

**ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND RETIREE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

Saturday, November 4, 2017

Council members present: Co-Chair LTC (Retired) Nelson Laughton, Co-Chair 1SG (Retired) Thomas Shumate, COL (Retired) Terry Hodges, COL (Retired) Jonas Vogelhut, SGM (Retired) Frank Yoakum, SGM (Retired) Robert Richardson Jr., MSG (Retired) Nancy West, SSG (Retired) Lionel Palmer, SSG (Retired), RSO Ms Betty Willard SSG (Retired) Rita Hewitt ARSO and Mrs. Jill Brodbeck, representing DHR.

Council members not present: 1SG (Retired) Lonzia Hawkins, and DHR Mrs. Janet Dettwiler.

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

Topics of discussion:

Introduction of new members: The following individuals were introduced and welcomed – Colonel (Retired) Terry Hodges and Colonel (Retired) Jonas Vogelhut. Mr. Shumate also announced that Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Martin Angulo would join the council in January.

Election of chairpersons: The council nominated and elected Frank Yoakum as co-chair replacing out going Thomas Shumate who is stepping down.

Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) May 12, 2018 was established as APG RAD, which will kick off Armed Forces week. Location will be the Aberdeen Proving Ground (North) Recreation Center based on availability. Mr. Palmer will coordinate with Ms. Founds, FMWR, to reserve the site for May 11 setup and May 12 for the event. Mr. Shumate will complete the necessary documentation and forward to Ms. Founds. Update: Reservation has been completed.

Introduction of Retiree Council to Garrison Command Group. The council requested that the DHR coordinate a meet and greet with the Garrison Commander, Colonel Phillips, who assumed command this past summer. Mrs. Jill Brodbeck, DHR representative will coordinate this action and Mr. Shumate will prepare power point presentation slides for Mr. Laughton. Update: Council is scheduled to meet with Garrison Commander, 30 November at 1PM.

Guest Speaker nominations – Council members recommended that Mrs. Annie Brock, President, Susquehanna Chapter, MOAA and/or Mr. Mark Overberg, Director, Army Retirement Services be considered as guest speakers. Mr. Richardson will contact Mrs. Brock and Ms. Hewitt will contact Mr. Overberg to determine their availability and interest in participating in the 2018 event. Update: Mrs. Brock has confirmed she is interested and would be happy to serve as one of the guest speakers.

Council orders: Mr. Shumate will update and submit council member appointment memorandum through DHR for the Garrison Commander's signature.

RAD areas of responsibilities. Mrs. West agreed to accepted responsibility for marketing and publicity; Mr. Palmer accepted logistical operations that include – coordination of event facility, laundry, directional signs and site set up. Vendor assignment was tabled until the January meeting. Mr. Yoakum communicated that Mrs. Sarah Grant would like to return this year to sing the National Anthem; council members concurred.

Retirement Services Bulletin. Mr. Shumate and Ms. Willard briefed regulatory changes that impact requires the DHR/Council to publish an annual news letter to the local retirement community. Discussion included using the Fort Meade template, coordinating with installation government agencies for input, having the garrison PAO assist on format and initial timeline. The action was tabled to January to allow the council leadership to meet with the Garrison Commander and DHR to receive guidance and direction on this action.

Remaining Scheduled Council Meetings 2018

Jan 20
Feb 17
Mar 17
Apr 21
May 11 (RAD Set-Up)
May 12 (RAD)
May 20 (AAR) (CHANGE)