

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

MINUTES OF THE UAV GENERAL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 4, 2014, AT THE STATE VETERAN HOME, 4141 N. SILVESTRE HERRERA WAY, PHOENIX, AZ 85012

CALL TO ORDER: 10:10 a.m. by UAV Chairman Rob Welch, followed by Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Greetings and Thank You to UAV - Ken Bennett, Secretary of State, thanked the representatives to UAV for their support of the December 7th Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony and Dedication of the Gun Barrels from the USS ARIZONA and the USS MISSOURI. Secretary Bennett recounted that the dedication of the gun barrels was a three-year effort. Judy Hatch, American Legion Auxiliary representative to UAV, represented UAV on the planning efforts which supported the December 7th event. Thank You, Judy!

Presentation: “Arizona Veterans Legal Clinic” – Norman S. Fulton III, AZDVF Legal Clinic Director, stated that 277 attorneys have volunteered so far to provide free legal advice to veterans who meet the income criteria of \$44,000/couple or \$65,000/family of 4. The October 2013 Veterans Legal Clinic was successful in helping 60 veterans with 70 cases; 53 cases have been closed. Eighteen veterans so far have signed up for the January 25th Veterans Legal Clinic in Phoenix, 9 am to 4 pm, VAMC Phoenix. Appointments are 30 minutes long. 2-3 DAV National Service Officers will also be available at the January 25th Veterans Legal Clinic. Mr. Fulton stated that the long term goal is to conduct a veterans legal clinic every other month around the State. Norman Fulton’s contact data: Email: nsfultoniii@gmail.com, telephone 303-249-5827.

Greetings and Remarks – Congresswoman Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ, Congressional District 9) is a native of Arizona born in Tucson and raised in Phoenix. She has a brother in the Navy currently nominated for Sailor of the Year. There was bipartisan support resulting in Congress passing a 2-year Budget. Veterans issues she is working on: COLA for veterans who retire early, the Miller Bill (Congressman Jeff Miller, Florida), and the VA Claims Backlog issue. Regarding the latter, she has written to VA Secretary Shinseki. The average 166-day turnaround should be 30 days. 266,000 appeals are pending. She supports veterans’ access to mental health care; she supports Arizona as a veteran-supportive State. Point of contact: Michelle Davidson, District Director, email: michelle.davidson@mail.house.gov, telephone 602.956.2285.

ROLL CALL: Roll call taken, quorum certified.

NOVEMBER 2, 2013 MINUTES: Motion to approve by Michael Thelen, seconded by Dave Willis, Motion carried.

Oath of Office – Chairman Welch administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Treasurer Bob Hysko.

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer Hysko presented a Statement of Funds report:

General Fund: \$11,194.78

Savings Account: \$14,014.13

AVHOF Account: \$6,883.80

Total: \$32,092.71

Motion made by Dave Willis and seconded by Linda Fulkerson to accept the Statement of Funds report subject to audit, Motion carried.

Treasurer Hysko presented the 2014 UAV Budget. Motion made by Reggie Yates and seconded by Michael Thelen to accept the 2014 UAV Budget, Motion carried.

Copies of both reports were circulated to the representatives.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS REPORT – Chairman Welch

Howard Doyle reported that Jim Denzien, Past Commander, Perch Base Submariners, having aortic abdominal aneurysm surgery this morning.

REPORTS:

1. AZDVS – Steve Weintraub, Outreach Coordinator, representing Director Ted Vogt

Good news, all formerly chronic homeless veterans in the Phoenix area are now in shelters. Definition of chronic homeless veterans: documented homeless over one year or homeless three times in a year.

Vice Chair Araman announced the Maricopa County StandDown will be February 14 – 16 at the Veterans Coliseum, State Fairgrounds, 19th Ave & McDowell Road. Last year 1500 veterans were helped.

2. UAV Legislative Committee - Chairman Corey Harris reported he has met with the Arizona Legislature Veterans Caucus. He previewed future UAV legislative training for interested representatives, possibly on January 25th with location to be determined, and a Lunch on the Lawn at the Arizona Legislature grounds in February or March.

