

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND RETIREE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, May 20, 2017

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

Council members not present: Chair LTC (Retired) Nelson Loughton, SGM (Retired) Frank Yoakum, 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.

Topic of discussion: After Action Review of 2017 RAD

Feedback from Garrison Command Group: Good program; speaker extremely knowledgeable of veteran benefits and filing processes. **Recommendation that panel be moved to front of program.**

Feedback from vendors:

- Very Nice, Noise level in back was high at points in the program
- Very good displays
- With more Retirees and Annuitants on MyPay DFAS has the ability to send out mass email to all members in a certain zip code (Marketing Tool for next year's event)
- Recommend having vendors set up the night before—would reduce some of the congestion.
- Great event - Thanks for the help off-loading.
- Nice venue; room too cold; **Recommendation that street address should be put on the flyer**
- Nice Fair, Guest speaker was excellent speaker; I was surprised that the event was supposed to last until noon and vendors were packing out by 1100.
- Great info
- Good, however, the program needs to be separated from the vendors so all the speakers can be heard.
- Provide additional handicap parking. **Recommendation coordinate with DPW for additional handicap parking signs for the event.**

Feedback from Council Members.

- Noise level in the back was loud at points during the formal program. **Recommendation to provide the vendors a contract that states not only the support of the formal program, but highly recommends setting up displays on Friday.**
- Council members did not have the opportunity to visit displays or talk with vendors. **Recommend rotation for council members manning the front desk.**
- Great program and good turnout even with bad weather.
- Send out email to all vendors thanking them for their support in this year's event. Task Tom Shumate.

Topics for October Meeting - Guest speaker; New Letter; Retiree Service Population and program overview

Remaining Scheduled Council Meetings 2017

October 21

November 18