



OKLAHOMA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS
 MEETING MINUTES
 18 Nov 2023



COUNCIL PRESIDENT, DENNIS CLIPPINGER, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 1000 AT THE LA MADELEINE RESTAURANT, IN NORMAN, OK.

REPRESENTATIVES AND GUESTS WHO WERE INVITED AND ATTENDED THE MEETING (LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER):

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| ROB ANDREW | NORMAN CHAPTER - SUBSTITUTING FOR CHRIS SARTORIUS (NORMAN CHAPTER PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL SECRETARY) |
| KEN BARTELS | PAST COUNCIL PRESIDENT |
| BARBARA BOWMAN | COUNCIL SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON AND NORMAN CHAPTER, SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON |
| FLOYD BRANSON | CIMARRON CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| DENNIS CLIPPINGER | COUNCIL PRESIDENT |
| DON DURANT | SOUTHWEST OK CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| PAT MCGAUGH | COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE LIAISON AND NORMAN CHAPTER, LEGISLATIVE LIAISON |
| ED PETERSEN | PAST COUNCIL PRESIDENT |
| MARY RAPP | SECRETARY, GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER |
| CHRIS SARTORIUS | COUNCIL 1ST VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, AND NORMAN CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| MARK SEGOVIA | GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| ALTA SEGOVIA | GUEST - GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER PRESIDENT SPOUSE |
| JANET SKELTON | SOUTHERN OK CHAPTER PRESIDENT |
| JERRY WEST | COUNCIL TREASURER AND PAST COUNCIL PRESIDENT |

DENNIS CLIPPINGER LED THE COUNCIL IN THE INVOCATION AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MINUTES: MEMBERS PRESENT REVIEWED THE AUG 2023 MEETING MINUTES. NO CHANGES WERE NOTED. THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE MEETING MINUTES.

TREASURER’S REPORT: DENNIS CLIPPINGER SUMMARIZED THE TREASURER’S REPORT. THE BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE IS \$5304.48 AS OF NOV 23. DUES FROM CIMARRON CHAPTER PAID. ALL 2023 CHAPTER DUES ARE PAID. THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE TREASURER’S REPORT. 2024 COUNCIL DUES ARE DUE AFTER 1 JAN 2023 AND BASED ON 31 DEC 2023 MEMBERSHIP ROLE.

CHAPTER REPORTS:

- CIMARRON CHAPTER - FLOYD BRANSON PROVIDED AN ORAL REPORT. NEXT MEETING IS 28 Nov (SPEAKER DIRECTOR OF DISABLED VETERANS). LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL MEMBERS. WILL DONATE \$1000 SCHOLARSHIP TO ARMY AND AIR FORCE CADETS. SPEAKER AT LAST MEETING WAS A WHITE HOUSE AID, GREAT SPEAKER.
- GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER - MARK SEGOVIA PROVIDED ORAL REPORT – MEMBERSHIP INCREASED BY 15 NEW MEMBERS SINCE FEB 2023. SERIES OF GREAT SPEAKERS IN 2023. SEN. TODD BELLAHAIR (SP), OK VETERANS COMMITTEE SPOKE AT A RECENT MEETING. \$6200 IN GENERAL FUND AND \$5000 IN EXCELLENCE FUND. FIRST FUNDRAISER \$2225 RAISED AT SPAGHETTI DINNER AT LOCAL ELKS CLUB. 5 NOV PRESENTATION TO OK AIR NATIONAL GUARD. POTENTIAL FOR 3 NEW MEMBERS. 10 NOV - VETERANS PARADE - ENTERED FLOAT.

PACKED BOXES FOR BLUE STAR MOTHERS. NOV FOOD DRIVE FOR COFFEE BUNKER (4 TURKEYS AND 4 FOOD BOXES). DEC - CHRISTMAS GALA. TULSA U. STUDENT VET ASSOC. FIRST INAUGURAL BALL, MOAA CHAPTER ATTENDED. USMC RESERVE BANQUET, GREEN COUNTRY CHAPTER ATTENDED. TULSA TRANSIT - ANY VETERAN WITH AN ID CAN RIDE BUS FOR FREE. LAUNCHING A NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION PROGRAM. DENNIS CLIPPINGER ATTEND RECENT MEETING.

