



Aug 7, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

Minutes of the August 2023 Bi-monthly membership meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees' Association (MMRA)

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, August 1st at 1700 In the Gray Room of the Consolidated Open Mess. Presiding officers: Vice-President Gary Grishaver, Treasurer-Dave Barton, and 11 general members were in attendance.
2. Prior to last meeting's minutes being read, guest speaker MSgt Pashan from the 35 Medical Group was on hand to discuss the new electronic health record (Military Health System MHS Genesis) that will be replacing TRICARE On-line. This new system will encompass all patient information and will be used DOD/worldwide. Full deployment of the MHS GENESIS at Misawa AB will occur on 28 October 2023. MSgt Pashan advised retirees to be patient while PACOM merges the new system. A handout was provided with "What to do before October 28, 2023" recommendations:
 - a. Update DEERS via MilConnect: <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/>
 - b. Create a DS logon account: <https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/identitymanagement/app/login>
 - c. Schedule any pending appointments and refill routine medications at the pharmacy to last 30 days post go-live date 28 October 2023.

MSgt Pashan noted that we can expect limited availability and longer wait times during the MHS Genesis system merge. More information will be sent out shortly. (open)

3. In Joe Roginski's absence Gary Grishaver read the minutes of the June 2023 meeting which were accepted and approved.
4. OLD Business:
 - a. Toby Fanelli – Gary Grishaver, Lee martin and Bill Tuttle updated the membership on Toby's status. Toby's grandson Mr. Morinaga visited last month and identified some items that Toby & family want to keep. These items will be moved to the storage facility in Hachinohe in the next few weeks. On 26 July Lee Martin & Bill Tuttle opened Toby's house to retirees who may have wanted some household items. Several donations were received to help offset the cost of clearing out Toby's house. A recycle shop will be called next and finally a trash company to dispose of what's left. Toby has visitation privileges at Marigold facility (15 minutes) by appointment only. (open)
 - b. Dave Barton updated the membership on this year's Military Retiree Appreciation Day. Due to a Tohoku Club/Wing event conflict, the MRAD breakfast has been moved to the 21st of October in the club ballroom 0800~0930. The Appreciation Day celebration will continue at the Misawa Exchange from 1000~1200. Reminder emails will be sent out. (open)

- c. Dave Barton updated the membership that Med Group Commander Col Cotton has agreed to provide 'Open House Services' for retirees on October 28th (original date of breakfast). Mark that date on your calendars! We should all take advantage of this opportunity, especially with the merge of MHS GENESIS on the horizon. A strong attendance will show the Med Group that we retirees appreciate their support. On the other hand, a weak attendance will send a very different message. More to follow... (open)
- d. Dave Barton will continue to engage with Col Cotton concerning clinic availability during Family Days and/or special clinic days including dental, for retirees. During the June MMRA meeting Paul Sayles noted that the hospital will be partially staffed, and some facilities will be available during Family Days. (Open)
- e. During the June meeting Gary Grishaver proposed amending the Constitution, specifically regarding donations. Gary Grishaver asked for more time to review the current constitution and will discuss with membership at the next MMRA meeting. (Open)

5. NEW Business:

- a. Ray Eberhardt asked about this year's MIA/POW Retreat Ceremony. No information was available; however, there was information mentioned about the AFSA MAI/POW 24-hour run on 14/15 September. In past years, the Retreat Ceremony followed. Gary Grishaver sent out an email for POW/MIA volunteers/runner sign-ups for 14/15 event. Once we receive details on the Retreat Ceremony, a follow up email will be sent. (Open)
- b. Bill Tuttle addressed the membership on the need for translators. Will discuss with Robert Smith (who has the current MDG translator contract) and see what type of support he could offer. If so, he might join the next MMRA meeting in October. (open)

6. Financial Report – Dave Barton read the financial report. From last meeting in June: Beginning balance of \$7,410.23. MMRA dues income \$60.00, donation from long time friend of the MMRA in the amount of \$500.00, and \$0.12 for account dividends. Our total income was \$560.12. **Expenses:** the club bill for June was \$245.64, and fee for 2 year domain registration for misawarao.com website was \$22.36, for a total of \$268. Widow's Fund balance stands at \$5,926.74, General Fund at \$1,775.61 for ending balance of \$7,702.35. A motion was made and passed to accept the report. (Closed)
7. A motion to adjourn passed and the meeting closed at 1740. The next bi-monthly meeting will be held at 1700 on 3 October 2023 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

(signed)

WILLIAM H. TUTTLE
MMRA Member