

UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL OF NEW MEXICO

PO BOX 8034, Albuquerque, NM 87198

MINUTES – February 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Ken O'Keefe at 1:10pm. Sarah L. led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were nineteen (19) representatives in attendance.

Minutes of previous meeting are correct and approved as written.

Treasurer's report by Mary C. accepted and subject to financial review (copy attached).

Account Balance: (as of 2/11/16) Checking \$187.35/Savings \$940.32

Guest Speakers

Michael Jiron – Project Manager, NM Rail Runner, spoke on program R.R. Passed to build new website and other programs available to veterans. In need of volunteers to work the R.R. Kiosk at various locations, please contact him if you are interested.

New Mexico Veterans Memorial

On February 12, 2016, from 10:00am-12:00pm. An Elementary School will be handing out Valentine cards to veterans @ the NMVM.

There will be a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on Saturday, March 5th from 9:00-11:00am for individuals who volunteer at the NMVM.

*NMVM needs Board Members, please apply if interested. Any questions contact Bernie L. at 505-433-8683 or bernielambe@hotmail.com. He is working on getting a face book page for UVC.

*NMVM is open for military organizations to have meetings. Can also reserve hall for weddings or events. Please contact office to schedule.

*NMVM will be sending letters to Charter members and to welcome new membership, etc... Annual yearly cost is \$20 per person, \$35 per couple, \$50 per family, \$100 per organization.

*Contact office for information on Tours at the NMVM.

*Lecture Series are every 1st Saturday of the month, 10:00am–12:00pm.

*Swing Dances are every last Saturday of the month, 7:00–9:00pm. Admission is free to public.

*Legal Assistants (civil matters only) every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 9:00am -12:00m. Check out link on UVC website.

*Next NMVM Board meeting will be on February 17, 2016. 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 February 17, 2016 at the NMVM @ 9:00am.

Steve O. stated that there will be a meeting on February 20, 2016 @ the Veterans Integration Center, concerning property just 1 block east of San Mateo. Program “Lawyers Helping Warriors” helps vets with legal issues and benefits. Contact Craig Gaymon @ 505-404-0801, 1-888-991-3415, at address 1516 San Pedro NE or at www.lawyershelpingwarriors.com.

Unfinished Business

Check for \$165 to sponsor Memorial Day, is in the mail to VA Volunteer Services for the Adopt-a-Holiday Program.

UVC Financial Review was completed on February 11, 2016 at the NMVM by Laurel B., JoAnn H., Russ S. and Mary C.

Military/Veterans Appreciation Day at the Legislation is on February 15, 2016 – UVC members attending will be taking the Rail Runner up to Santa Fe. Ken O. has 1 Day passes for spouses/guests who wish to go or any vets who do not have a R.R. Pass. Ken O. spoke on Bills that were of importance to veterans.

*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. spoke briefly on the Fischer House – 1 of 2 Chairs, James Lewis resigned.

Military Coalition Luncheon is on Saturday, February 20, 11:00-12:00 Social, 12:00 Lunch

Good of the Order

*Fred H. Catholic War Veterans – 2016 Quarterly Rosary for Military, @ NMVM, 10:00am (Apr. 16, Jul. 6, Oct. 16)

*Steve L. - AVERS to have convention April 21-24, to have tours at NMVM and to lay wreaths at the AVERS and Tribute to Women in the Military Memorials.

*The VA Hospital will be sponsoring the 70th Annual National Advisory Committee Meeting here in ABQ on May 4-6, 2016 @ the ABQ Marriott. For more info contact VA Volunteer Services.

*Roy B stated that if you live more than driving 40 miles from the VA Hospital you can apply for the Veterans Choice Card.

*Walter P.- Resource on “Make the Connection”, check out website www.maketheconnection.net for videos on veteran stories.

*MOAA took on project to work on BX Pharmacy issue. Any questions/comments contact Walter P.

*Operation Restoration for B52 @ Nuclear Museum, contact Bob D. for information/donations.

*Roy B. for more information concerning the NM Veterans Art, contact Roy Breckenridge

@ P#: 505-410-3593 or email: president@nmveteransart.com

*Roadrunner Convoy provides military vehicles for events. Contact Ron Roberts 505-865-1812.

*There is now Urgent Care @ the ABQ VA Hospital E.R. on Saturdays.

*UVC Polo's are \$30 – order Polo's from Diana W. 575-640-3042.

50/50 drawing – Total \$34/half \$17 - Winner Leo M.

Meeting adjourned by Ken O. @ 2:25pm.

Next meeting 1:00 pm, March 10, 2016 @ the NM Veterans Memorial, 1100 Louisiana Blvd SE

Note:

The above minutes are pending approval at next UVC meeting.

Website - United Veterans Council of New Mexico: uvcnm.org

Webmaster - Walter Paul: wfrpaul@gmail.com Ph#: 505-331-9047

Diana Wong

Secretary

C: 575-640-3042

djdiwong@aol.com