

MINUTES OF THE FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 14 July 2011 meeting of the Fort Hood Retiree Council convened at 1200 hrs at Club Hood, Fort Hood Texas.

2. Membership Attendance:

a. Members Present:

GEN (Ret) Griffin, Chairman	CSM (Ret) Minosky, Co-Chairman
MG (Ret) Meyer, Assoc. Member	COL (Ret) Oliver Jr., Assoc. Member
COL (Ret) Portmann, Member	LTC (Ret) Woodward, Member
LTC (Ret) Christ, Member	LTC (Ret) Hilliard, Member
CW3 (Ret) Hanger, Member	CSM (Ret) King, Jr. Member
CSM (Ret) Kitterman, Member	CSM (Ret) Small, Member
SGM (Ret) Lopez, Member	1SG (Ret) Fisher, Member
SCPO (Ret) Lubasky, Member	

b. Members Absent:

COL (Ret) Gauer, Member
COL (Ret) Somera, Jr. Member
MSG (Ret) Wood, Member
SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member
Mrs. Greathouse, (Widow) Member

3. The Chairman, GEN (Ret) Griffin called the meeting to order and welcomed the council. GEN (Ret) Griffin acknowledged 1SG (Ret) Greco attending the meeting as a guest.

- CSM (Ret) King told the council about a gathering he attended with Congressman John Carter. Congressman Carter has established a Veteran's Advisory Council to assist Veteran's in his district. CSM (Ret) King talked about Congressman Carter's vision for his Advisory council.

We were honored to have a special guest, 1SG (Ret) Greco, who introduced himself and talked about what he is doing in his area for retirees. He lives in Burnett.

Topics of discussion for this meeting:

- The Council discussed the Nominees for Distinguished Retiree for 2011. There were three nominees this year:
 - COL (Ret) Jack Oliver
 - LTC (Ret) Tony Kosta, Jr
 - LTC (Ret) Sam Murphey

A paper ballot was taken and collected by Ms. Beth Waller. COL (Ret) Jack Oliver was voted the 2011 Distinguished Retiree of the year.

- The Council discussed the Guest Speaker for Retiree Day Opening Ceremony. There were multiple names discussed including: Senator Cornyn; Congressman John Carter and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson. Ms. Beth Waller will contact each of the possible speakers to see if they have an opening on their calendar on the date required. Once Ms. Waller has contacted the

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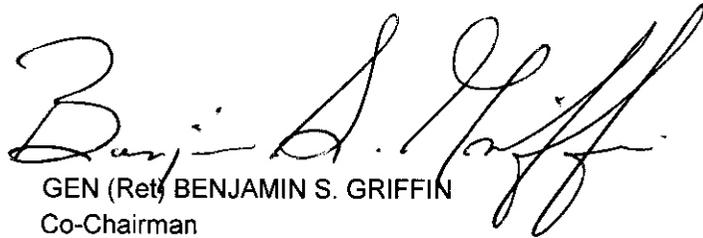
possible speakers the Co-Chairman will discuss the best option, contact the candidate and lock in a speaker for Retiree Day.

- Ms. Beth Waller gave a complete update on Retiree Appreciation day with lots of discussion from the council on what could be done to ensure all areas of concern were addressed prior to the event. Topics included:
 - Issue with parking at the Legal Center last year and possible alternatives. Beth is working directly with the legal office on this one.
 - The Commissary has set a cutoff of 300 guests for the free dinner on Friday night. Last year this was one of the most popular events and there were between 400-600 guests who attended surprising the planning committee. The Council discussed multiple issues and how to handle this event without disappointing the retiree community. The Co-Chairman and Ms. Waller are going to contact the Garrison Commander to see what can be done to ensure the best possible outcome for everyone considered. The Retirement Services Office will take the reservations this year and control numbers will be used.
- Individual Council Member Updates:
 - CSA Update. CSM (Ret) King gave a quick update on the CSA meeting he recently attended in Washington DC. He said there were 13 issues that were being discussed. He talked about Army Echoes going green. There is no money in the budget for it this year. It will be sent electronically. CSM (Ret) King also talked about what a good Retirement Services Office we have here at Fort Hood. He said it was very clear what kind of a reputation Fort Hood had for the RSO.
 - Health Care Advisory Council Update. COL (Ret) Portmann told the council that there is a new hospital Commander – Patrick Sergeant. Gen (Ret) Griffin would like to go and meet the new Commander. CSM (Ret) Small recommended that we devote one of our Council meetings to Health Care since it's one of the biggest concerns to retirees. Ms. Waller suggested January for this meeting. GEN(Ret) Griffin asked CSM(Ret) Minosky to contact the Chief of Staff of the VA Hospital in Temple and also invite him to this meeting. COL (Ret) Portmann also told the council that the hospital hired 25 summer hires and that the hospital has received a \$58,000 grant for gifts for Wounded Warriors.
 - Volunteer Activities. LTC (Ret) Woodward gave an update on volunteer opportunities and upcoming activities on post. Sept. 29th is the 3rd Annual Volunteers Fair on Fort Hood. This is an opportunity for people who would like to volunteer and organizations that need volunteers to meet and discuss volunteer possibilities. The post is already gearing up for Make a Difference Day in October. LTC (Ret) Woodward also reminded the council that there is a letter in their packets so they can request door prizes on behalf of Retiree Appreciation day. Prizes will be given out as door prizes during the Retiree annual dinner.
 - Commissary Council Update. CW3 (Ret) Hanger provided an update on upcoming commissary activities. Clear Creek Commissary floors have been replaced. Warrior Way is starting their renovation soon and it will take up to 16 months to complete. The

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Commissary now sells gift cards for ID holders only. July 29th – 30th Clear Creek
Commissary is having a big sale.

5. Closing Remarks were made by GEN (Ret) Griffin and the meeting was adjourned.
6. The Council met in the Ballroom to take a photo to include in the upcoming retiree newsletter. It was decided that another picture will be taken at the next Retiree Council meeting since some members of the council were not available for the picture taken in July.
7. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 29 September 2011(T), Location: Club Hood.



GEN (Ret) BENJAMIN S. GRIFFIN
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved

JOSEPH M. MARTIN
Colonel, GS
Chief of Staff