

UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL OF NEW MEXICO  
PO Box 8034, Albuquerque, NM 87198  
MINUTES - JUNE 9, 2011 @ VFW POST 401

The meeting was called to order by President Ken O'Keefe @ 1:02 pm. Thirteen (13) representatives in attendance and one visitor, Marsha Garcia from Congressman Heinrick office (list on file). (Note: Numerous members who regularly attend are @ the State DAV Convention.) Pledge of Allegiance followed with lighting of POW/MIA candle and a moment of silence for all POW/MIAs.

Minutes of previous meeting. - Accepted

Treasurer's report: None Available

New Mexico Veterans Memorial Foundation Nothing to report. Next meeting of the Foundation is next Wed, June 15.

Mayor's Veterans' and Military Affairs Advisory Board Ken reported the last individual appointed to the position was not a vet. Meeting June 28 @ 10:00am - 9th floor - conference room.

Memorial Day - Will be having an post event meeting in near future to discuss problems experienced and possible solutions. Several issues: ran out of programs, wind blew wreaths over. Big thanks to Roger Knight for all his efforts in getting things set up early the morning of the ceremony. City Council Proclamation for "D" Day.

**Old Business** George Gallegos questions if the UVC would continue meeting during the summer months. Roger Knight stated Veterans' issues are year round. Joe Loisel reminded members that keeping a meeting recurring at the same frequency each month helped members remember the meetings.

Question asked if the Memorial had received the money for the Marine Flag. Marine Corps rep will insure the money gets to Roger Knight for the flag.

Question on the status of the paratrooper memorial. Still waiting for the Jayne's Corp to pour the pad. Dedication planned for June 6, 2012; however Paratrooper Memorial will be placed as soon as pad is ready. Memorial will honor the 4th, 11th, 13th, 17th, and 82nd Airborne.

**New Business**

JoAnn Hudson announced the VA Chaplain Service will host an outreach for veterans returning for OIF, on June 16 - 8:30am - 1:00pm @ UNM Continuing Education Building on University. Lunch will be served. More info - call 256-2735.

NM Veterans' Expo and Job fair at the Armory was not very well attended. There with numerous business and companies there looking to hire Veterans.

Walter Paul has offered to create a UVC Website. The only cost will be to establish the domain and associated annual fees. Mr. Paul will be the guest speaker at the next UVC meeting. Need ideas for links to other Vet sites for the upcoming UVC web site.

Joe Loisel announced the second week of Balloon Festival will be Navy Week. Oct 13 (during the Festival) is the Navy birthday. Hope to have Navy Rep at the Aug UVC meeting. July 13 the Navy League will have a meet and greet at the Airport Hilton Garden Inn.

### **Good of the Order**

Veterans' will be on Friday, Nov 11. Hoping to get support from the Mayor's office. Want the parade to be larger than in the past. Hope to get High School Bands & JROTC units - want more participation for the youth of the community. Dec 7 will be the 70th Anniversary of "D" Day. Suggest the ceremony be dedicated to WWII Veterans. Attempt to get WWII vets in the parade - possibly ride with Road Runner Convoy.

Treasurer, Roger Knight reported we still have not received the \$1,000 donation promised by the MOPH state department office.

Dr Bailey, NM Director, NAACP, is working to raise funds for a Buffalo Soldier memorial. At present there is \$1,000 dollars being put up for matching funds. A question was asked about something for the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial. At present nothing is working. If the Buffalo Soldier effort is successful then maybe some organization could take on this project.

VA Health Care Volunteer Reception to be held on June 14 @ 4:30 pm- Civic Center. RSVP VA Volunteer Services - 256-2771.

Army Birthday - 14 June. US Army flags will be posted along entry way to Memorial.

No 50/50 Drawing

Meeting Adjourned @1:49 PM

Next meeting: 1:00pm, July 14, 2011 @ VFW Post 401

Charles "Russ" Spicher,  
Secretary