

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 2018

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held on 24 February 2018 at the Candlewood Suites, El Paso Texas.

Attendance:

President: COL (RET) Forrest Smith
Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett
Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith
Immediate Past President/Legislative Liaison: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel
Programs: Col (RET) Bob Pitt
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore
Membership: CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza
Auxiliary Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan
ROTC/JROTC Activities: LTC (RET) Dave Powell

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 0913.
2. President's Remarks: COL (RET) Forrest Smith welcomed everyone and highlighted that Judge Angie Barill (February luncheon guest speaker) holds the El Paso Veteran's Treatment Court at 1600 on the last Wednesday of each month. COL (RET) Smith and BG (RET) Jack Kotter plan to attend the upcoming session next week and encouraged other to join them. COL (RET) Smith and BG (RET) Kotter have also been discussing potential public affair initiatives to increase Chapter engagement and exposure in the community:
 - a. One upcoming event will be the El Paso Chapter Outreach Foundation's purchase and building of computer stations for the Horizon City veteran's transitional living center. The computers will enable veterans to create and update their resumes and help search for employment opportunities. The Foundation is hopeful the costs can be subsidized via a MOAA national grant that could be awarded by May 1st. Future plans include supporting three computer stations at the downtown center.
 - b. Will seek to partner with the VA "for and with veterans and the community."
 - c. Would like to pursue news coverage of ROTC and JROTC functions the Chapter supports.
 - d. Will seek other opportunities to get "MOAA participation" visibility in the community.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett provided a copy of the January 2018 BOD minutes which were approved with one correction.
 - B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided a review of the January 2018 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss statement. The Chapter had a net income of \$565.38 last month; primary sources of income were luncheon payments, membership dues and a donation of \$300.00 from USAA. LTC (RET) Bill Moore asked how many February luncheon check payments were still outstanding (as a result of the Post Office mailing issue)—Ms. Smith advised only 3 payments were still due. Ms. Smith has also filed a complaint with the Post Office regarding the returned mail issue.

- C. Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel had NSTR.
- D. Membership: CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza shared that he was pleased with the new Friends of the Chapter membership category.
- E. Programs: Col (RET) Bob Pitt provided a recap, including profit and expenses, of the 10 February 2018 luncheon held at the Underwood Golf Course. Judge Angie Barill, 346th State District Court, was the guest speaker and she provided a very informative briefing about the El Paso Veteran's Treatment Court Program.
- 1) The next luncheon will be held 14 April 2018 at the Underwood Golf Course; COL (RET) Smith will ask COL Murphy to be the guest speaker. COL (RET) & Ms. Smith as well as COL (RET) Enzel will be out of town for the luncheon; Col (RET) Barrett will host in COL (RET) Smith's absence and COL (RET) Enzel will order the cake.
 - 2) Col (RET) Pitt also confirmed the Underwood facility is now available for our June and December luncheons and he will make reservations accordingly.
 - 3) LTC (RET) Dave Powell reported he will bring in an initial concept of operations for the potential "Membership Appreciation Day" picnic the BOD has been discussing.
- F. Legislative Liaison: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel has NSTR.
- G. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (RET) Bill Moore reported inputs for the next Border Bulletin are due 3 Mar 18. He also advised Pure Water was a new advertiser and Border Therapy had purchased a ½ page advertisement.
- H. Public Relations: LTC (RET) Caldwell was absent however she passed words that articles will be distributed in March for the April luncheon.
- I. JROTC/ROTC: LTC (RET) Powell is compiling a list of all upcoming JROTC award ceremonies and will provide it by the next BOD meeting. He also reported he has agreed to assist with the presentation of Military Order of World Wars' medals. He also shared that he had been advised there will be 11 graduating cadets commissioned at UTEP this semester.
- J. Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan reported she represented MOAA and performed for the SMW luncheon last month. She also continues to actively recruit new "Friends of the Chapter."
- K. Door Prizes: Additional door prizes are needed for future events.

4. New Business:

- 1) MOAA National BOD Openings: COL (RET) Smith indicated the suspense for nominations remains 31 March 2018.
- 2) Levels of Excellence Awards: Submission deadline is 1 May 2018.
- 3) EPISD Bataan Memorial Death March Sponsorship: No additional requests for support have been received. As previously documented, the Chapter will sponsor one of the El Paso Independent School District (EPISD) JROTC unit's participation. Ms. Elma Smith also plans to participate in the full march.

- 4) Honor Flight: LTC (RET) Moore received a thank you letter from the Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico for the joint donation the Chapter and AUSA recently provided. The next flight is scheduled for October 2018.
5. Ms. Sullivan provided a closing benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 1020.

Respectfully submitted by:
Col (RET) Steve Barrett, Secretary

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