

Minutes of the December 2010 Board of Director's Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA

Call to Order: President Ron Perkins called the meeting to order at 1035 hours, Thursday, December 2, 2010, at the State Veteran's Home on North Third Street in Phoenix with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Beth Cullison, Jim Cullison, Rance Farrell, Gary Fredricks, Marie Fredricks, Ron Green, Ron Perkins, Bill Roscher, Terry Tassin, and Rob Welch.

Minutes: The previously promulgated Minutes of the last Board of Directors' meeting (November) were approved.

Patriots Landing South West: Loa Anderson presented an overview of plans for a new Patriots Landing South West to be built at the Northwest corner of 99th Avenue & Indian School Road. It will be patterned after their retirement community in Washington State, providing independent living and assisted living spaces. Loa explained it is privately owned and will be offered on a month-to-month rental basis. She left Ron Perkins with two DVDs that talk about the current Patriots Landing North West in Washington and asked for permission to present at a future chapter general membership meeting once zoning is approved and the project has moved farther along.

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher explained profits from the golf tournament have not yet transferred and with the inclusion of a \$500.00 check from TRICARE, the chapter accounts will stand at: \$9,117.99 plus \$50 petty cash in the general fund, \$10,279.68 in the scholarship fund for a total of \$19,447.67.

Auxiliary: Kathy Upchurch sent an e-mail requesting auxiliary members and spouses to volunteer for Bingo & Keno at the Veterans Home December 2nd and December 3rd. After these sessions a determination will be made on providing a monthly game at the Veterans Home.

Membership Roster: Beth Cullison reported current membership remains at 179 regular members and 47 auxiliary members for a total of 226. A copy of the current roster including a membership dues column was included in *The Sentinel* as a reminder to renew membership for 2011. Ron Perkins stressed the importance of retaining existing members and recruiting new members. He explained National MOAA will be reimbursing our chapter about \$300 for 20 new members recruited through the "Give Me 10" Program. Our chapter did better than any other chapter in Arizona with Tucson a close second, adding 19 new members.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks explained his recent article in *The Sentinel* provides current highlights and there is nothing new to add at this time.

Newsletter: Ron Perkins mentioned another outstanding job by Jim Cullison on *The Sentinel*.

Personal Affairs: Ron Perkins noted Dan Conway had a good article in *The Sentinel* and shared a booklet at the last luncheon addressing Consumer Scams. Dan also provided a phone number to obtain a copy and a website that expands on several specific scams.

Programs: Captain Billie Walker, former Air America pilot, will be our January 2011 guest speaker. Bill Roscher will not be available to take luncheon reservations and Ron Perkins agreed to handle so Jim Cullison will make the necessary changes in the next issue of *The Sentinel*. Ron also plans to send a flyer reminding membership of Billie Walker's presentation once he obtains the bio information from Chuck Schluter.

Web Master: Ron Perkins recognized Rob Welch for all his work on our website. Rob explained he is experiencing some software issues in transferring to *Go Daddy* as our domain provider. Rob will be meeting with technical support and if the issues cannot be immediately resolved, it may cause a 30-day delay. He also submitted an invoice to Bill Roscher, Treasurer, for a three-year contract with *Go Daddy*. There will be some initial glitches when the website first comes up but once transferred, any clean-up can occur. Rob is researching all winning chapter websites for consideration in making revisions and improvements to ours.

Old Business:

AUSA JROTC & Armed Forces Career Officer Day Luncheon – Rob Welch and Ron Perkins complemented Rance Farrell on an excellent event. Rance explained it was the biggest turnout ever with approximately 350 in attendance; more than 40 schools including six that do not currently offer a JROTC program were represented. Only one school that signed up did not show up. The purpose is to encourage our youth to pursue a career as an officer in a branch of U.S. military service.

By-Laws and Chapter Operating Instructions Changes: Ron Perkins said the changes have been completed and he will send information to Rob Welch for updating the website, including the ability to click on a topic page number in the table of contents to bring up the appropriate page within the document.

Chapter Projector: Rob Welch announced he has succeeded in obtaining an Epson VS400 digital multi-media projector free of charge directly from Epson. This saves our chapter about \$1,000. Epson donated the projector through their community support program because of the annual scholarships we award. Rob indicated he is now working on obtaining a set of speakers for the chapter.

