

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
July 2019

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held 27 July 2019 at the Candlewood Suites in El Paso TX.

Attendance:

Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett
Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel
Programs: Col (RET) Bob Pitt
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore
Legislative Liaison: CW2 (RET) Dave Garcia
ROTC/JROTC Activities: LTC (Ret) Dave Powell
Chaplain/Outreach Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan
MOAA Outreach Foundation President: BG (RET) Jack Kotter
Member at Large: CPT (RET) David Thackston

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 0807. Chapter Chaplain Ms. Connie Sullivan provided the invocation.
2. President's Remarks: COL (RET) Forrest Smith was absent.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett provided a copy of the June 2019 BOD minutes which were approved as submitted.
 - B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith was absent however she did provide the June 2019 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss statements. The Profit/Loss Sheet reflected a net gain of \$54.16 for the month. Sources of income were luncheon payments, door prizes, membership dues and a RAD donation; expenses included luncheon costs and merchant fees.
 - C. Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel shared that MOAA National has given permission for the MOAA Uniformed Services Nurses Advocacy Virtual Chapter (MUSNAVC) to attend regional MOAA meetings. COL(RET) Enzel is an active member of the Chapter and will represent MUSNAVC at the upcoming Leadership Workshop in Austin TX on 15-16 Nov 2019. She will represent our El Paso Chapter as well but if there are conflicting events, her MUSNAVC representation will take priority.
 - D. Membership: CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza had nothing significant to report this month.
 - E. Programs:
 1. Col (RET) Pitt reported the final profit from the June Luncheon was \$94.61. He also verified coordination has been completed for the 14 Aug 2019 Luncheon which will be held in the Sam Adams Room at the Centennial Club. The guest speaker will be Congresswoman Veronica Escobar and the menu will feature Schnitzel and cost will be \$20 per person. COL (RET) Enzel will order the MOAA cake (sheet and a half) for dessert.

2. Member at Large CPT (RET) David Thackston has been coordinating the attendance of approximately 20 members of the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW). The MOWW is receiving a national level award so the BoD agreed that their colors could be posted at the luncheon and COL (RET) Forrest Smith will recognize them during his introductory remarks at the luncheon.
3. Col (RET) Pitt also shared photos from the 3 June 2019 Veteran's Treatment Court graduation at which BG (RET) Jack Kotter was the guest speaker.
4. Col (Ret) Pitt also announced re-coordination had been accomplished for Chapter to attend and be recognized at the 13 Aug 2019 El Paso Chihuahuas Baseball Game. He handed out tickets to those BoD members planning to attend.

F. Legislative Liaison:

1. CW2 (RET) Dave Garcia provided an update on the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act. The Act was passed into law however the Veterans Administration has issued a Blanket Stay on all claims until 1 Jan 2020.
2. CW2 (RET) Garcia also shared a detailed handout depicting H.R. 1078, also known as the "Repatriate Our Patriots Act". Mr. Gonzalez of Texas and Mr. Young introduced the Act to grant citizenship to veterans. The Act proposes a 90-day process for those veterans to obtain citizenship. Most VSOs are supporting the Act and Mr. Garcia requested everyone on the BoD support it as well.
3. CW2 (RET) Garcia further provided a lengthy list of bills that have been submitted but not yet supported. He has personally submitted these Congressional Staff in Washington D.C., but they have not yet been acted upon. Mr. Garcia is planning to meet with Congresswoman Escobar on 30 July to discuss the Blue Water Act and H.R. 1078.

G. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (RET) Bill Moore advised the August Border Bulletin has been mailed out. Northeast Printing had a misprint and approximately half of the pages were printed in color vice black-and-white. The deadline to submit articles for the October Border Bulletin is 3 September 2019.

H. Public Relations: LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell was absent however she passed words indicating the standard Luncheon notices had been sent out.

I. JROTC/ROTC: LTC (RET) Dave Powell had nothing significant to report.

J. Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison: Ms. Sullivan shared that Dr. Washburn is willing to join the Chapter and might be a good candidate to serve as a guest speaker at a future luncheon.

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

4. New Business:

A. August Membership Meeting with MOWW Involvement: Topic previously covered; see the *Programs* update provided above.

B. El Paso Chihuahuas Baseball Game: Topic previously covered; see *Programs* update above.

C. Texas Veterans Coalition Grant Opportunities Open Season: Placeholder remains on the agenda to remind all Open Season is in September and LTC (RET) Moore will submit the Chapter's request.

- D. Polish American Brotherhood in Arms: LTC (RET) Powell advised invitations will go out at the end of the month. There will be a reception with a pay-as-you-go bar. The MOAA Outreach Foundation will provide a contribution to support this event.
- E. Retiree Appreciation Day: There have been no Retiree council meetings however discussions have been held about what RAD events will be held; the VA Director is the potential guest speaker.
- F. October Membership Meeting: Mr. Bernie Olivas, Chairman of the Sun Bowl Committee, will be invited as the guest speaker for this luncheon which is now scheduled on 12 Oct 2019 at the Underwood Golf Course.
- G. Southwest Councils and Chapters Leadership Workshop, 15-16 Nov 2019: Topic previously discussed; see *Immediate Past President* update above. Since COL (RET) Enzel will attend, LTC (RET) Powell will no longer plan to attend.
- H. Border Therapy Ad for Newsletter: LTC (RET) Moore talked to the owner and they will purchase a ½ page advertisement.
- I. MOAA Designated Scholarship (MG Rodriquez questions/Andrea Rand at MOAA National): Discussion was held on whether the Chapter should consider vectoring donations to a third scholarship and/or working with the Outreach Foundation to establish a third scholarship since the existing scholarships are fully funded. The BoD agreed to bring the topic up for membership discussion at the October luncheon.

5. Benediction: Chapter Chaplain Connie Sullivan provided the benediction.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 0916.

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

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