- NORMAN CHAPTER - ROB ANDREW SUBSTITUTING FOR CHRIS SARTORIUS PROVIDED AN ORAL REPORT – SEE WRITTEN REPORT FOR DETAILS. DENNIS CLIPPINGER ATTENDED THE OCT MOAA MEETING FOCUSED AROUND OU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS AND WON A RAFFLE PRIZE (DONATED THE PRIZE TO ARMY CADET). THE ROTC COMMANDERS PROVIDED UPDATES ON THE STATUS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE OU ROTC PROGRAMS. 14 DEC HOLIDAY PARTY AT OLIVE GARDEN IN NORMAN. ROB ANDREW AND CHRIS SARTORIUS PINNED ON SPECIAL ROTARY VETERANS BADGES AT A RECENT NORMAN ROTARY CLUB MEETING.
- SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA CHAPTER - JANET SKELTON PROVIDED AN ORAL REPORT. EIGHT VOLUNTEER AT MILIARY HISTORY MUSEUM. CHAPTER TREASURER HOSTED A COOKOUT AT THE VETERANS CENTER TO HONOR LOCAL VOLUNTEERS. JANET HAS A SPECIAL CARD AND GIFT PROGRAM FOR VETERANS. PARTICIPATED IN LOCAL VETERANS DAY EVENTS. JAN 24 - JERSEY MIKES LUNCH AT NEXT CHAPTER MEETING.
- SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA CHAPTER - DON DURANT PROVIDED AN ORAL REPORT. COMMUNITY SERVICE - REPLAY AND RECOVERED FLAGS AT FT. SILL AND MOUNT SCOTT CEMETERIES. PROVIDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS: \$500 TO COHEN MILITARY FAMILY CLINIC, \$500 TO VET RESOURCE CENTER, 1000s OF HOURS AT MIL WELCOME CENTER AT LAWTON AIRPORT, PARTNER WITH LAWTON VFW POST TO HOST FUNDRAISERS (SPAGHETTI DINNER) \$1600 RAISED NET (\$10/TICKET), \$1000 TO FIVE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, \$1000 LEADERSHIP AWARD TO ARMY CADET AT CAMERON U., TED JANOSKO SPOKE AT SEP MEETING FROM NATIONAL HQ, NOV MEETING TROOPER ROBERT McCLAIN FROM BUFFALO SOLDIERS (SPOKE ON FT. SILL HISTORY). CHAPTER VIDEO TAPES THE SPEAKERS AND POSTS THESE VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE. SEE THE CHAPTER’S WEBSITE TO VIEW THE VIDEOS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS:

OK HIGHLIGHT - SEVEN CHRISTMAS LIGHT DISPLAYS - SEE FURTHER INFORMATION IN THE NOV 2023 STATE COUNCIL MEETING GOOGLE DRIVE FOLDER

22 AUG 23 - MOAA NATIONAL VIRTUAL MEETING. GUEST GEN BK KELLY - SIX CHALLENGES FACING MOAA

1. FINANCIAL STABILITY - ENDOWMENT IS AT \$148,000,000 - ON THE DECLINE. INTENT IS TO WITHDRAW 5.5% BUT ARE CURRENTLY WITHDRAWING 8% PER YEAR. SCHOLARSHIP FUND IS DOING WELL. INCREASED USE OF VIRTUAL MEETINGS TO CUT COSTS.
2. MEMBERSHIP - MOAA IS GROWING. CURRENTLY 360,000 MEMBERS. FUELED BY INCREASE IN BASIC MEMBERSHIP. WE NEED MORE PREMIUM AND LIFE MEMBERS.
3. VIABLE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP - VERY SMALL NUMBER OF NATIONAL MEMBERS ARE CHAPTER MEMBERS.
4. STRENGTHEN MOAA BRAND - REVIEWING THE “NEVER STOP SERVING” MOAA WHICH DOES NOT RESONATE WELL WITH THE ACTIVE DUTY PART OF MOAA MEMBERSHIP
5. MISSION - PRIMARY MISSION IS ADVOCACY. CHAPTERS MUST COMMIT TO ADVOCACY, ESPECIALLY LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY. SEE THE MOAA WEBSITE FOR ELECTRONIC, PRE-ADDRESSED LETTERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER ON THE MOAA WEBSITE.

MOAA NATIONAL VISIT - NEXT VISIT WILL BE 18 MAY 2024 BY FRANK MICHAEL (SP)

OK VETERANS COUNCIL REPORT: NO REPORT

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: PAT MCGAUGH PROVIDED AN ORAL REPORT. SEE WRITTEN REPORT FOR DETAILS ON BILLS INTRODUCED FOR THE UPCOMING 2024 OK LEGISLATURE SPECIAL SESSION. PLEASE SEND PAT NEWS ABOUT NEW LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES SO HE CAN RESEARCH THEM FOR FUTURE UPDATES.

SENATE BILL 1201 - DEALS WITH COMPENSATING LOSS OF SURVIVING SPOUSAL BENEFITS BASED ON REMARRIAGE BEFORE AGE 55. AFFECTS APPROX. 700 SPOUSES IN OKLAHOMA.

