



December 11, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

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

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, December 5th 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 10 general members were in attendance.
2. Joe Roginski read the minutes of the October 2023 meeting which were accepted and approved.
3. OLD Business:
 - a. Retiree Appreciation Day – Dave Barton reported that the event went very well. Had a sufficient number of gifts for the drawing. Col Kenkel officiated at the cake cutting. The hospital did not come because they had their plan for the 28th to use the MHS Genesis with retirees and other patients in a real-time setting. Paul Sayles commented on the difficulties and problems encountered and gave the hospital staff to use the new system in a real-life situation and our attendance was very helpful for the staff. Dave also commented that the old on-line of TRICARE on-line will not work anymore and you have to set up a new account under the new system. He also added that certain over the counter medications will not be distributed by the pharmacy. If the medication is available over the counter, you have to buy it. Paul also added that the delays in getting appointments should clear up after the new year. (Closed)
 - b. Toby Fanelli – Joe Roginski and Bill Tuttle reported that the house has been emptied and will be cleaned for return to the landlord this month. Bill suggested that this item can be closed. Updates on status can be made as necessary. Gary Grishaver commented that Toby communicates by messenger and Face Time. (Closed)
 - c. Translators – Paul Sayles and Bill Tuttle commented that translators are not available from the contractor so if you need one for a hospital appointment you must bring your own. Dave said that some of the translators on the list that came out last meeting can accompany you if it can be arranged and the fee will have to be negotiated. Joe Roginski added that if no translator can be found, but was really needed, he can translate. (Closed)
 - d. Paul Sayles reported that the update to the constitution was to be discussed but considering all the past changes and modifications, it looks like “patchwork” that it should be just rewritten and re-established. Paul suggested that the rewrite be submitted to the membership in the February meeting and then finalized in the April meeting and submitted to the Private Organization office. (Open)
 - e. Referrals – Dave Barton commented that, per Colonel Cotton, the hospital will now do referrals to local hospitals for retirees. He said the problem had come up because of an incorrect interpretation of the regulation but now the issue is resolved. Joe Roginski added that to get your referral, go to Patient Affairs and make sure you bring your Japanese medical insurance card if you have one. (Closed)
4. New Business:

a There was no new business brought up at this meeting. Scott Sherman brought in two jackets, one with the MMRA emblem on the back, and one heavy winter coat to give away after the meeting.

5. Financial Report – Dave Barton read the financial report. From last meeting in October: Beginning balance of \$7,728.98. MMRA dues income \$160.00, Donation of \$1,000.00, by Kevin Hart, a teacher who retired and went back to the ‘states. He was an ex-marine. He wasn’t military retired, but he wanted to be part of the Association and came to some of the meetings. Dividends \$0.13. Our total income was \$1,160.13. **Expenses:** the club bill for October was \$166.50. RAD breakfast was \$1,260.00, for total expenses of \$1,426.50. Widow’s Fund balance stands at \$6,085.74, General Fund at \$1,376.87 for ending balance of \$7,462.61. A motion was made and passed to accept the report. (Closed)
6. A motion to adjourn passed and the meeting closed at 1745. The next bi-monthly meeting will be held at 1700 on February 6th 2024 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

(signed)

JOSEPH ROGINSKI
Secretary, MMRA