

SOUTHERN ARIZONA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY FOUNDATION
1300 Buffalo Soldier Trail
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Date: September 4, 2009

MINUTES

1. The Regular meeting of the Sothern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery Foundation (SAVMCF) was called to order at 0930 hours, Friday, September 4, 2009 by President Larry Mckim.

2. **Foundation Officers Present were:**

President: Larry E. Mckim (VFW) (520) 515-0674, lmckim@azdvs.gov - Present
Vice President: Ingrid E. Baillie (DAR), (520) 459-3718, ibaillie@cox.net - Present
Secretary; B. Thomas Dingwall (MOPH), (520) 458-6527, tom_dingwall3@cox.net - Present
Treasurer: Earl M. Devine (MOAA),(520) 458-5224, edevine1@cox.net – Present
SAVMC Coordinator: Ingrid E. Baillie (DAR), (520) 459-3718, ibaillie@cox.net: - Present
SAVMC Administrator: Joe Larson (AZDVS)(520) 458-7144, jl Larson@azdvs.gov – Absent Excused

3. **Guests and visitors present:**

a. COL Robert White – Chairman, UVC of Greater Sierra Vista
B.COL Gene Fenstermacher
c. Lenie Botkin

4. **Member Organizations Present:** (Present)(Absent)(Paid)

a. Air Force Association Cochise Chapt #107:	P- G., Fenstermaker
b..American Legion Post #52	Absent
c. American Veterans (AMVETS) Post #89	P-SGM Leo Pimple
d. BPOE Lodge #2065:	P-earl Devine
e. Ladies & Gentlemen of the Cemetery:	Ingrid Baillie
f. Fort Huachuca Retiree Council	Protem-Gene Fenstermaker
g. Military Officers Association of America Coronado Chapt:	P-Gene Fenstermaker
h. Wild West Det. Marine Corps League, Sierra Vista:	Absent
i. Military Order of Cooties Pup Tent #13:	P-Larry Mckim
j. Military Order of the Purple heart Chapt. 572:	P-Tom Dingwall
k. Southwest Rangers Unit #559	Absent
l. Special Forces Association Chapt #10:	P-Larry Mckim
m. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #6271, Benson:	Absent
n. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9972, Sierra Vista	P-Larry Mckim
o.VFW Riders, Post 9972, Sierra Vista	Absent
p. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post # 10342, Huachuca City:	P-Lensie Botkin
q. Warrant Officers Association Silver Chapt:	Absent
r. Wild West Det., MC League, Tombstone, No. 1152	Absent
s. COL Terrie Gent, USAF Retired:	Absent

5. **Minutes of the previous meeting of August 7, 2009 were read and approved as read.**

6. **Reports of Foundation Committees:**

(a) HSRP:

(1) President McKim inquired of Leo Pimple if he had any success in identifying possible sources of Bronze plaques for use in the cemetery and Leo Pimple reported negative success at this time.

(2) President McKim reported that Cemetery Administrator Joe Larsen had reported the need for more gravel for use on various locations in the cemetery and would be forth coming with a request in the near future.

(3) The manufacturer of pavers for use in the cemetery reported work was on-going and the cemetery should receive delivery before Christmas.

(b) Reports on Individual Scouting Projects. All projects were on-going and there was nothing new to report.

7. **Reports of on-going projects in the Cemetery: (List Each Projects, POC, & status)**

A. President Mckim reported that all funds for the budget year ending June 30, 2009 had been spent.

b. The 2009 budget for the financial Beginning was still a work in progress and had not been passed by the legislature or signed by the Governor.

8. **Report of the Treasurer:**

A. Earl Devine presented the current status of available funds for the SAVMC Foundation less accrued interest which will be posted at the end of the year.

b. A current report of income and disbursements was presented.

9. **Bills Payable.** There were no bill payables.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

a. A question was asked about the status of the Annual Dues Paid Certificates requested by a member organization. President Mckim reported that the certificates were available the organization representative who had requested the certificates had not been to a foundation meeting since making his request.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Pay Pal: President Mckim brought the subject of establishing a pay pal connection to the cemetery internet web site to facilitate donations to the cemetery. Treasurer Earl Devine was asked to check into the matter and report back to the foundation at our October meeting.

b. Neither the SAVMC nor AZDVS are reimbursed for the internment of Veteran family members. With the very difficult budget situation experienced by the Department of Veterans Services, we need to be aware that all costs (head stones, nitch covers, etc.) and labor is taken out of hide by the Director, AZDVS. A check with several State Directors of Veterans Affairs/Services revealed that some states have taken to charging fees ranging from \$300 to \$700 for internment of each family member. Representatives of member organization asked for more information on the actual costs of materials and manpower work hours required to open a closed grave site or Columbarium nitch site to add a second casket remains or cremains to an internment site. They were also interested in the number of family members interred per year. How big is the problem?

One member organization representative stated that if the purpose of possible additional charges for interment of family members is solely to raise money for the Arizona Department of Veterans Services, the new charges would be a very hard sell to the veteran community. However, if the purpose of possible new charges for internment of family members was to cover actual costs, the veteran would probably be more receptive of these new fees. One representative suggested contacting the National Cemetery Association for addition information on costs for interring family members in national cemeteries. Cemetery Administrator Joe Larson was asked to provide more information to the Foundation officers and members before the Foundation would take a position of the imposition of fees for internment of family members.

13. **Next Scheduled Foundation meeting will be Friday, October 2, 2009 at VFW Post 9972.**

Respectfully submitted,

B.T. "Tom" Dingwall, III
Secretary, SAVMC Foundation
Military Order of the Purple Heart