



November 6, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

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

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, October 3rd at 1700 In the Gray Room of the Consolidated Open Mess. Presiding officers: President-Paul Sayles, Vice-President-Gary Grishaver, Treasurer-Dave Barton, Secretary-Joseph Roginski and 12 general members were in attendance.
2. Joe Roginski read the minutes of the August 2023 meeting which were accepted and approved.
3. OLD Business:
 - a. Retiree Appreciation Day – Dave Barton reported that he will have one more planning meeting with the Exchange general manager and DECA manager to finalize the plans for the RAD on the 21st. for the breakfast, cake cutting, bouquets, etc. The usual doners, Exchange Car guys, DECA, etc. Either the CC or CV will be in attendance but not sure which because of Special Olympics event being held on the same day. The hospital and clinics will not present this year but hold a special day for retirees, with clinic and dental appointments, pharmacy, flu shots, etc. on the 28th (Saturday) in conjunction with the conversion to the MHS Genesis system, giving the hospital staff the first opportunity to work with patients under the new system. (Open)
 - b. Bill Tuttle reported that he spoke with Major Schotts, the Patient Advocate, regarding the ongoing discussion and confusion about patient referrals. Dave Barton interjected that he had also been discussing this with Colonel Cotton and he felt that it would be resolved soon. Joe Roginski commented that when you go to the patient referrals office, to bring your Japanese medical insurance card, which they will copy and use to make your appointment. (Open)
 - c. Gary Grishaver reported that he communicates with Toby Fanelli regularly and that Toby gets super bored. He asked that we share reading material, videos, DVDs, snacks, etc. as well as more visits. He emphasized that we need to be more proactive as individuals or a group to visit and communicate with Toby. Gary said he will help anyone who wants to set up a visit. Joe Roginski remarked that the visits are limited to 15 minutes and must be coordinated so they don't conflict with other visits, as there is only one visiting room. They will not allow him to attend the RAD because of Covid. Joe Roginski reported that he will have the recycler visit the house once to buy any of the furnishings, and then call in a disposal company to clear the house out. (Open)
4. New Business:
 - a. Dave Barton commented that the turnout tfor the POW/MIA retreat was very good and thanked everyone for their participation. (Closed)
 - b. Bill Tuttle reported that the availability of translators for downtown hospital appointments was still not resolved as the contractor Bob Smith said his staffing had no leeway to be on call per their contract. Joe

ROGINSKI said there was a pool of translators in the past, and perhaps that could be considered again.
(Open)

- c. Paul Sayles had reported that the Civil Air Patrol had asked to be in our formation when retirees stand for Retreat. Nobody seemed to object to this but neither was there a consensus or a decision. (Open).
 - d. Joe Roginski commented that one of our widows, Mrs Fumi Welch of Date, Hokkaido, passed away in September. (Closed)
5. Unfinished Business – Secretary’s Note: The following item appears to be still open as I could not find any discussion or discussion was not noted in the last meeting minutes. This should be finalized in the next meeting in December.

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)

6. Financial Report – Dave Barton read the financial report. From last meeting in August: Beginning balance of \$7,702.35. MMRA dues income \$40.00, Donation to Widow’s Fund \$159.00, and \$0.12 for account dividends. Our total income was \$199.12. **Expenses:** the club bill for August was \$172.50. Widow’s Fund balance stands at \$6,085.74, General Fund at \$1,642.23 for ending balance of \$7,728.97. 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 5 December 2023 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

(signed)

JOSEPH ROGINSKI
Secretary, MMRA