

**ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND RETIREE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

Saturday, November 19, 2016

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

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

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

Topics of discussion:

Council Order – Council appointment memorandum dated January 13, 2016 is valid through January 3, 2018. Appointment memorandum will require up dating next summer when new Garrison Commander assumes command. Memorandum has been posted to retiree webpage.

1SG Grill Estimate – Council members reviewed and discussed 1SG Grill proposed menu and quote for RAD. Other venues were discussed including Top of the Bay and Ruggles Golf Course; however, past experience indicated that an offsite venue reduces retiree turnout. Proposal accepted as reasonable.

Guest Speaker – Council discussion for this year’s guest speaker included the follow organizations – CSA/Army Retirement Service Office member; State and Local government and Veteran Service Office (VSO). The council agreed that we would approach Mrs. Smith, our local community VSO, and asked her to provide a briefing on survivor benefits. Ms. Willard will contact Mrs. Smith.

Vendor assignment – Council discussion on this subject include initial contact, 120 day out contact/verification and assignment. Mr. Shumate will make initial contact with last year’s vendors through email the first week of December 2016 based on feedback. He will clean up the vendor roster. 120-day contact/verification will start January and council members will be tasked at January 7, 2017 meeting. Mr. Shumate will maintain the vendor contact spreadsheet through this process.

Save the date – Council members agreed that “Save the Date” information must go out no later than 90 days prior to the event. Mrs. West has a working copy completed and will provide it to the council members on 7 January 2017.

Ft Meade RAD information – Mr. Laughton brought to council member attention that the Ft. Meade Retiree News Letter has the link to the CSA council that provided good information and is recommending that it be added to the APG Retiree webpage. This request will be forward to Mr. Yoakum.

Other Issues - Recommend CSA issues – The Garrison Commander must endorse our recommended issues – Mr. Shumate will submit recommended action through legal prior to acquiring Garrison Commander recommendation to send forward.

December and January council meeting - December Cancelled and January changed from January 21 to January 7

Remaining Scheduled Council Meetings CY 2016 and 2017

December 17 (Cancelled)
January 21 (Changed to 7th)
February 18
March 18
April 15
May 13 (RAD)
June 17 (AAR)