Golf Tournament: Ron Perkins received a brief summary from Pat Dale. The latest information shows we made \$1,578.30 for the scholarship fund; 99 players paid and 97 played. Ron passed around a detailed financial report provided by Pat which again illustrates the tremendous amount of time and effort Pat puts into ensuring the tournament's success. There was discussion about possibly increasing the entry fee by \$5 and on forming a committee to support Pat with Pat as the committee chair. Ron Perkins will approach Pat to initiate creating a committee of volunteers. Rance Farrell asked that the Spring tournament not be scheduled for April 15th as it would conflict with another big golf tournament.

New Business:

Chinese Auction Gifts: Ron Perkins reminded all board members to bring one or more suitable gifts for our December luncheon Chinese auction.

Arizona StandDown 2011: Ron Perkins has contacted Debbie Robison, who said volunteers will be needed for the February 2011 event. It will take place the first weekend in February. A website is being created to allow volunteers to sign up on line for specific shifts and jobs. About 12 chapter members volunteered at the last event. Next year's event will focus on new clothes, rather than used clothes, and volunteers will be needed to hand out clothes, serve food, provide toiletry sets, etc. Over 800 veterans were served at the last event. Ron mentioned he e-mailed a news item by Brad Bidwell about a ground breaking ceremony for a new center downtown for Homeless Veterans. It will have 75 units of affordable housing for homeless, formerly homeless and low income veterans age 55 and up.

Communications Awards February 2011: Ron Perkins plans to submit the website, *The Sentinel* and our chapter recruiting brochure to compete for the annual communications awards from National MOAA.

JROTC Medals/Scholarship Letters: Terry Tassin has ordered and received the medals. He will begin contacting the schools in January 2011. Rob Welch will be sending out scholarship letters in late December/early January asking schools to participate. Rob has reviewed the selection criteria and developed an excel spreadsheet with the objective statistics. The scholarship committee can then easily compare the statistics along with reviewing the individual essays, community & extra curricular activities and discuss as a committee. The committee must be appointed in February and Ron Worthington has already volunteered to participate. Bill Roscher indicated he has submitted another written request for a scholarship contribution from Sanderson Ford.

Treasurer Account Review – Incoming versus Outgoing: Bill Roscher said he will have the documents completed by January, and it was agreed to review at our February 2011 Board meeting.

2011 Swearing in of New Officers: Swearing in will take place at the January 2011 meeting. Ron Perkins requested all attend and plan on a group photo.

Ideas to Improve Attendance at Annual November Business Meeting: Ron Perkins asked for ideas to make the annual business meeting more interesting and enticing for increased attendance. Suggestions included door prizes and moving it up earlier due to holiday travel. Although the next annual business meeting is about a year away, Ron asked the board to give it some additional thought and let him know if there are any other ideas to improve attendance and participation.

Travel Expense: There was discussion about officers paying out-of-pocket for conducting chapter business, particularly airfare to attend annual National MOAA meetings. It was pointed out that our by-laws allow for appropriate reimbursement, but the general discussion was that personally paying the expense is a way of contributing or giving back to the chapter rather than drawing out. However, it was noted that no one should feel obligated to personally pay for appropriate chapter expenses. Rob Welch encouraged those incurring chapter expenses to at least track and claim as an IRS deduction.

Missed Luncheons: Dan Conway had asked Ron Perkins about a proposal to credit a member missing a luncheon they had paid for if the chapter does not have to pay extra. The general agreement was we schedule the luncheons and provide a count in advance that we must pay whether the people show up or not. Providing credit sets a precedent that the chapter is not in a position to maintain.

Luncheon meeting greeters:

December: Ron & Bette Green, Gary & Marie Fredricks

Good of the Order, Roundtable:

Last Board Meeting: Terry Tassin indicated this would be his last board meeting. Everyone encouraged his ongoing participation as any member can attend and his experience is always welcome.

Chapter Expenses: Gary Fredricks suggested we have further discussion at a future meeting on incurring major expenses such as airfare for chapter business. He suggested we may want to agree or control the expense prior to a trip such as doing business at the National level.

January Luncheon Expense: Bill Roscher said he will get the checkbook to Ron Perkins to pay for the January general membership luncheon expense due to Bill's absence. Bill also plans to add incoming president John Ady as an authorized signer on the checking account.

Next BOD Meeting: 6 January 2011

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1217 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Cullison, Secretary