

Minutes of the February 2011 Board of Director's Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA

Call to Order: President John Ady called the meeting to order at 1030 hours, Thursday, February 3, 2011, at the State Veterans Home on North Third Street in Phoenix with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: John Ady, Dan Conway, Beth Cullison, Jim Cullison, Pat Dale, Rance Farrell, Gary Fredricks, Marie Fredricks, Gregg Maxon, Ron Perkins, Bill Roscher, Kathy Upchurch, and Rob Welch.

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

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bill Roscher summarized the chapter's accounts: General Fund \$9,047.74 plus \$50 Petty Cash, Scholarship fund \$10,897.36 for a total of \$19,995.10. Bill then provided a written year-end financial report for 2010. The report was reviewed and discussed. Ron Perkins agreed to follow-up with National MOAA to determine if our chapter has been reimbursed for all 2010 *Give Me Ten* new members and reimbursement for Dan Conway's participation in MOAA's 2010 Alaskan cruise. Bill Roscher formally requested an audit of the chapter books per the chapter operating procedures. Rob Welch and Dan Conway volunteered to conduct the audit.

Auxiliary: Kathy Upchurch said the auxiliary group will be conducting Bingo today at the Veterans Home. Beth Cullison made a motion seconded by Ron Perkins to approve a \$50 monthly expense to support the prizes and some refreshments for the monthly Veterans Bingo game. The motion was unanimously approved. Beth agreed to submit an email request to Bill Roscher for payment. Ron Perkins asked about training required for members and Kathy explained as long as at least one volunteer has completed the two hour training, other members may volunteer at the Bingo games without going through the formal training session.

Historian: Jim Cullison said he will write up bios for several previous chapter presidents for publication on the website. Rob Welch and Jim will work together to complete these.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks indicated the President's budget should be available in mid February including the Department of Defense budget. The House and Senate budget committee reports are due out in March which will drive issues from National. Gary said there are two tear-out letters in the February *Military Officer Magazine* which he encouraged everyone to tear out, sign, and mail in. John Ady will mention the importance of the tear-out letters in the next issue of *The Sentinel*. There are likely to be budget cuts to Medicaid and Universities in the state budget. There is also a concern that the start up costs for the Tucson Veterans Home could be in jeopardy. There are currently 23 bills dealing with military and Guard issues. Gary talked about the importance of the GI Bill and the possibility of using the University of Arizona's model as the nationwide standard. There is a six page summary from the Arizona Veterans' Service Advisory Commission of objectives sent to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, entitled "Strategic Policy Objectives -- 2010/2011" which everyone can view on the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services website, <http://www.azdvs.gov/>.

Membership: Beth Cullison reported with the recent addition of three new members, if everyone renews their membership, we currently have the potential for 231 members. 50% of the membership have renewed for 2011. Dan Conway has developed a letter and renewal form for those that have not yet renewed and asked for volunteers to remain following the board meeting to fold the letters and stuff envelopes for mailing. Kathy Upchurch asked Beth to send a list of the Auxiliary members to Kathy.

Newsletter: Jim Cullison will include a flyer created by Ron Perkins for the Arizona Broadway Theatre in the next issue of *The Sentinel*.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway talked with Jim Seidl who recently had a knee replacement. Dan plans to include a show of interest request in March's *The Sentinel* to offer a Personal Affairs workshop to our membership.

Arrangements: Marie Fredricks said there were many positive comments about using the McCormick Ranch Golf Club Pavilion for the January meeting and will attempt to hold future luncheon meetings there.

Programs: John Ady said LTC Hoyt Slocum will not be available for the February meeting but Col Jill Nelson is confirmed as a speaker.

Scholarships: Rob Welch reported 17 letters requesting contributions to the scholarship fund have been sent to various defense contractors and he is awaiting responses. Although USAA has not committed to a dollar amount, they are considering making a donation. Rob is planning to set up the scholarship committee next month and will be asking for four volunteers. Bill Roscher sent a letter to Sanderson Ford and will follow up for a donation. Dan Conway will follow up with his TriWest contact.

Web Master: Rob Welch talked about three new features:

- Search mechanism
- Print mechanism to allow hitting a print button without getting extraneous data & pictures
- On-line membership application form. (We have already signed up new member, Steve Glantz, via the new website form.)

Rob also found each of the branches' service songs which are available on our website's membership tab. You can listen to their official songs by clicking on each service name.

Old Business:

Golf Outing: Pat Dale provided an overview of plans for the April 8th golf tournament. He anticipates anywhere from 50 to 100 or more participants. There will be many prizes. Pat receives materials about a week prior to the tournament and is planning a packing party on April 4th, 6:00 p.m., to form an assembly line for making up the packages. He only needs about three people to help on the 4th. He would like help contacting local businesses such as pizza parlors, doctors' offices, etc. to sponsor a hole. This is something every member could help with. Pat will provide a summary list of sponsors to John Ady to avoid duplication when prospecting for sponsors. John will send a note to TriWest for Pat. Each sponsor pays \$25 to have a sign with their name prominently displayed throughout the tournament at one of the holes. Pat provides a sponsor form and picture of a sponsor sign to solicit support. All monies go to support our scholarship fund.

Cell Phones for Soldiers: John Ady learned National MOAA is duplicating our local efforts to collect old cell phones. Kathy Upchurch also received a 21 page document describing the rules, how to submit the phones and pre-paid mailing labels as another option. After some discussion Rob Welch made a motion seconded by Bill Roscher to stay with our current program. The only difference is sending phones to National MOAA allows National to get credit. Kathy Upchurch agreed to contact Pat Schechter to determine if we can simply report how many phones we are collecting locally to give MOAA credit. Discussion included plans for re-advertising the program in *The Sentinel* and on our chapter website.

