

## MINUTES OF THE FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 23 July meeting of the Fort Hood Retiree Council convened at 11:30 hours at the Casualty Assistance Office conference room.

### 2. Membership Attendance:

#### a. Members Present:

GEN (Ret) Griffin, Chairman	LTC (Ret) Christ, Member
CSM (Ret) Minosky, Co-Chairman	LTC (Ret) MacMillan
COL (Ret) Oliver Jr., Assoc. Member	1SG (Ret) Fisher, Member
COL (Ret) Portmann, Member	SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member
COL (Ret) Somera, Jr. Member	SCPO (Ret) Lubasky, Member
COL (Ret) Gauer, Member	
LTC (Ret) Woodward, Member	

#### b. Members Absent:

MG (Ret) Meyer, Assoc. Member  
CW3 (Ret) Hanger, Member  
CSM (Ret) King, Jr. Member  
CSM (Ret) Small, Member  
CSM (Ret) Divina Bobb  
SGM (Ret) Lopez, Member  
MSG (Ret) Wood, Member  
Mrs. Greathouse, (Widow) Member

3. The Co-Chairman, GEN (Ret) Griffin called the meeting to order and welcomed the council. Guests for the meeting included LTG Campbell, Commander III Corps & Fort Hood; CSM Coleman, Command Sergeant Major, III Corps & Fort Hood; and Mrs. Druce, Installation Adjutant General.

- GEN (Ret) Griffin opened by stating we will be looking at the realignment of the council.
- GEN (Ret) Griffin stated that CW3 (Ret) George Hanger has joined the council as an Associate Member.
- GEN (Ret) Griffin then asked LTG Campbell to speak. LTG Campbell thanked GEN (Ret) Griffin for the opportunity to visit. He said he is awaiting confirmation of his new position in USAREUR. His change of command will probably be in November. Giving an update of what is ongoing on post, he said he is excited about Retiree Day in coming October. His update included: 5,000 are deployed with 1st Cav back; construction will begin on the new PX next fall; a new hospital

will come in 2015 and three new clinics have opened in Harker Heights, Killeen and Copperas Cove; the VN veterans welcome home with the Warrior Celebration went very well last month; the new stadium will be done this fall and teams from Killeen and Harker Heights will play games there; the Freedom Fest held in front of the Corps HQ was the best ever and he recommends they continue to have it at that location. He said they are fighting for every dollar they can get. Finally he said there will be big turnover on post .

- CSM Coleman then added that post clean-up will occur right before Retiree Day. He also said a new day care center is opening.
- GEN(Ret) Griffin thanked the Commanding General and Command Sergeant Major for their great support.

4. Topics of discussion for this meeting:

- CSM(Ret) Minosky explained the plan to realign the Retiree Council and put it in line with Department of Army Retiree Council. He stated that our council has been recognized as doing things better than any other council. The plan is to break the council down into three teams; Team 1-Health Care, Team 2-Benefits, and Team 3-Miscellaneous (Commissary, AAFES, and Special Projects). He handed out a copy of the plan with council members assigned to the various teams. He asked that we all look at it and give him feedback. GEN(Ret) Griffin said that the plan will enable us to do what we should be doing. SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley said we need more women on the PX team. It was also mentioned that we need to get younger retirees on board.
- A progress review of Retiree Day report was given by Mrs. Bedgood. Five items on the report were amber status and only need final confirmation. Several issues were discussed:
  - Advertisement of the event since funding for mailing the Retiree Newsletter is not available. The Fort Hood website, Facebook page, Sentinel newspaper, Corps PAO and KCEN are all communications sources that will be utilized. In addition, LTC (Ret) MacMillan said she can have it sent out to all the American Legion Posts and will have it put in the Georgetown American Legion Post newsletter and the VFW newsletter. Mrs. Druce said the problem is getting the RSVPs for the dinner and breakfast. LTG Campbell said to work through the Corps PAO.
  - GEN (Ret) Griffin asked if a point of contact is needed from the Retiree Council to work with the Retiree Day committee. It was reported that normally the council members go to specific areas and report back how things went.
  - The guest speaker for the opening ceremony was discussed. Several possible speakers were identified including COL Kasperick, former Commander of Darnall Medical Center; Vice Admiral Ryan, President of MOAA; MG Gilman, Commander U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command; LTG Patty Horoho, U.S. Army Surgeon General; GEN (Ret) Shinseki, Secretary of the

Department of Veterans Affairs. GEN (Ret) Griffin said he can ask GEN(Ret) Shinseki and LTG Campbell said he would ask the Surgeon General.

