

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 2019

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held on 23 February 2019 at the Candlewood Suites, El Paso Texas.

Attendance:

President: COL (RET) Forrest Smith
Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith
Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel
Programs: Col (RET) Bob Pitt
Legislative Liaison: CW2 Dave Garcia
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore
ROTC and Schools Support: LTC (RET) Dave Powell— via teleconference
El Paso Chapter Outreach Foundation: BG (RET) Jack Kotter

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 0805.
2. President's Remarks: COL (RET) Forrest Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Secretary: January 2019 minutes were not available.
 - B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided a review of the January 2019 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss statement. The Chapter had a net income of \$1,105.22 in January. Elma reminded the BOD that an audit was required. Lennie Enzel volunteered to do the audit.
 - C. Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel had NSTR.
 - D. Membership: CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza was not present.
 - E. Programs: Col (RET) Bob Pitt discussed the upcoming luncheon on 13 April 2019 at the Underwood Golf Course. Bob stated the Representative Escobar could not speak at the April event; therefore, the guest speaker is undetermined at this time. Forrest Smith will ask a member of the Border patrol to be the guest speaker.
 - 1) Bob gave the profit from the February Luncheon— \$232.00.
 - 2) Col (RET) Pitt reported the Golf Course was not available for the June. Bill Moore will contact the Program Director, MonteVista Senior Living Center, to determine if the luncheon can take place at MonteVista.
 - 3) Representative Escobar is potentially the June Guest Speaker. The William Beaumont commander is the backup for June.
 - F. Legislative Liaison: CW2 (RET) Dave Garcia reported the following:

- 1) Met with Representative Escobar on Wednesday, 20 February 2019. He informed the Congresswoman that he was presenting legislative concerns for the DAV and MOAA — specifically favorable legislation for Tricare for Life recipients and SPB/DIC for surviving spouses. Dave further stated the Congresswoman appeared amenable to DAV and MOAA concerns.
- 2) Forrest reiterated that El Paso VSOs must develop a “top ten” list of legislative concerns and present them to the Congresswoman and let it be known that the veteran community will grade her on how she votes on those concerns.
- 3) LTC (RET) Dave Powell provided input reference to the congressional bills Representative Escobar has co-sponsored.
- 4) BG Kotter added that Escobar’s staff requires education on veterans’ issues.
- 5) Lennie added that in addition to MOAA, there is a national veterans coalition that lobbies Congress. MOAA will “Storm the Hill” in April.

G. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (RET) Bill Moore reported that the February Border Bulletin had been mailed. Input for the April Border Bulletin is due on 3 March 2019.

H. Public Relations: LTC (RET) Caldwell was absent.

I. JROTC/ROTC: LTC (RET) Dave Powell stated that he is working with the JROTC units for awards. He added that he has sufficient medals for the 2019 JROTC Award Ceremonies.

J. Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan was absent.

K. Door Prizes: LTC (RET) Caldwell was absent.

4. New Business:

- 1) Advocating in Austin (Texas Council of Chapters): Potential attendees are Forrest Smith and Dave Garcia.
- 2) Paso Del Norte Borderplex Veteran Coalition: Forrest led the discussion on joining the Coalition. Bill Moore had reservations because of his understanding that there would be specific requirements for a chapter representative to contact support seekers and follow-up with them. After a lengthy discussion among all present, it was decided to delay a decision on the Borderplex until after the March presentation by the Houston representative. Discussion will continue at the March BOD meeting.
- 3) Waiver for Utilities use in Building 452: Bill Moore stated that he will submit the waiver application.
- 4) Computer at the Hope Institute: The computer system and printer were installed onsite.
- 5) EPMOAA trip— Band of Brothers Tour in Europe or trip to Israel: No discussion— tabled for a future meeting.
- 6) Texas Veterans Coalition Grant Opportunities Open Season: September 2019— No funds need at this time.

- 7) Sponsor/Advertisers needed: Bill Moore indicated that non-dues revenues are desperately need at this time. Print changes will be necessary for the Border Bulletin if these funds remain unavailable.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 1030.

Respectfully submitted by:
LTC (RET) Bill Moore, Acting Secretary

FORREST SMITH
COL, USA, Retired
President, El Paso Chapter, MOAA