

UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL OF NEW MEXICO
PO BOX 8034, Albuquerque, NM 87198
MINUTES – April 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Ken O'Keefe at 1:09 pm. Roger M. led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the lighting of the POW/MIA candle by Laurel B. with a moment of silence in remembrance. There were twenty (20) representatives in attendance.

Meeting Agenda was approved. Minutes of previous meeting corrected and accepted as written. Treasurer's report was accepted subject to financial review. (copy attached)

New Mexico Veterans Memorial

Roger K. reported more vandalism and is asking for donations to the endowment fund, which is set up to help fix damages at the memorial. NMVM is looking into hiring security to patrol the area from 10:00 pm – 6:00 am. Organizations who have not paid their dues for 2014 by May 1, will not have their names in the Memorial Day program. Mirella Chacon is the new Secretary at the memorial, her position may be changing to Cultural Affairs.

On April 30th @ 8:00 am, Roger will be putting up the public of South Vietnam flags for the Fall of Saigon.

Docent classes will be held every 1st Sunday of the month @ 2:00 pm, while the weather is warm.

Chris Timm is still having Lectures every 1st & 2nd Saturdays @ 10:00am, admission is free.

Swing Dances are every 3rd Saturday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 pm, admission is free.

Next NMVM Board meeting will be held on April 16, 2014. Board meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of the month, 4:00-6:00pm and is open to the public.

The website for NM Veterans Memorial is www.nmvetsmemorial.org

Mayor's Veterans' and Military Affairs Advisory Board

Mayors Advisory Board meeting is held every third Wednesday of the month. Next meeting will be on April 16, 2014 at the NMVM @ 9:00am.

Ken O. related that as of April 1, 2014 the City is now providing free bus rides ALL ROUTES for veterans with a valid VA issued medical card (must show ID). It is now extended to the Sun Van for the more seriously handicapped veterans. The Mayor will be holding a News Conference on April 18th in his conference room concerning this issue.

Old Business

Mr. Mitchell who wants to tell his story of justice - spoke about his son Jonathan Mitchell/Iraq Veteran being shot by a vigilante. Ken O. stated for the records that the UVC does not endorse any sides or causes and any personal attacks on the Police Department will not be tolerated.

Memorial Day Planning Committee will be meeting on Friday, April 25th, 2:30 pm at the NMVM. Ken will have fliers on website, email & at the NMVM. Memorial Day is on May 26, 2014. Music will start at 9:00am by the Dukes of ABQ. Ceremony to start at 10:00am. PVA will provide a shuttle from parking to the amphitheater. There will be no parade. Every female will receive a yellow flower. There will be a flyover by BG Mike Rice. MG Finan will be the principle speaker at this years event and MOH recipient Hiroshi Miyamura from Gallup will be here. The lottery for vender spaces will be on Saturday, April 19th, 8:00 am @ the NMVM.

Please send Walter Paul photos, programs, links, updates, etc... for the UVC website. Approval for website information must go through Ken O'Keefe.

New Business

No new business

Good of the Order

NMVS provides a Legal Asst. Program at the ABQ VA Hospital/SCI Conference Room, every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 9:00am – 12:00pm

Korean Veterans will be awarded the “Master of Peace Prize” issued by the South Korean Government, for those who served in Korea in the zone from 1950-1953. Those deceased get medal by family. Any questions, please contact Jerry Chapman 505-459-5282.

KAFB Community Advisory Board (semi annual mtg) will be held on April 22nd, 5:30 pm @ the Chavez Community Center (opened to public) and on April 29th @ 5:30 pm, there will be a combined meeting with DOD/DOE Environmental Health.

Winner of the 50/50 was Ken O.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:01 pm.

Next meeting 1:00 pm, May 8, 2014 @ VFW Post 401, 2011 Girard SE.

Note:

The above minutes are pending approval at next UVC meeting.

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