

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 2018

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held on 26 May 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
ROTC/JROTC Activities: LTC (RET) Dave Powell
Auxiliary Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 0809. Ms. Connie Sullivan provided the invocation.
2. President's Remarks: COL (RET) Forrest Smith welcomed all and passed out a MOAA Planning Horizon for review and discussion. The Planning Horizon is populated with scheduled Chapter luncheons, meetings and supporting events along with MOAA Outreach events for the next 12 months. COL (RET) Smith plans to incorporate a budget forecast into the document and he asked everyone to provide additional recommended inputs with hopes it will grow into a very useful, continuously updated planning tool.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett provided a copy of the April 2018 BOD minutes which were approved as submitted.
 - B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided a review of the April 2018 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss statement. The Chapter had a net loss of \$712.85 last month; primary sources of income were luncheon payments, door prizes and membership dues while printing & copying and the luncheon payment were the two primary expenses. For the calendar year, the Chapter currently has a net loss of \$722.00. LTC (RET) Bill Moore highlighted that one of our advertisers owes us two payments and he will contact them in hopes of securing their payment.
 - C. Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel had nothing significant to report (NSTR).
 - D. Membership: No report, CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza was absent.
 - E. Programs: Col (RET) Bob Pitt previewed the upcoming 9 June 2018 luncheon to be held at the Underwood Golf Course. Ms. Mayre Sue Overstreet, whose ancestors fought in the American Revolution, will be the guest speaker and she will share stories of the Texas Rangers (the ones who carry a badge and gun vice the major league baseball team). The menu will include chicken cordon bleu, potatoes au gratin, green bean almandine along with salad and rolls and of course MOAA cake

for dessert. Col (RET) Pitt then shared the following luncheon is scheduled for 11 August and a guest speaker needs to be identified. COL (RET) Enzel will invite El Paso VA Health Care System Director Michael Amaral to join her and provide a potential tag-team presentation.

F. Legislative Liaison: COL (RET) Enzel shared the following updates:

- 1) The Senate just passed the Caregiver Act. Once signed and funded via an appropriations bill, the Act will expand caregiver assistance payment eligibility, currently available only to Tier III severely injured Post-9/11 veterans, to all veterans.
- 2) On June 4th, Representative Beto O'Rourke will hold a Veteran's Town Hall in addition to his normal Town Hall. The Veteran's session will be held from 1:00 – 2:00 PM at Riverside High School, a few hours after the Town Hall currently scheduled from 9:00 – 10:00 AM at the same location.
- 3) COL (RET) Enzel attended the Chief of Staff of the Army Soldier Council for the second straight year; please see her article in the June Border Bulletin for the first of her recaps of this 5-day meeting focused on addressing issues submitted by Retiree Councils across the globe.
- 4) The State of Texas is still working on a proposed change to provide a reduction in property taxes for veterans with an 80 or 90% disability rating. The proposal requires a change to the state Constitution and supporters are currently trying to identify a revenue source to offset the significant loss of tax funds that would result.

G. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (RET) Bill Moore reported the June Border Bulletin was mailed this week and electronic copies were available last week. He made some minor formatting updates for this issue. LTC (RET) Moore also relayed the next TCC meeting will be held 8-9 June 2018, and a general discussion about TCC involvement ensued.

H. Public Relations: LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell was absent however she sent in a report indicating that advertising for the June luncheon has been submitted to the normal media outlets.

I. JROTC/ROTC: LTC (RET) Dave Powell provided an excellent recap of the JROTC award ceremonies that he and other BOD members recently covered. Pictures were requested from the schools and our Chapter representatives also helped present MOWW awards at several of the ceremonies. LTC (RET) Powell also reported that he delivered shoulder boards to UTEP for presentation to graduating cadets and he attended UTEP's commissioning ceremony on 11 May. LTC (RET) Powell indicated it was a very nice ceremony officiated by BG Landes, 1AD ADC-S and each cadet was given several minutes to give thanks and discuss their individual paths to becoming an officer.

J. Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan reported she joined the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter and she also attended COL (RET) Peter Poessiger's funeral.

K. Door Prizes: No report, LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell was absent.

4. New Business:

- 1) MOAA Committee Module Resources (President / Membership Chair): A brief discussion was held and LTC (RET) Moore will request MOAA send related emails to COL (RET) and Ms. Smith.
- 2) Building 452: COL (RET) Smith reported that he, Ms. Smith, Col (RET) Barrett and LTC (RET) Moore did a clean up of the facility this month. LTC (RET) Moore received applications from Ft. Bliss that must be completed to keep our occupancy. A complete MWR request must be completed and an audit of our financial books is now required to remain approved as a non-appropriated group operating/occupying a facility on the base. These new requirements appear to be part of a major accountability effort and possibly linked to new security initiatives,

- 3) June Membership Meeting – Photos and A/V: LTC (RET) Moore reported that Ms. Overstreet will not require A/V support for her presentation however he will be absent, so an alternate photography plan is required. LTC (RET) Powell volunteered to bring his phone for the pictures and COL (RET) and Ms. Smith will also bring their phones to use if necessary.
- 4) 2018 Membership Directory: LTC (RET) Moore reported the annual Directory should be completed and delivered by the end of June.
- 5) El Paso Chihuahuas Baseball Game: Col (RET) Pitt reported he had distributed 19 of the 20 tickets the Chapter had received to attend the 22 August game. The Chihuahua's provided the tickets as part of their outreach to non-profit organizations in the local area; game start time is 6:05
- 6) Retiree Council Meeting: The next meeting will be held 31 May 2018 at the old FLFCU building; start time is 1100. The next scheduled meeting to follow is currently set for 29 Sep 18.
- 7) Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD): The Chapter will be lead for setup procedures for this annual event. RAD events are scheduled for 29 Sep 2018 and the RAD reception will be held 28 Sep 2018 at the Underwood Golf Course. LTC (RET) Moore will discuss coordination items with other organizational POCs at the upcoming Retiree Council meeting.
- 8) October picnic at Biggs Park: LTC (RET) Powell reported that he had requested estimates from Famous Dave's, Rudy's, Smokey's BBQ and Moe's; anticipated costs will be approximately \$12-15 per person for this BOD approved Membership Appreciation event. Biggs Park remains a desired location however reservations cannot be made until 30 days prior to a requested event. McKelligon Canyon no longer appears to be a suitable alternative so LTC (RET) Powell will research Veteran's Park as a possible alternate location.
- 9) December Luncheon Guest Speaker: TCC President Larry Petrash was discussed as a possible guest speaker for this year's luncheon which is set to be held at the Underwood Golf Course.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 0928.

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

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