

UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL OF NEW MEXICO

PO BOX 8034, Albuquerque, NM 87198

MINUTES – August 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Ken O'Keefe at 1:04 pm. Russ S. led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the lighting of the POW/MIA candle by Terrie B. with a moment of silence in remembrance. There were eighteen (18) representatives in attendance.

Meeting Agenda was approved. Minutes of previous meeting corrected and accepted as written. Treasurer's report for July and August 2014 was accepted, subject to financial review. (copy attached)

Guest Speaker

Alan Martinez, NMDVS could not attend our UVC meeting. Mike D. attended the State Fair meeting at American Legion Post 13 on August 13, 2014 – he spoke briefly on information about the plans for Military/Veterans Appreciation Day on September 17, 2014 and distributed an information sheet to all in attendance at the UVC meeting. There are limited spaces, be sure to obtain and fill out forms for a space ASAP, contact NMDVS. State Fair Parade is on September 12, 2014 at 8:30am, must be on site at 7:30am if participating. The military vehicles will be at San Pedro & Central.

New Mexico Veterans Memorial

Mary C. reported the NMVM Board will vote on who will replace Roger Knight's position at next meeting. Lorenzo Marquez is a new member on the NMVM Board. Volunteers are needed at memorial to stand watch at front desk. The Medal of Honor Cabinets are almost done.

Lectures every 1st & 2nd Saturdays @ 10:00am, have been canceled for now.

Swing Dances every last Saturday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 pm, have been canceled for now.

Next NMVM Board meeting has been rescheduled this month for August 27, 2014. Board meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of the month at the NMVM, from 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 3rd Wednesday of the month. Next meeting will be on August 20, 2014 at the NMVM @ 9:00am.

Ken O. clarified that veterans enrolled in the VA medical healthcare system (must have VA Hospital card) can ride the Bus & Sun Van for free, to and from VA Hospital. Board is working on checking with the Roadrunner to do the same.

Please direct any questions for the Mayors Advisory Board to Ken O. to bring up their meetings.

Old Business

Mary C. is making a UVC Directory – due to privacy, please let her know if you want your information on list or not.

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

Ken O. stated that the Veterans Day Planning Committee for 2014 will be meeting in late September, date TBD. Please let him know who your Post Commander/President of Veteran Service Organizations are – he would like to invite and introduce them at the Veterans Day Ceremony.

Good of the Order

Walter P. motioned to renew the UVC website, dues are \$89, 2nd by Diana W.

Walter also stated that there is a link on the UVC website about VA State Benefits, the VA Hospital incidents, procedures, etc...

Joann Z. spoke about article in the Washington Post, August 7, 2014 issue - on “As War Ends, a benefit system complicates the process of moving on for spouses”. For more info Google Widows Tax or Ken O. will email UVC members link to article.

Diana W. talked about the Tribute to Women in the Military Memorial Fundraiser to be held on August 23, 2014 from 10:00am – 2:00pm at the NMVM. Asking for Vendors/Exhibitors, and to rally support from the public for the construction of the memorial to honor our women veterans.

September 19, 2014 at 10:00am – 24hr vigilance for POW/MIA Recognition Day, Ken O. to forward more info to UVC members.

Navy B.D. Ball @ Sandia Resort on Oct 18, 2014, Commanders from the USS Santa Fe, USS Albuquerque & USS New Mexico will be there.

The NM Veterans Art Show will be held on Nov 17, 2014 in the Fine Arts Gallery at the NM Expo Fairgrounds.

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

50/50 drawing – Bob Deurloo won the July 50/50 – request \$31.50 to go to the TWIM Memorial. Walter Paul won the August 50/50 – request \$21 to go to the TWIM Memorial also.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:29pm.

Next meeting 1:00 pm, September 11, 2014 @ VFW Post 401, 2011 Girard SE.

Note:

The above minutes are pending approval at next UVC meeting.

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