

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 2019

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held 21 September 2019 at the Candlewood Suites in El Paso TX.

Attendance:

President: COL (RET) Forrest Smith
Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett
Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith
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
Public Relations/Door Prizes: LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell
Chaplain/Outreach Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan
MOAA Outreach Foundation President: BG (RET) Jack Kotter

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 stated he and Ms. Smith had to depart no later than 0930 and requested we proceed promptly to finish on time.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett provided a copy of the August 2019 BOD minutes which were approved as submitted.
 - B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided the August 2019 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss statements. The Profit/Loss Sheet reflected a net gain of \$140.92 for the month. Sources of income were luncheon payments, door prizes, and membership dues; expenses included luncheon costs, website domain fees and merchant fees.
 - C. Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel had no report.
 - D. Membership: No report, CPT (RET) Steve Mendoza was absent.
 - E. Programs:
 1. Col (RET) Bob Pitt again reported the August Luncheon netted a final profit of \$383.42.
 2. Col (RET) Pitt further reported that Bernie Olivas, Executive Director of the Sun Bowl Association, is unable to attend the 12 October Luncheon however Wayne Thornton, Past President of the Sun Bowl Association, will attend in his place. The Sun Bowl Queen and her Lady in Waiting will join Mr. Thornton. The luncheon will be held at the Underwood Golf Course and Country Fried Steak will be the featured menu item.

3. An invitation to speak at the December Luncheon was extended to El Paso Police Chief Greg Allen however it is too far in the future at this time for Chief Allen to commit. COL (RET) Smith will likely see the Chief at the monthly Law Enforcement meeting on 3 October 2019 and will re-engage with him at that time. Mayor Margo and Judge Barilla were identified as alternate options if Chief Allen is not available.

F. Legislative Liaison:

1. CW2 (RET) Dave Garcia reported he received input from the Secretary of Legislation for Congresswoman Escobar advising a federal court has ruled the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) violated the law by ruling the VA would not reimburse veterans who receive care at non-VA facilities. CW2 (RET) Garcia's research indicates the ruling largely applies to care for emergency care (for service-connected disabilities) that required a co-pay.
2. CW2 (RET) Garcia continues to work with Congresswoman Escobar to sponsor/support many bills that will directly support female veterans.

G. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (RET) Bill Moore reported the August Border Bulletin was mailed this week and he also advised the deadline to submit articles for the October Border Bulletin remains 3 September 2019.

H. Public Relations: LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell reported articles about the October luncheon were distributed to the usual three media outlets.

I. JROTC/ROTC: LTC (RET) Dave Powell reported that Cadet Nicholas Moreno, winner of the local MOAA scholarship awarded by the Outreach Foundation, did not enroll at UTEP JROTC as expected. The topic will be discussed at the Foundation's meeting however it appears the scholarship criteria was not met so an additional scholarship will be available to award this year.

J. Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison: Ms. Sullivan joined LTC (RET) Moore in reporting the presentations at the Polish American Brotherhood in Arms reception were exceptionally well done. LTC (RET) Powell followed their statement with a comment that it would have been nice to have had a Chapter "pull up poster" to display at the event and other future events the Chapter sponsors. A motion to purchase a new pull up poster was tabled once LTC (RET) Powell indicated he would research costs and report them at next month's BOD meeting.

K. Door Prizes: LTC (RET) Martha Caldwell reported OCL (RET) Enzel had donated multiple bottles of wine; if others wanted to bring additional prizes, they should bring them to the luncheon.

4. New Business:

A. Retiree Appreciation Day, 28 September 2019: LTC (RET) Moore has heard nothing new from the Retiree Council re the upcoming RAD but he has requested a table for the Chapter. COL (RET) Smith advised that Doug Piltz will be taking over the leadership reins for this event and will look to reshape the RAD for next year. Donations are already being solicited from various agencies with a goal to make it a bigger and better event to be held at the Centennial Club.

B. October Membership Meeting: Topic previously covered; see the *Programs* update provided above.

C. Soldier Art Workshop Sponsor: Mr. John Robbins has requested sponsorship consideration from the Chapter; he advised LTC (RET) Moore there is some form of matching community funds however details are unknown at this time. Mr. Robbins will make his request at the October BOD.

- D. Veteran's Parade – 9 November 2019: LTC (RET) Moore sent out an email yesterday providing details about the downtown parade.
 - E. Southwest Councils and Chapters Leadership Workshop, 15-16 Nov 2019: COL (RET) Enzel is still planning to attend; see amplifying notes previously documented in the July BOD minutes.
 - F. Giving Tuesday, 3 December 2019: As reported in last month's minutes, LTC (RET) Moore will send out BG (RET) Kotter's letter for "Giving Tuesday" on 3 December 2019; the letter will be distributed from the Outreach Foundation via both email and traditional mail.
 - G. TCC Leadership Vacancies for 2020: President, First Vice-President, Membership Chair, Legislative Chair, Treasurer and Secretary positions all need to be filled.
 - H. October 2019 BOD Meeting – 26 October 2019: LTC (RET) Moore reported he will be out of town and unable to attend next month's meeting. Col (RET) Barrett followed up by advising he will also be out of town as well; he will forward this month's minutes to COL (RET) Smith for presentation. Additionally, someone will need to be designated to take meeting minutes.
5. Benediction: Chapter Chaplain Connie Sullivan provided the benediction.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 0900.

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

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