



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Sep 28, 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; Jr Vice Cdr Thompson; Adjutant Moore; Trustee Gilbert; Chaplain Giroux; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Sgt-at-Arms Grand, & Trustee Bob Slocum. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 9 chapter members were present.

Guests: - Hector Acosta, PCC; Cory Nicholls UofA; & Dennis Belcastro.

Guest Speakers: Hector Acosta presented the chapter with the Pima College PH College Proclamation. Cody Nicholls presented the chapter with the University of Arizona PH University Proclamation.

Reports:

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

Finance Report: The Finance report for July and August was presented by the Finance Officer. The chapter had a beginning balance of \$84,045.03 and an ending balance of \$77,862.83. Patriot Slocum made a motion to approve the finance report. No discussion and Patriot Gilbert made the 2nd. The motion was approved unanimously. See the May & June finance reports.

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. Patriot Giroux is waiting for information on JROTC for next year but assumes it will be handled like this past year with the Department funding the awards.

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

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: No meeting COVID requirements.

VA VSO Meeting: Cancelled - No meeting due to COVID requirements.

Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans Report: No meeting due to COVID19. Zoom meetings will be held starting in Oct. They will be on the 1st Thursday of the Month.

Commander's Report: Patriot Moore attended the Dept's Zoom commander's call for the commander. Calendars have been reduced to \$25. Have to the end of the year to purchase calendars. The Department is about \$13,000 ahead so far. The Department will be holding a Dice Roll Fundraiser starting in Oct. More information will follow. The National Inspector has been dismissed for failure to perform duties. National is planning to hire one full time employee to work the membership backlog. The NEC approved borrowing \$550,000.00 from the Life Membership Fund. The Department's support for the Traveling Wall was excellent. Chapter 442 got Kudos for our support. Report the passing of any Marines to Larry Brown so the Marine Corps League can get involved. The department will be publishing a Monthly Newsletter. Each chapter will also have a section. Get articles submitted by the 1st of each month. VFW in Apache Junction

has a van they no longer need and want to donate it to another veterans group. Chapters 472 and 572 will most likely disband. We may end up absorbing some of the 572 members if they elect to transfer.

Old Business:

Bingo: Cancelled due to COVID19 restrictions from VA.

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

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

Budget: Find-your-Fins approved amount was adjusted down from \$1,500 to \$1,000 dollars based on their needs request. Originally approved in June. We had budgeted \$1,500.00 in the annual budget approved in June. The \$1,000 dollars approved in the budget for the Veteran Toastmasters program has been paid. Motion to approve the changes was made by Patriot Bertagnoli. No further discussion and a 2nd by Patriot Slocum. Budget as amended passed unanimously. See 2020 Budget.

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.

American Dream Program: Cdr Dyer brief that this is a program that if you join for \$50 the Department gets \$25. It is various contractors/vendors around the state that provide discounted home repair, remodeling, etc to members. Info is on the Department website.

Women Warriors Startup Funds – Women Warriors requested funds to help start their non-profit boutique and office. Patriot Gilbert made a motion to provide \$1,000. After a discussion Patriot Slocum made a 2nd and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Audit: The adjutant reminded the Trustees that the semi-annual audit is due in Oct.

Life Membership Report: The LMR is due on 1 Oct. The adjutant has finished it and will submit it.

Veterans Day Parade: The City has not issued a permit yet so most likely will not go because of COVID concerns.

Christmas at Veterans Home: The adjutant made contact with the director. As of right now because of COVID we can't give the gift bags in person. If it changes he will let us know. 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.

Good of Order: Patriot Moore indicated that Women Warriors had sent thank you letters for the last 3 female veterans we provided rent/utility assistance to.

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.