



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

web page: <http://442.mophaz.org/>

email: MOPHChapter442@comcast.net

MINUTES: Apr 15, 2024

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at Bridge Church.

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

Roll Call: Present was Cdr Dyer; Jr Vice-Cdr Phipps, Adjutant Moore; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Chaplain Lemon; Trustee Lohman; Trustee Bertagnoli & Sgt-at-Arms Gilbert. Absent was Sr Vice-Cdr. Perkins. There was a quorum present.

Attendance: Ten members of the chapter were present.

New Members: none

Guests: None

Reports:

Minutes: Minutes for the March meeting were available and previously emailed out. Patriot grand moved the minutes to be placed into the record. Patriot Lohman made the 2nd to the motion & no discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously. See March minutes.

Finance Report: Finance Officer provided the finance reports and bank statements for January and February. The beginning balance was \$54,710.32 & the ending balance was \$54,061.24. The finance officer highlighted deposits and expenses. Patriot Gilbert moved the Finance reports to be placed into the record. Patriot Bertagnoli made the 2nd. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously. See the finance reports.

Americanism: - Patriot Moore reviewed the schedule for ROTC award presentations. Still need 4 presenters. Patriot Bertagnoli will present to the Navy at UofA. Patriot Lemon will present to the Army at UofA, Patriot Zimmerman will present to Rio Rico if Patriot Grand is not back from his trip. No presenter for Desert View (to many scheduled on one night) so Patriot Moore will get awardd to the school and the Principal will present.

Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans Report: No Report

Tucson VAC: Minutes emailed out.

Commander's Report: Cdr's call notes mailed out. Next Cdr's call is April 24th by Zoom. Open to all members to attend. The Department Convention is May 11th in Williams, AZ. One night of hotel is paid for and 30 cents per mile for travel. You can also attend by Zoom.

Old Business:

Bingo: Patriot Bertagnoli stated no bingo at VA Hospital in April. Next bingo is May 25th. Bingo will be ok on prizes for now but will need to purchase prizes in the summer. Patriot Moore indicated we had \$500 in the budget for Bingo that has not been spent yet.

Patriot Thompson's Funeral: Johnny's funeral was very nice. The Ft. Huachuca flag detail and firing squad did an excellent job.

Jim Click Raffle: Jim Click only donates to 501(C)3 organizations. Patriot Bertagnoli is checking if they will donate to Purple Heart Combat Wounded Warriors of AZ our Department 501(C)3. They were not too keen on it but it is still to be looked at.

MIA Burial at Marana Veterans Cemetery: The funeral of the recovered remains of a WWII MIA, TSGT Seifreid, were buried on April 19th. It was a very nice ceremony and the funeral detail from Ft. Huachuca did a nice job. The family was represented by a nephew who lives in Oro Valley.

New Business:

Expenditures: No expenditures were approved by the officers by email since the last meeting.

Bi-Polar General: Patriot Frances Johnson presented an overview of the book Bi-Polar General by MG Gregg Martin. It is a good source of information on dealing with mental health issues for veterans and the military. Patriot Moore made a motion to purchase a copy for the chapter's suicide prevention program. Patriot Lemon made a second. No discussion and the motion passed unanimously. If you would like to read the book let the chapter know and you can arrange to pick it up. The membership thanked Patriot Johnson for bringing the book to our attention.

Trustee Audit: Trustees conducted the semi-annual audit of the finance records prior to the meeting. One warrant was not in the warrant book. The adjutant created a temporary warrant to replace it. Later it was reprinted from the files and provided to the Finance Officer for the warrant book.

Memorial Day Marana Veterans Cemetery: Come out and help place flags on the 4,400 graves prior to Memorial Day on May 24th at 0800.

Memorial Day at Eastlawn & SouthLawn: Place wreaths during ceremonies. 9:00 AM at South Lawn. Patriots Moore, Grand, & Zimmerman will place wreath. East Lawn is at 9:00 AM if we have a presenter.

Budget: A draft budget was presented. The final annual budget will be voted on at the May meeting.

Name Badges: If officer's ordered name badges get the invoice/receipt to the Finance Officer to be reimbursed.

Checking Account: Patriot Cody Phillips was elected Jr. Vice Commander at the March meeting. He has been designated to replace Patriot Dave Bertagnoli on the checking account. Patriot Zimmerman will make the arrangements with Vantage West to make the checking account change.

Department Challenge Coins: The department received 200 more of the department coin. They can be purchased from the department. The chapter does not need any at this time.s

Arizona Diamondbacks: PH recipients will get free admission on PH Day and discount home game tickets all year. More detailed information will follow.

National Vietnam Veterans Day Memorial at Kino Park: Do we want to donate to the placing of the memorial and plaque. It will have the names of the 107 Pima County Vietnam War Fallen. Tabled until the budget meeting.

Administer Oath: The Department Jr. Vice-Cdr, John Moore, administered the oath of office to Patriot Cody Phipps who was elected chapter Jr. Vice-Cdr.

Good of Order: Patriot Dyer discussed concerns with the responsiveness of our District 6 Congressman regarding veterans' issues. The Veterans he has asked the congressman's officer to help have not been helped by the VA with their disability benefits. One has not heard reference his Purple Heart

Closing Ceremony: Moment of silence for departed Patriots. The Benediction was given, and the chapter rendered Honors to the Flag.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. The next meeting will be on May 20th.