-The Distinguished Retiree for 2012 has yet to be identified. Several people were identified as possible candidates to include LTC (Ret) Sam Murphy, SGM (Ret) Donald Fender, CSM(Ret) Jim DePriest, and CSM(Ret) Mike McGriff. GEN(Ret) Griffin said we should look at a retiree on the Corps staff. CSM Coleman said he would do so. GEN(Ret) Griffin asked when we need to have the name. He was told by September 1st.

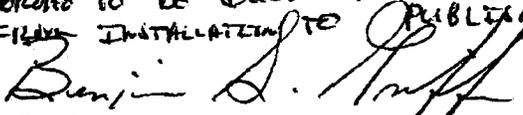
#### 5. Individual Council Member Updates:

- **Health Care Advisory Council Update.** COL (Ret) Portmann reported that the hospital is on Facebook. No shows are still an issue. The no show rate here is 4.3% with 5% across the Army. The Red Cross has an ongoing youth program from 4 June to 24 August for high school students with over 30 opportunities. In April the new CSM arrives; CSM Verlard. Sports physicals and school immunizations will start soon. The APLSS and ICE surveys continue to report patient satisfaction at about 90%. Monroe Health Clinic recently underwent a \$9 million renovation. The clinic now has 40 clinicians, 20 nurses and administrative support personnel to provide medical support to the 17,000 1st CAV soldiers. Vehicle safety courses are available for: a). Intermediate drivers, b). remedial, c). accident avoidance, and d). Motorcycle safety. Darnall Medical Skills Fair was held on 23 May. Thirteen medical students graduated on 15 June in emergency & family medical residential, ultrasound fellowship, and hospital administration. Patient education videos are now being produced. There are approximately 14 on hand to include heat injury prevention. Videos can be produced on most medical subjects upon request.
- **Volunteer Activities.** LTC (Ret) Woodward reported that Metroplex needs about 100 volunteers on 29 July to help with children and to contact the Killeen volunteer office. Veterans welcome home will be held in Harker Heights on 22 September from 4-8 p.m. It is free to all active, retired and family members. Registration for health care will be done on site. For the Retiree Day Round Up Dinner he asked that everyone solicit for one door prize.
- **AAFES/PX Council Update:** COL (Ret) Somera handed out current AAFES sale promotions and a list of the current Fort Hood Exchange Buddy Specials and upcoming events. He said the Power Zone is being moved from Warrior Way to the Clear Creek facility. Sales are ongoing but everyone needs to be patient with the process. A question was asked about the dress code for the PX because they had seen someone in the

PX wearing an inappropriate t-shirt. CSM Coleman said they have had a courtesy patrol on duty which has lessened the number of violations. LTC (Ret) MacMillan asked who was buying the clothing for the PX because there are only very expensive brands. GEN (Ret) Griffin said they have to run the PX as a business and must carry what sells. He said that is another reason to have a PX Council. He recommended asking the PX if they can carry the items.

6. GEN (Ret) Griffin thanked LTG Campbell and CSM Coleman for attending. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 hours.

7. ADDITIONAL INFO: FORMAL INVITATION WAS SENT INVITING U.S. ARMY SURGEON GENERAL, LTG HORATO TO BE GUEST SPEAKER AT RETIREE DAY. WE HAVE FUNDING SUPPORT FROM INSTALLATION TO PUBLIC + MAIL RETIREE NEWS LETTER.

  
GEN (Ret) BENJAMIN S. GRIFFIN  
Co-Chairman

  
Approved/Disapproved

  
HENRY A. KIEVENAAR, III  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff