

UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS (UAV), P.O. BOX 34338, PHOENIX, AZ 85067

**MINUTES OF THE UAV GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 5, 2011
AT THE STATE VETERANS HOME, 4141 N. SILVESTRE HERRERA WAY,
PHOENIX, AZ 85012**

CALL TO ORDER: 10 a.m. by the Chairman, who led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation by Chaplain Bo Bohach.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS by the Chairman: Gene Crego, Chairman, Mohave County Veterans Council; Gregg Maxon, Veterans Legal Services; Medal of Honor Committee members Mary Lou Phillips, James Phillips, Charley Ruiz, and Nick Rios.

PRESENTATIONS:

- 1. Veterans Honoring Medal of Honor (MOH). Mary Lou Phillips invited UAV members to attend an event honoring the 27 recipients of the MOH with AZ ties and featuring the four living recipients. The event will be a luncheon on 19 March 2011 at the Silvestre Herrera School, 1350 S. 11th Street, Phoenix. The cost is \$30 per individual or \$50 per couple. Mary Lou Phillips may be reached for further information at 11411 N. 91st Ave., #23, Peoria 85345, (623) 486-6678.**
- 2. Veterans Legal Services Update by Gregg Maxon.**
 - a. A Judge, who is a USMC veteran, holds Court in Tucson one afternoon every two weeks. He focuses on getting treatment for the veteran and stresses the importance of the VA Social Worker who will assess the veteran's progress. Gregg Maxon stated that the defense team includes 3rd year law students.**
 - b. Ken Fields, a USAR (R) Colonel started the Maricopa County Court three weeks ago. Six veterans showed up for the first session.**
 - c. There are 3,000 veterans in AZ State prisons.**
 - d. The city of Phoenix is interested in starting a veteran's court.**
 - e. The State Bar Military Legal Assistance Committee will conduct a six hour training session on military/veterans issues at a future State Bar meeting.**
 - f. The Phoenix School of Law has eight students helping with legal issues and tax help.**

- g. There is a funding problem to support the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade due to the loss of a sponsor.**

ROLL CALL: Quorum established for conducting business.

MINUTES of the January 8 meeting. Phil Hanson moved, seconded by Mel Brody to approve the minutes passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT as of January 31, 2011 was presented by Treasurer Jesse Gersten. Motion to approve, subject to audit, was made by Carol Hamburger and seconded by Bernie Kaplan. Motion carried. The report is on file with the Secretary.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

REPORTS:

- 1. VAMC Representative Karen Sparks: An art show featuring 80 veterans is scheduled for February 17; a Women's Clinic will open in June/July.**
- 2. AZDVS**
 - a. Dave Hampton reported that he is tracking 35 veterans' bills. He is focusing on HB 2410, In State tuition to honorably discharged veterans and HB 2460, postsecondary education, veterans, and database which will require AZDVS to collect and maintain a database of veterans who enroll in postsecondary institutions in AZ.**
 - b. Mike Klier reported that the Tucson Home is on schedule for opening in October. Each of the 35 VBC's bring in approximately \$ 8 million per year.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1. Chuck Schluter reported that there will be 200 attending the Copper Shield/Copper Sword Ceremony and Dinner on February 11 at Dobson Ranch Inn.**
- 2. The Chairman recommended acceptance of the Mohave County Veterans Council request to become members of the UAV. The motion to accept was made by Jesse Gersten and seconded by Mel Brody. Motion carried.**

3. Vote on Dues Change to UAV Bylaws. Motion was made by Jim Hostetler and seconded by Dick Collis to change the Bylaws and the due date of dues to 1 January and late on 1 March. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Webb Ellis stated that Mary Ellen's Place should open in late March 2011.**
- 2. Memorial Day Service at the Phoenix National Memorial Cemetery. Judy Hatch asked everyone to respond NLT 30 April 2011 as to each organization's intent to participate in the Memorial Day Service.**
- 3. Gene Vandebosch, AZ Veterans Education Foundation, stated that the University of AZ retention rate of veterans is 94% vs. 8% for other institutions.**
- 4. David Lucier stated that there are more veterans in prisons than in higher education. The Viet Nam Veterans Memorial Traveling Wall will be in Tempe from November 11-13, 2011.**
- 5. 50/50 Raffle winner was Lionel Sanchez (\$40); and \$40 going to the Treasury to be used for refreshments.**

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT.

- 1. Next Meeting: Saturday, March 5 at the Veterans Home.**
- 2. Closing prayer was given by Chaplain Bohach.**
- 3. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

KENNETH K. YAMANOUCI
Acting Secretary
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