



Minutes of the February 2012 Board of Directors' Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA



Call to Order: First Vice President & Webmaster Rob Welch called the meeting to order at 1030 hours, Thursday, February 02, 2012, at the National Guard Distance Learning Center, 5636 E. McDowell Road, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Nancy Burt, Beth Cullison, Jim Cullison, Jim Draper, Gary Fredricks, Ron Green, Ron Perkins, Bill Roscher, and Rob Welch.

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reported the General Fund balance is \$9,621.46; Scholarship Fund is \$13,880.41 and \$50 in Petty Cash for a grand total of \$23,551.87. Member Captain Theron "Jack" Taylor passed away January 16. Bill completed a \$50 contribution from the general fund to our scholarship fund in memory of CAPT Taylor.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks indicated there was not any significant news. In January, the new military strategy was announced which points to force structure cuts and TriCare costs. The President's proposed budget is scheduled to be released this month. Then the budget will go to the Senate and House. February's Military Officer magazine includes pre-addressed tear out letters which Gary said every member should sign, seal, stamp and mail. A post script (P.S.) may be added to personalize your letter. A personalized note gains more attention, but Gary cautioned us not to get into "Republican" or "Democrat" comments. All MOAA members should send these letters to influence budget proposals and support our earned benefits. On the state side, Gary reported there are now approximately 35 bills of substance including continuing the Arizona Department of Veterans Services, extending the Military Family Relief Fund and making improvements in the rules for distributing those monies.

Membership: Ron Perkins reported our membership currently stands at 226: 181 full members and 45 auxiliary members. However, only about 40% of the membership has renewed for 2012. Ron Perkins will contact Dan Conway about sending letters to those that have not yet renewed. After some discussion it was agreed that an e-mail should be sent to those not renewed requesting they mail in their renewal. The next step, which is more expensive due to printing and postage, will be mailing letters and finally phone calls will be made if any non-renewals still remain.

JROTC Awards: Rob Welch provided an update obtained from Terry Tassin. Terry is waiting to hear from three schools with a date for their award ceremony. Once all dates have been confirmed, Terry will request volunteers to present the awards. Ron Green added Thunderbird High School JROTC will be conducting an annual inspection and pass & review ceremony February 15th at 0930 hours.

Website: Rob Welch reported the chapter website is 100% up-to-date.

OLD BUSINESS

MSA Awards: Bill Roscher researched the cost of star pins available at Luke BX to possibly replace the oak leaf clusters for the Meritorious Service Awards. The stars measure 5/16". A single 5/16" gold or silver star comes two to a package for \$1.40. A gold two star emblem costs \$2.30 each and a three star is \$2.15.

Tales of Members: Rob Welch said Frank Hoak wanted feedback on his 5 minute presentation at the January luncheon meeting. All board members present provided very positive feedback agreeing the brief presentation on Operation Homecoming was well received. Beth Cullison shared an e-mail from Dick Weiss, WWII veteran, volunteering to talk about his experience as a member of the Marine's Special OCS class which took place at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina in the summer of 1944. Rob Welch

volunteered to contact Dick about presenting at a future meeting. Beth will forward Dick's e-mail to Rob. Nancy Burt volunteered to present at the March luncheon. Bill Roscher volunteered to talk about Merchant Marines and Jim Draper will talk about an experience he had while serving on a ship during a typhoon at future meetings.

Greeters:

February – Jim & Beth Cullison

March – Ron & Betty Perkins

AUSA Awards Luncheon: Beth Cullison said one of the ideas from our "super committee" is to attend and evaluate the February 12 AUSA military awards luncheon to determine if there are some items our chapter could adopt. Rob Welch and Rance Farrell will attend and report back.

Filings: Bill Roscher reported he filed the chapter income tax return. The state summary will not be accepted until March so he will submit at that time. The scholarship fund will be filed in July.

Audit: Ron Perkins completed an official audit of the chapter books. Ron said everything looks to be in good shape and no errors were found. The scholarship fund has increased about \$2,700 over the past two years as a result of several efforts including the solicitation letters from Rob Welch. There was some discussion about expenses, including the monthly \$50 contribution to the Veterans' Home bingo and travel expense. All agreed the expenses are legitimate and our chapter's finances are currently in good shape. Ron Green made a motion seconded by Nancy Burt to accept the audit as being in compliance with our chapter operating instructions. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Donation Listings: Nancy Burt asked about the publication in *The Sentinel* of donation amounts with the name of the donor. Bill Roscher explained that donations are only published with a name with the donor's permission. The donor may choose to be anonymous. There was discussion about publishing donations in a tier fashion, e.g., Less than \$100, \$100 to \$500, & Over \$500. A committee was formed to be chaired by Nancy with committee members Bill Roscher, Jim Cullison and Rob Welch to review options for publishing donation and report to the board.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ron Perkins thanked everyone for their support, phone calls, flowers, food, contributions, etc. during the difficult time following his daughter's death. The support has meant a great deal to Ron, Betty, and their family.

AZ StandDown: Ron Perkins said the AZ StandDown will be occurring this weekend. Ron gave a brief overview of the many positive activities offered to the homeless vets. Several board members will be volunteering their time during this event.

There being no further business, Ron Green made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bill Roscher. Passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1140 hours.

Next Chapter Meeting: Saturday, 18 February 2012

Next BOD Meeting: Thursday, 1 March 2012

Respectfully submitted
Beth Cullison, Former Secretary