

## ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND RETIREE COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, June 18, 2016

Council members present: Chair LTC (Retired) Nelson Laughton, Co-Chair 1SG (Retired) Thomas Shumate, 1SG (Retired), SGM (Retired) Robert Richardson, SGM (Retired) Frank Yoakum, SSG (Retired) Rita Hewitt, SSG (Retired) Lionel Palmer, SSG (Retired) Genaro Flores Jr. and RSO Ms Betty Willard

Council members not present: CMSGT (Retired) Thomas Alley, 1SG (Retired) Lonzia Hawks, MSG (Retired) Nancy West, SFC (Retired) Rich Zalusky and DHR Mrs. Janet Dettwiler.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00AM.

#### **AAR topics of discussion:**

**What went right/wrong at CY 16 RAD** - Overall CY16 RAD was successful, over 150 Retirees and Family Members attended and 46 organizations internal/external to APG set up exhibits. Layout of rooms and schedule good, however, continual refinement as always. **Recommendation** for next year – room layout – tables run from back to front; Lead Mr. Shumate and Mr. Palmer.

- Program Opening - over all good; National Anthem by Mrs. Dee Jones exceptional recommend council certificate of appreciation – Lead Mr. Laughton/Mr. Shumate. **Issue** – Chair started program prior to Senior Commander being seated. **Recommendation** – tighten communication.
- Welcome - Good; MG Crawford set the tone for information flow; Overall feedback from retirees “They are part of the APG community”.
- Guest Speaker – Over all Good; **Issue** – Continued to refine Vietnam presentations right up to program start. **Recommendation** – No presentation are planned for next year.
- Panel Question – Over all Good; Information flowed between panel and retirees. **Issues** – Feedback from retirees and vendors Q&A went too long; questions were asked without mic; personnel question(s) should be addressed off line. **Recommendations** – Try to capture questions up front, this has not been successful in past, tabled for further discussion at fall meeting; retiree council members assist FreeState in microphone delivery; stress to panel members to initially address personnel question and meet for one-on-one following panel discussion.
- Program Closing – Lost Control of target audience. **Issues** – Length of Q&A discussed above; Vietnam presentations discussed above and retirees setting for extend period of time. **Recommendation** – Chair manage program to within 5 minutes of schedule program; move Thank-You, raffle and lunch announcement to front of program following Invocation.
- VA Claims – Exceptional; VA team review and provide information to over 40 retirees.
- Lunch – Exceptional; 98 retirees/family members when through line.
- CY 16 Publicity - Exceptional; Mrs. West: Job well done!
- Tasker over the summer – Coordinate with AA Recreation Center for 12/13 May reservation (setup/program) – Mr. Palmer/Mr. Zalusky; Consider nomination for Guest Speaker - All

#### **Remaining Scheduled Council Meetings CY 2016 and 2017**

**October 15**

**November 19**

**December 17**

**January 21**

**February 18**

**March 18**

**April 15**

**May 13 (RAD)**

**June 17 (AAR)**