

UNITED VETERANS COUNCIL OF NEW MEXICO

PO Box 8034, Albuquerque, NM 87198

MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Ken O'Keefe @ 1:05 pm. Fourteen (14) representatives in attendance and one visitor, Marsha Garcia, Congressman Heinrick office. President O'Keefe led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for all POW/MIAs. Self introduction of representatives present was not conducted.

Minutes of previous meeting. Four corrections to Aug minutes - same has been corrected in the file copy of the minutes. Minutes accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's report: Accepted subject to audit. (copy attached)

New Mexico Veterans Memorial Mary Cox reported there are 17 days in Sep with bus tours scheduled. Some days have more than one tour bus. Sept 11 there will be a CABQ Arts in the Park display at the Memorial. 10 am September 16 there will be a POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony at the Memorial. Speakers will be Tim Hale, Cabinet Secretary DVS and Col Hornyak, Kirtland's 377th ABW commander. Col Manassas, recent 377th ABW has retired. His replacement should be announced later this year. Sep 23- Dedication of the Buffalo Soldier Memorial has been scheduled. No further details on this event.

Mayor's Veterans' and Military Affairs Advisory Board The board is attempting to be proactive in their endeavors. A subcommittee has been established to review CABQ procurement procedures to give more business to small businesses run by veterans. A second committee is looking into changing the city hiring process to mirror the federal/civil service and post office point system. The point system will give veterans additional points in the hiring process. Stumbling blocks for this change will be union objections - especially police and fire department unions.

Veterans' Day Planning Committee First planning meeting will be next Monday, Sep 12 - 2 pm @ the Memorial. Governor Martinez has been asked to be the key note speaker - to date no response. Ceremony will honor WWII veterans. There will be a parade - no changes in procedures from past years. Ed McConnell invited Sgt Petry, MOH recipient; however, Sgt Petry's schedule would not allow him to attend.

Old Business UVC web site is up. Access at uvcnm.org. Need items to post on the site so it doesn't become "stale". Input should be sent to UVC president or secretary for review and passing on Mr. Paul, web master.

State Fair parade is this coming Sat, Sep 10. Road Runner Convoy is #27 in parade. Units are to be in place before 7 am. Parade is to start @ 8:45 am.

Military/Veterans Appreciation day @ state fair - Sep 22. Opening ceremonies will be at 11:00AM. Guest Speaker, Tim Hale, Cabinet Secretary Veterans' Services @ 11:30AM. Organizations with booths will not be allowed to sell anything or have a donation "jar". Free entry to military with ID and veterans with proof of service - VA medical card, DD214, organizational ID (Legion, VFW, DAV).

President Ken O'Keefe reported the IRS 990 for the UVC has been submitted to IRS.

New Business Local Wounded Warrior program raised \$513K. Thus far this year they have raised over \$500K.

Good of the Order

Oct 4 POW/MIA balloon will be teetered @ Memorial. Rides up and down will be given.

Oct 7 KAFB will host 70/40 Anniversary Gala. It will be celebrating 70 years of Air Force presence in Albuquerque and 40 years as a base. Gala will be at Sandia Resort and Casino.

Oct 8 US Navy Birthday Ball - Sheraton Uptown. Price \$35-\$65 depending on rank.

Oct 9 Open house at KAFB. Thunderbirds will perform. All aircraft in USAF inventory are stated to be on display. Entry will be through Truman gate. Hours are 10a-4p.

Oct 14/15 will be stand down at VIC. Discussion concerning location. VIC being almost at Central and Tramway. The folks in need of help are in the downtown area. Several representatives stated the VIC has turned down their offers to help - they just want money donations.

Job fair on Sept 16 from 3p-7p at SW Multi Cultural Center on Larrazola SW.

50/50 drawing - winner Joe Loisel.

Meeting Adjourned @2:11PM

Next meeting: 1:00pm, Oct 13, 2011 @ VFW Post 401 (2011 Girard Blvd SE, ABQ, NM 87106)

Charles "Russ" Spicher,
Secretary