



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: May 21, 2018

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 Dyer; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Sgt-at-Arms Grand ; Trustee Slocum; & Trustee Gilbert. Excused - Sr Vice-Cdr Bertagnoli & Jr. Vice-Cdr Herron Jr. A quorum was present.

Attendance: 9 chapter members present.

Guests: - Dave Rafus, 1 Veteran Foundation, gave an update on how his organization utilized the funds we donated to them last year. They have trained 16 dogs with 11 earning their state tags. 3 dogs are emotional support dogs. 1 dog supports a diabetic veteran and helps monitors blood sugar. He thanked MOPH for our financial support.

Reports:

Minutes: Motion to approve the Mar minutes was made by Patriot Gilbert. No discussion & 2nd by Patriot Giroux. Approved unanimously (see April minutes).

Finance Report: The beginning balance was \$75,188.10. The ending balance was \$79,541.46. Motion to approve the finance report was made by Patriot Gilbert. No discussion & 2nd by Patriot Giroux. Approved unanimously (see Finance report for Apr).

PH Golf Classic: The PH Classic for 2019 will be held at Omni Tucson National on April 30. More information will be available in the fall.

Americanism: Patriot Giroux reported that the JROTC/ROTC presentations all went well. The Memorial Day Ceremony at PH Park is all set. Coordination is completed. There will be a fly-over, support from AZ Alumni Band, Sons of the American Revolution Color guard, and Tucson Parks and Recreation Dept. Patriots Zimmerman and Grand will read the names of the fallen. Patriot Moore will toll the bell. Patriot Giroux will MC & give the address.

VAVS/Welfare Report: Patriot Thompson stated that the flag at the Ruthraff Road Business Park needs replaced again. Cdr Dyer stated he would rather see our funds support veterans and suggested that maybe some other organizations might support the flag. Patriot Thompson updated the membership on the flag case project. The VA leadership is not moving in the direction of getting other organizations or the VA to purchase the \$30.00 cases from the vendor he found. We funded 30 flag cases previously which saved the VA a lot of money. He plans not to pursue this further with the VAVS.

Tucson Veterans Affairs Council Report: Patriot Grand reported that the Council went dark for the summer. He provided the adjutant with various event flyers from the council. The adjutant has placed them on the chapter calendar.

Old Business:

Bingo: Patriot Bertagnoli will be out of town. He will not be available for the May Bingo and needs someone to fill in. Patriot Slocum will fill in but needs help.

Oro Valley PH City Ceremony: About 1/2 dozen chapter members attended the ceremony in Oro Valley. Cdr Dyer and Adjutant Moore accepted the PH Town proclamation from the mayor. They presented Oro Valley with a chapter certificate of appreciation. Oro Valley has placed the PH signage at the town entrances.

Honor Flight: Patriot Slocum reported that several members attended. The WWII/Korea War veterans had a good send off and return from the community. Next one will be in September dates TBA.

Monument at Marana Veterans Cemetery: Patriot Moore talked to Paul Marsh. The monument will cost \$1,300.00. Only one more monument will be sold. Patriot Moore made a motion to not purchase the monument. Discussion was held. The consensus is to raise funds for a PH themed monument our selves. Patriot Thompson made the 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Closing MOPH NSO Officers: Patriot Slocum recommends it be brought up at the 2 Jun DEC meeting. How can we be a Service Organization and not have service officers. A discussion was held on the impact on the local chapters and the perception of MOPH. Chapter representatives will bring up at the DEC meeting.

DEC Meeting Jun 2: Patriot Giroux reminded the membership that the state convention and DEC meeting in on June 2nd. Patriot's Dyer and Moore will attend.

Stand-Down: Patriot Slocum briefed on the August 15th Stand-down. It is at the Grand Luxe Hotel same as last time. They need clothing for the August 15th stand-down. Clothing can be dropped at the DAV on Ina Rd. August 14th is the setup. Personal hygiene items are needed. They are in short supply.

Operating Budget for May 2018 to Apr 2019: A discussion was held on the budget. The budget (\$73,750.00) passed unanimously.

- Find Your Fins \$250.00 pass-back (swimming therapy programs)
- Find Your Fins \$3,250.00 (swimming therapy programs)
- EEE \$3,000.00 (\$250.00 per month for 12 months, food for homeless vets)
- Women Warriors (\$1,000.00 for September stand-down)
- 1 Veteran Foundation (\$7,500.00 for 3 service dogs & training)
- Velo Vets (\$3,000.00 for cycling therapy for vets pending feedback)
- TVSV Dental Program (\$2,400.00 for veteran dental treatment)
- TVSV Tucson Stand-down (\$5,000.00 to conduct stand-downs for homeless veterans)
- TROT (\$2,500 for horseback riding therapy program pending feedback)
- Purple Mt Institute (\$250.00 pass-back for Mindful Veterans Project PTSD program)
- Purple Mt. Institute (\$5,000.00 for Mindful Veterans Project PTSD program)
- Project Healing Waters (\$3,000.00 for fly fishing therapy program)
- Golden Corral (\$600.00 for 1 child of disabled veteran to Camp Corral)
- See4Vets (\$4,000.00 for tutoring programs for vets at AZ Community Colleges)
- See4Vets (\$3,200.00 pass-back for tutoring programs for vets at AZ Community Colleges)
- Honor Flight (\$2,000.00 for 2 Veterans to attend honor flight)
- American Legion Post 7 (\$250.00 pass-back for Veterans Day Parade)
- Cochise Veterans Serving Veterans (pass pack \$5,000.00 for veterans programs in Cochise County)
- JROTC (\$1,200.00 for leadership awards)
- DAV 4 (\$750.00 pass-back)
- Flutes4Vets (\$250 pass-back)
- Seed monies for 2019 PH Classic (\$14,000.00)
- Veterans Emergency Assistance Funds (\$10,000.00 for rent, utilities, etc as needed)

Good of Order: - Patriot Dyer is still working on the UofA becoming a PH University. He is also working on ASU and NAU to become PH Universities. Patriot Slocum will give the cdr some contacts.

- Patriot Thompson has an old police motorcycle that he will paint up as a purple heart themed vehicle for parades and displays.

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

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM. Next meeting is September 17th.