

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 2018

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held on 27 October 2018 at the Candlewood Suites, El Paso Texas.

Attendance:

President: COL (RET) Forrest Smith
Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett
Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith
Programs: Col (RET) Bob Pitt
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore
ROTC/JROTC Activities: LTC (Ret) Dave Powell
Auxiliary Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan
MOAA Outreach Foundation President: BG (RET) Jack Kotter
Chapter Member: CWO Dave Garcia

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 0801.
2. Invocation: Ms. Connie Sullivan provided the invocation.
3. President's Remarks: COL (RET) Forrest Smith asked LTC (RET) Bill Moore to introduce two guest speakers joining the BoD meeting this morning. LTC (RET) Moore welcomed Ms. Danielle Maloy and Ms. Nathalia Rodriguez from National University. Ms. Maloy and Ms. Rodriguez provided an overview of National University and their outreach efforts to recruit local veterans as students. A recap of their overview is provided in 5.A. below (New Business: National University).
4. Old Business:
 - A. Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett provided a copy of the September 2018 BOD minutes which were approved as submitted.
 - B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided a review of the September 2018 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss statement. The Profit/Loss Sheet reflects a net gain of \$102.26 for the month. Primary sources of income were an advertising payment from Wilson Water, Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) dinner payments and membership dues; expenses included payments for the RAD dinner and the annual website maintenance fee along with merchant fees.
 - C. Immediate Past President: No report, COL (RET) Lennie Enzel was absent.
 - D. Membership: No report, CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza was absent.

- E. Programs: Col (RET) Pitt shared the following report:
1. The RAD reception dinner went extremely well and yielded a small profit.
 2. The Member's Appreciation Picnic was a great event; kudos to LTC (RET) Dave Powell for coordinating the gathering.
 3. The 1 Dec 2018 luncheon is set for the Underwood Golf Course with schnitzel as the main course. CPT (Ret) Roger Nichols will be the guest speaker and he will provide a Pearl Harbor presentation to include personal family stories surrounding the 7 Dec 1941 attack.
- F. Legislative Liaison: No report, COL (RET) Enzel was absent.
- G. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (RET) Bill Moore reminded everyone that inputs for the award-winning Border Bulletin are due no later than 3 Nov 2018.
- H. Public Relations: No report, LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell.
- I. JROTC/ROTC: No report, LTC (RET) Dave Powell was absent.
- J. Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison: Ms. Sullivan had nothing significant to report.
- K. Door Prizes: No report, LTC (RET) Caldwell was absent.

5. New Business:

- A. National University: Ms. Maloy and Ms. Rodriguez provided an overview of National University (NU) and their commitment to serve and support the military and veteran student community. Ms. Maloy is the local Veterans Outreach Specialist and Ms. Rodriguez is the local Military Outreach Specialist. NU has over 100 programs with very flexible four-week classes. Locally, they did have onsite courses last year however for this year, online programs will be available for local students. Active duty students can receive a 50% tuition scholarship if using the Tuition Assistance Program so their out of pocket costs often are less than \$5 per course. NU also has extensive support services to support veterans and their families to include a Veterans One Step program and assistance with the GI Bill program, tuition assistance and various other VA benefits.
- B. Building 452: LTC (RET) Moore reported we are still waiting for the MWR organization approval.
- C. MOAA National Annual Meeting: No chapter members will attend the meeting; LTC (RET) Moore will advise if the meeting is made available via "streaming".
- D. Fort Bliss Veterans Day Ceremony: Will be held at 0900 on 8 Nov 2018 at the 1st AD Parade Field. There will be 2 local Veterans Day parades, one to be held in Northeast El Paso and the other to be held downtown.
- E. Veterans Transition Living Center Rehab Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Ribbon cutting time is still TBD on 10 Nov 2018 at the Center located at 818 Myrtle Ave; the time will likely be held immediately prior to the beginning of the downtown parade.
- F. Veterans Transition Living Center Meals: The Center received a grant from Wells Fargo to renovate their kitchen and approximately 10 of their 20 rooms. Accordingly, the Center will shut down their kitchen for renovation in the near future (likely in the Jan/Feb timeframe). While their kitchen is closed, the Center will provide cold breakfasts and lunches and is seeking assistance with providing warm dinners. The BoD voted to provide one of the dinners once the specific timeframe is identified.

G. National Public Radio Interview: COL (RET) Smith reported that he and BG (RET) Kotter will do an interview with Richard Dayoub in the very near future.

6. Ms. Sullivan provided the Benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 0914.

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

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