Reminder, Jonathan Larkin, State Representative, District 30, to receive the UAV Copper Shield/Legislator of the Year award on February 12, 2014. All UAV encouraged to attend and support the program (Patriotic Gala event – Copper Sword, Copper Eagle, and Copper Shield awards to be presented to Don Brandt, Pinnacle West; Salt River Project (SRP); and Representative Jonathan Larkin, respectively). Student scholarships will also be awarded. Register on the web site: www.avhof.org

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. December 7th Commemoration Ceremony – Judy Hatch reported that the December 7th Pearl Harbor Remembrance event went well with over 4,000 people at Wesley Bolin Plaza. The After Action meeting will be held the end of July/early February at Judy's church. Contact Judy at: judithhatch42@yahoo.com

Dave Willis inquired about the December 7th CD of photos submitted for the azuav.org web site. Secretary Culbertson will check with Director Crego and Past Chair Bob Madden.

NEW BUSINESS AND OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Request to Join UAV – Operation American Patriot (OAP) : Chairman Welch presented a recommendation from the UAV Board of Directors supporting the request of the Operation American

Patriot (OAP) organization to join UAV. Motion made by Michael Thelen and seconded by John Burden, Motion carried.

2. The Patriotic Gala event sponsored by the AVHOF Society will be Wednesday, February 12, 2014 at the Airport Marriott Hotel, 1101 N. 44th Street, Phoenix 85008. The Copper Sword Award recipient will be Don Brandt, Pinnacle West. The inaugural Golden Eagle Award recipient will be SRP/Salt River Project. The Copper Shield/Legislator of the Year Award recipient will be State Representative Jonathan Larkin, District 30. Scholarships will be presented to students. Tables of 10, cost: \$60/person. Registration closes on February 5th. Chair of the Patriotic Gala event: AVHOFS President-Elect John Sentz, email: swocapt@sentzible.com.

3. 2014 UAV Planning Calendar – Secretary Culbertson

The 2014 UAV Planning Calendar is part of today's Agenda handout, and will be updated on a quarterly basis.

GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Bill Williams, Marine Corps League, will be traveling soon to Capitol Hill and invited issues to take to Capitol Hill. Contact Bill Williams at email: billtweet2010@live.com

2. Wed, January 8th, AVHOFS Board Meeting and Installation of New Board of Directors, Training Room, first floor, State Veteran Home Phoenix, 10 am. Everyone is invited. Contact John Sentz at email: swocapt@sentzible.com

3. American Legion Post 63 Holiday Luncheon, Olive Garden Restaurant, Mesa, Saturday, January 18, lunchtime. Contact Linda Fulkerson at email: fulkers6@hotmail.com

4. Veterans Helping Veterans Dinner/Dance on January 25th, \$15/person. Contact Michael Thelen at: michaelth01@msn.com

5. Free "Tall Ships" program, 50 slides of tall ships, Tues, January 28th, 11:30 am at Macayo's Mexican Kitchen Restaurant, 4001 N. Central Ave, Phoenix, guest speaker: CAPT Dan Conway, US Coast Guard, Retired. Contact Carol Culbertson at email: claudhc@yahoo.com

50/50 Raffle Winner: Howard Doyle, \$19; \$19 to the UAV Treasury.
With thanks to Vice Chair Araman for bringing the doughnuts!

Next Meeting: Saturday, February 1, 2014, State Veteran Home Phoenix, Liberty Hall on the second floor, 10 am to Noon

Closing prayer given by Chairman Welch.

Meeting adjourned at 12 Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/CAROL CULBERTSON
Secretary, Unified Arizona Veterans

Email: claudehc@yahoo.com

Office/fax: 602.943.7834

ACTION LOG

Followup on Dave Willis' inquiry (CD of Dec 7th Pearl Harbor Remembrance Event) – Secretary Culbertson