

Minutes of the September 2009 Board of Director's Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA

Call to Order: President Ron Perkins called the meeting to order at 1100 hours, Thursday, September 3rd, 2009 at the State Veteran's Home on N. 3rd St. Phoenix with the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was then given for Jonathan Welch, Rob Welch's cousin, who was killed by an IED in Afghanistan.

Members Present: John Ady, Dan Conway, Beth Cullison, Jim Cullison, Pat Dale, Gary Fredricks, Marie Fredricks, Ron Green, Gregg Maxon, Ron Perkins, Bill Roscher, Fran Tassin, Terry Tassin, and Rob Welch.

Minutes: The previously promulgated Minutes of the last Board of Director's meeting (May) were approved.

Officer/Committee Reports:

Membership: Terry Tassin reported that the current membership was at 192; 151 regular & 41 auxiliary members. Sheila George, auxiliary chair, has asked to be replaced due to a recent illness. Kathy Upchurch will fill in until a permanent replacement is found.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks reported the current status is in the most recent Sentinel. Gary explained MOAA National does a lot; first establishing a strategic plan targeting areas of focus, setting goals and co-chairing the military coalition which consolidates efforts from approximately 30 veterans organizations annually. A letter from the coalition to Congress, signed by 33, addresses nine specific areas on 112 outstanding bills. Dan Conway spoke of the need for revised legislation to better address widows' benefits. Ron Perkins explained National headquarters has requested liaisons to our district representatives. Our chapter has Districts 4 and 5. Gregg Maxon volunteered as a liaison for Representative Harry Mitchell of District 5 and John Ady volunteered for Senator McCain. A liaison is still needed for Representative Ed Pastor of District 4.

Newsletter: Jim Cullison reported the previous printer raised their prices so he changed printers after getting bids from 10 companies. Printing and postage is our chapter's highest operating expense. Jim will e-mail members currently receiving the mailed version asking if they would be willing to receive via e-mail only to reduce expenses.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway reported there are several widows he is assisting to obtain survivor benefits.

Arrangements: Marie Fredricks reported the October picnic is set for McCormick Ranch Railroad Park. She will provide a flyer including directions at the next meeting. Marie booked the Dickens Carolers for the Christmas luncheon. She will reserve 40 tickets for the 2010 summer outing to the AZ Broadway Theater. There were 26 attendees this year.

Programs: Ron Perkins reported that the programs are set for September and October. Elections will be held at the November meeting along with the MSA presentations.

Share-a-Ride Program: Ron Drew has asked for a replacement due to his frequent travel. Ron Perkins will ask for a volunteer at the next General Meeting to take over arranging transportation and will coordinate as needed in the interim.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reported the current status of fund accounts: General Checking: \$8,804.84 including \$1,488.00 committed to the Golf Tournament; Scholarship: \$9,842.72: Total Accounts \$18,647.56

Old Business:

5 Star Awards Status: Ron Perkins announced our chapter won a 5 Star Excellence Award. He has been invited to the National conference in San Diego this October where the awards will be presented.

Veterans TV: John Ady reported several vendors were compared and Ultimate Electronics was selected. A 50" Panasonic HD plasma TV was purchased for \$1,989.96 which included wall mount, Sony Theater, and cables. The veterans are enjoying watching TV and playing Wii and appreciate it. Ron Perkins sent an article to National.

New Business:

Fall Golf Tournament: Pat Dale anticipates 40 to 50 golfers and expects to exceed May's tournament earnings particularly with a \$500 donation from TriWest. There will be many prizes and lots of fun. Gary Fredricks made a motion seconded by Terry Tassin to authorize funds for Pat to get a banner for display at the tournament. The motion passed unanimously. Pat recommended the 2010 fall tournament be moved to November due to hot weather.

September Luncheon set for guest speaker Colonel Gregg Davies, Commander of the 214th Reconnaissance Group located at Davis Monthan AFB in Tucson.

ESGR is getting tremendous support from MOAA chapters. ESGR representatives and employers will be honored at our October picnic.

2010 Officers Nominating Committee: Gary Fredricks reviewed the slate of nominees for next year's offices: President – Ron Perkins, 1st VP – Gregg Maxon, 2nd VP – John Ady, Secy – Beth Cullison, Treasurer – Bill Roscher
Directors: Ron Green, Dan Conway, Kathy Upchurch, Rob Welch, & Ron Worthington

MSA Committee: Terry Tassin has 12 nominations to date.

Homeless Veterans and Stand Down: Ron Green reported preparations are underway to serve 1000 vets at the next event in February. This is a very worthy effort in need of additional funding and volunteers. Dan Conway and Ron will get together and submit information for Jim Cullison to include a request for contributions in an upcoming Sentinel. Dan made a motion seconded by John Ady to donate \$500 from our chapter, passed. Ron Perkins will provide information to Bill Roscher for the \$500 submission and also contact Art Sloane for specific information on volunteers needed.

Melding of Military Organizations: Ron Perkins explained some military organizations are experiencing dwindling membership and attendance. Bob Dehler is putting together a cross-organization Thanksgiving dinner scheduled for the same day as our November luncheon. Terry Tassin will speak with Dick Minor about inviting MOWW to a future general meeting.

Purchase of Projector: Chuck Schluter has been working with Paul Fein to get a projection system. Board tabled action at this time.

Veteran's Hall of Fame Induction: Ron Perkins listed several individuals to be inducted October 30th. Gary Fredricks said reservations should be made before October 1 as the price increases substantially and you must specify anyone you want to sit with so you are assigned to the same table.

AZ Council of Chapters Meeting: President Ron Perkins and Gary Fredricks will be representing the AZ Chapter at the October 9th meeting.

MOAA Website: Jim Cullison will research an article in today's AZ Republic regarding a MOAA website that addresses rumors on military and veterans issues. Jim will make a recommendation on the value to members.

Cookies for Veterans: Marie Fredricks suggested we have a cookie bake to serve cookies and coffee at the Veterans Home. A request could go out for members to bring homemade cookies to a monthly chapter luncheon.

Next BOD Meeting: 1 Oct 2009

Luncheon Greeters: **Sept:** Terry & Fran Tassin

Oct: John & Sharon Ady

Nov: Jim & Beth Cullison

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1305 hours.

Beth Cullison, Secretary