Arizona StandDown 2011: The StandDown is planned for this weekend, February 4-6. Several members have volunteered for shifts through the web at <http://azhomelessvets.org/>.

Travel Expense: Rob Welch chaired a committee with Ron Green and Rance Farrell to review travel reimbursement rules for the chapter. Ron Perkins left the room for a discussion of his previous request for airfare reimbursement. After some discussion, Beth Cullison made a motion seconded by Rance Farrell to reimburse Ron's airfare expense for the trip to Alexandria. The motion was unanimously carried. Dan Conway proposed Ron submit travel expenses from two previous trips which was seconded by Beth Cullison. The motion did not carry and therefore Ron will not be reimbursed for those two previous trips. Ron returned to the meeting and Rob Welch presented the committee's recommendation which provides specific guidelines and instructions for travel expense reimbursement. Rob made a motion to adopt the revised travel expense reimbursement operating instruction which was seconded by Rance Farrell. After some discussion, the motion was tabled as Bill Roscher made a motion seconded by Ron Perkins for the committee to wordsmith the procedures and return next month with a revised proposal. The board unanimously agreed to this approach.

Luncheon Meeting Greeters:

February – Ron & Bette Green

March – Jim & Beth Cullison

April – John & Sharon Ady

Communications Awards: Ron Perkins reported he submitted the chapter's website, *The Sentinel* and our recruiting flyer for communication awards to National MOAA.

AZ Council Dues: There was a brief discussion on paying our Council dues. Beth Cullison agreed to provide Bill Roscher the number of regular members and number of auxiliary members as of December 31, 2010, so Bill Roscher can make the correct payment. The cost is \$1 for regular members and 50¢ for Auxiliary members

AZ Council Meeting (May 20, 2011): Ron Perkins reviewed the questionnaire Jim Cullison developed and Ron forwarded it to Ken Yamanouchi for distribution to the other Council presidents. Ron will follow up to ensure the questionnaire was received by everyone. Marie Fredricks reported she has completed negotiations with the Holiday Inn including a meeting room. Lunch will be available in the Holiday Inn restaurant.

New Business:

Chapter Logo: Rob Welch designed a new logo for the chapter which he cleared with National MOAA and shared with board members for review. Gregg Maxon proposed the logo be adopted, John Ady seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Rob Welch said it would cost \$35 to copyright it. Gregg made a motion seconded by Bill Roscher to pay the \$35 to get it copyrighted. The motion carried unanimously.

Scholarship Fund Annual Reporting Requirements: Bill Roscher submitted the documentation and a \$10 fee to maintain the scholarship fund's 5013C tax-exempt status. Bill received the formal legal acceptance for authorization so the tax-exempt status is current. Bill Roscher indicated he deleted the previous treasurer's name from the current records and is including the entire board. Rob Welch proposed the name be changed from "Arizona Chapter MOAA Scholarship Fund" to "Arizona Chapter MOAA Scholarship Foundation". Beth Cullison seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Annual AZNG Conference May 20, 2011- Recruiting: Ron Perkins explained the annual Arizona National Guard conference conflicts with the AZ Council of Chapters meeting our chapter is hosting. This presents a challenge to staff a table at the Guard conference as participation last year brought us 14 new members. The board agreed we want to participate and will need two people per day to staff the table. Ron will send notification that our chapter will participate and John Ady will request volunteers at the February luncheon and in *The Sentinel*.

Nominations for AVHOF: Ron Perkins said the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame applications are due April 30th. Ron asked that he be contacted with any candidates. Gary Fredricks suggested Rance Farrell as an excellent candidate and the board agreed.

Jr. ROTC Scholarship Committee: John Ady tabled this item until next month.

Veterans Heritage Project: Bill Roscher explained the Veterans Heritage Project (VHP) is a group committed to train high school students to record stories of American military veterans from World War II through Afghanistan. The stories are published in an annual book entitled *Since You Asked*. Bill was interviewed for about three hours and was able to review the videotape and write-up prior to publication in the book. VHP is working at Cactus Shadows High School in Cave Creek and will be expanding to more schools. Bill gave VHP Frank Birtciel for possible inclusion. VHP is currently working on Book 7. Bill will give Chuck Schluter a contact to invite VHP to one of our luncheon meetings. VHP could bring one of the students and present a brief overview followed by a presentation by one of our members such as General Schneider.

Service Songs & Anniversary Dates: During the anniversary month of each uniformed service branch John Ady wants to play their official service song at our luncheon meetings. John will work with Rob Welch to prepare and schedule the songs.

Good of the Order, Roundtable:

Three Upcoming Events: Rance Farrell reviewed several upcoming events including the *Business Owner of the Year* breakfast event on February 22nd to honor Bill and Darlene Toops, founders of *The Glendale Star*, *Pueblo Publisher Inc.*, and *The Peoria Times*. Senator Jon Kyl will be a special guest and presenter. Veterans and active military are invited to attend. Rance Farrell or Dan Germond (623-931-5344) can be contacted for further details. Mr. Scott Essex will be presented the Copper Sword Award on February 11th. Rance also talked about an upcoming AUSA awards luncheon on Sunday, February 13th at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club.

Next BOD Meeting: 3 March 2011

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1240 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Cullison, Secretary