VETERANS HOMES - TALAMINA HOME IS CLOSED, NEW ONE IN SALLISAW OPENS IN FALL 2024, \$20 MILLION OVER BUDGET. LITIGATION FILED OVER THE SALLISAW VETERANS HOME.

VA MEDICAL CARE - FT. SILL AND TINKER AFB MAY START SEEING VA PATIENTS DUE TO PATIENT INCREASE FROM THE PACT ACT. A NEW VA HOSPITAL IS OPENING IN TULSA.

OK SALES TAX EXEMPTION CARDS - OLD CARDS HAVE EXPIRED. GET A NEW CARD TO USE THIS BENEFIT.

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PAY RAISE - 5.2% PAY RAISE FOR 2024 AND PROPOSED 4.5% PAY RAISE IN 2025.

PHARMACY CONTRACT - PROBLEMS GETTING A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SERVICE FOR RURAL CUSTOMERS.

SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON: BARBARA BOWMAN PROVIDED AN ORAL REPORT. BE AWARE OF SURVIVING SPOUSES WHO MAY BE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULT TIMES DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON. MOAA OPERATES A SURVIVING SPOUSE VIRTUAL CHAPTER WHICH MEETS MONTHLY. TAPS GROUP ALSO HOSTS WEBINARS PROVIDING SURVIVING SPOUSE SUPPORT AND SUPPORT FOR OTHER FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS. ENCOURAGE VETS TO CONTACT A VSO TO HELP FILE FOR VETERAN BENEFITS VICE AN ATTORNEY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OK STATE CONVENTION MEETING - PROBABLY NEAR END OF 2024, MAYBE IN LIEU OF NOV 2024 MEETING.

NEW BUSINESS:

HQ MOAA TRAINING WORKSHOPS

13/14 MAR - NEW LEADER VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

MAY - SOUTHERN REGION WORKSHOP

14/15 AUG 2024 - MOAA VIRTUAL LEADER WORKSHOP - EXPERIENCED LEADERS

HQ MOAA 26 OCT ROUNDTABLE - SUBJECT: AWARDS. ALL OF THESE SESSIONS ARE RECORDED AND POSTED ON HQ MOAA WEBSITE FOR VIEWING. THERE ARE ALSO SERVICE AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING, LONG-TERM SERVICE AT CHAPTER-LEVEL. GIVE HQ 45-60 DAYS LEAD TIME ON THESE AWARDS.

ERIN STONE LEAVING COUNCIL AND CHAPTER AFFAIRS - NEW DIRECTOR IS FRANK "TANK" MICHAEL.

16 NOV - HQ MOAA VIRTUAL QUARTERLY MEETING - SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS. DENNIS CLIPPINGER UNABLE TO ATTEND THE LIVE SESSION BUT DID REVIEW THE VIDEO.

2023 LOE AWARDS AND OTHER NATIONAL AWARDS DUE 16 FEB 2024. SEE GOOGLE DRIVE FOR SOME AWARD GUIDELINES.

30 Nov - HQ MOAA ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION - SUBJECT: COMMUNITY OUTREACH INCLUDING GRANTS. VIDEO WILL BE POSTED ON MOAA WEBSITE.

FUNDRAISERS - CONSIDER NEW IDEAS FOR FUNDRAISERS. A 50-50 RAFFLE IS A GOOD IDEA.

REP. TOM COLE SHOOTING TO BE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH GRANTS - \$300 AVAILABLE, APPLY ONLINE, DEPOSITED VIA BANK DRAFT. CANNOT OFFSET CHAPTER MEMBER MEAL COSTS OR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS. IT CAN BE USED TO PAY FOR SCHOLARSHIP DINNERS. SEE MOAA WEBSITE FOR DEADLINES AND AWARD CRITERIA

DEVELOP ANNUAL CHAPTER GOALS - MEETING DATES, SPEAKERS, BUDGET, ETC. DENNIS CLIPPINGER DISTRIBUTED THE 2024 COUNCIL GOALS. SEE GOOGLE DRIVE TO REVIEW THIS DOCUMENT.

2024 OK STATE COUNCIL MEETING DATES - DENNIS CLIPPINGER PROVIDED NEW 2024 MEETING DATES: 17 FEB, 18 MAY, 17 AUG, 2 NOV 2024.

OK VETERANS CALENDAR - PUT CHAPTER EVENTS ON THIS CALENDAR. SEE CARDS FROM MARK SEGOVIA FOR POSTING INSTRUCTIONS.

PAST PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: NO COMMENTS

COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: 17 FEB 2024, 1000-1200, LA MADELEINE AT 1954 24TH AVE NW IN NORMAN.

ADJOURNMENT: DENNIS CLIPPINGER ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT APPROX 1322L.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

CHRIS SARTORIUS
COUNCIL SECRETARY
MOAA / OKLAHOMA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS