giroux; and absent was Jr. Vice-Cdr Thompson. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 9 chapter members were present. In addition to the officers Patriot Lohman and Patriot Kusama attended. Patriots Lohman and Kusama were introduced and welcomed to the chapter. Patriot Kusama is the National Inspector for MOPH National HQ.

Guests: None

Reports:

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

Finance Report: The Finance report for September was presented by the Finance Officer. The chapter had a beginning balance of \$77,862.83 and an ending balance of \$76,766.01. Patriot Bertagnoli made a motion to approve the finance report. No discussion and Patriot Moore made the 2nd. The motion was approved unanimously.

MOPH Golf Classic: As of now we are not planning on holding a tournament this year. Commander Dyer stressed that not holding the tournament we need to look at other fundraising opportunities. Bring your ideas to the next meeting.

Americanism: No Report.

VAVS/Welfare Report: Cancelled - No meeting due to COVID19 requirements at VA.

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: No meeting due to problems with virtual meeting.

VA VSO Meeting: Patriot Slocum reported that Flu shots at the VA are by drive thru every Sat. Regular Flu shots will open in November. The VA is asking for volunteers for a variety of activities as they loosen up somewhat from COVID.

Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans Report: Patriots Slocum and Patriot Moore attended the TVSV zoom meeting. Patriot Moore sent the minutes of the meeting out by email. No discussion.

Commander's Report: No Department meeting this month. The Department Cdr resigned to take a position at National. The Sr. Vice-cdr and Jr Vice-cdr have moved up one slot per bylaws. An election will be held on 9 Nov. If you design to run or nominate someone get the nomination in to the Department Adjutant. The commander has applied to the AZ Dept of Veteran Affairs for their \$5,000 COVID grant.

Old Business:

Bingo: Cancelled due to COVID19 restrictions from VA.

Calendar Sales: Department calendars are reduced to \$25 and can be purchased until the end of the year.

Veterans Day Parade: Patriot Slocum indicated that the city has not issued a permit due to COVID so no parade this year.

1 Veterans Foundation: – 2 service dogs: Tabled until November meeting.

EEE Food Needs: - \$250 per month: Tabled until November meeting.

Christmas at Veterans Home: The adjutant followed up with the director. As of right now because of COVID we can't give the gift bags in person. We can get the bags to him and his staff will hand them out. Patriot Dyer reported that the Bridge Church ladies have 100 bags just about ready. They will finalize packing the bags on Dec. 11th. He would like to have the chapter provide them with snack, coffee, etc. The adjutant indicated we have the funds in the admin budget to cover this. The commander asked that the adjutant double check if food items can be in the gift bags. Patriot Moore suggested that we look into having a patriotic Christmas card to add to the gift bags from the Chapter since we can't visit in person this year. The commander and sr vice-commander asked him to look into the cost.

New Business:

Expenditures: \$2,297.50 in assistance requests were approved by email vote by the officers (Veteran Walters \$347.50, Widow Dodge \$500, Legion Post 132 \$400, Veteran Froelech \$400, Veteran Warford \$400, & MOPHLA \$400). Patriot Gilbert made a motion to place the expenditures into the record. No discussion and Patriot Grand made the 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Audit: The Trustees conducted the semi-annual trustee audit on Oct 14th. The results were reported to the membership by the adjutant. No major problems were found. Patriot Gilbert made a motion to place the audit into the record. No discussion and Patriot Grand made a 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

Life Membership Report: Patriot Moore reported that the LMR was submitted on time. Seven Patriots were reported as deceased: Patriot Rafael Duron, Korean, Army; Patriot Ervin A Bucher, Vietnam, Army; Patriot Wendell Fenn (BG Ret), WWII, Army; Patriot Pablo Garcia, Korea, Marine Corps; Patriot Ralph Grant, Vietnam, Marine Corps; Patriot Arnold Ramos, Vietnam, Marine Corps; Patriot Bert Rincon, Korea, Marine Corps. Patriot Gilbert made a motion to place the LMR into the record. No discussion & Patriot Bertagnoli made a 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

Veterans Day at Roadrunner Elementary: We have a request to give a Veterans' Day talk to a 5th grade class by Zoom either on November 9th or November 10th. Patriot Dyer and Patriot Moore will participate.

Good of Order: Commander Dyer briefed on the Department Dice-Roll fundraiser. Patriot Moore indicated the link is on our FB Page and the Department website.

Patriot Moore briefed that the chapter has a QR-code and if put on our literature/hand-outs that when scanned with a smart phone it takes one to our donations page on our website.

Patriot Moore briefed on the Department/Chapter newsletter. It will be issued the 1st Saturday of the month. Anyone can submit an article. Items are due the 1st of each month. Due to size it is only available in the cloud for viewing or download.

Patriot Moore has a thank you card for Helen Glass for making the COVID masks and asked members to sign it.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM. Next meeting is Oct 26th. Meeting place will continue to be the Bridge Church.