

## MINUTES OF THE FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 10 January 2013, meeting of the Fort Hood Retiree Council convened at 1130 hours at the Spirit of Fort Hood Warrior and Family Chapel, Fort Hood Texas.

### 2. Membership Attendance:

#### a. Members Present:

GEN (Ret) Griffin, Chairman	LTC (Ret) MacMillan, Member
CSM (Ret) Minosky, Co-Chairman	SCPO (Ret) Lubasky, Member
COL (Ret) Oliver Jr., Assoc. Member	CSM (Ret) King, Jr. Member
COL (Ret) Portmann, Member	CSM (Ret) Small, Member
COL (Ret) Somera, Jr. Member	CSM (Ret) Bobb, Member
LTC (Ret) Woodward, Member	CSM (Ret) Waller, Member
LTC (Ret) Christ, Member	SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member

#### b. Members Absent:

CSM (Ret) Lopez, Member  
1SG (Ret) Fisher, Member

3. The Co-Chairman, GEN (Ret) Griffin called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

- GEN (Ret) Griffin recognized our newest member, CSM (Ret) Waller, and asked him to tell us about himself.
- GEN (Ret) Griffin thanked SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley for bringing delicious soup for our lunch.

### 4. Topics of discussion for this meeting:

- The first topic of discussion was the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) After Action Report (AAR).
  - GEN (Ret) Griffin said the feedback he received from RAD was very positive...thanks to Fort Hood for outstanding support and special thanks to the Corps Commander, Garrison Commander and CSM, and Mrs. Druce.
  - Roundup Dinner: Several comments were made regarding the dinner. First the food should not be served when the General is speaking. Second the food was cold and they ran out of some items.
  - The Commissary sponsored the Friday night meal and had to cook it then deliver it to the club. To make matters worse the new stadium had a game that night so traffic slowed the delivery of the dinner. All these things can be fixed for next year. Mrs. Druce is going to try to schedule use of Spirit of Fort Hood Warrior and Family Chapel for the dinner. It can hold 300 people and has a large kitchen so the food can be cooked and served immediately.
  - The County Fair with local vendors was not well attended. It was recommended that the time be changed to either before the breakfast or after it

when people are waiting for the official opening to occur or have it on Friday night around 4pm before the dinner. This will be addressed more thoroughly when planning for next year.

- At the CRSC, retirees had to go from the first floor to the 3rd floor to gain a copy of their original disability claim. Because of privacy issues it could not be done differently. The AG is going to look into it and work with the VA office to eliminate this step for next year if possible.

- The second topic of discussion was the shortage of personnel in the Installation Retiree Services Center. GEN (R) Griffin described how the office is set up at Fort Bragg. He said the VA services are on one side and ACAP and RSO on the other. He stated it is a very efficient operation. It was discussed when they have a high volume of customers they surge together to take care of customers. The issue of the Fort Hood RSO having to close 1 1/2 days a week to complete work will go to Chief of Staff of the Army.
- The third item of business was re-organization of the Retiree Council so that it mirrors the Chief of Staff of the Army Retiree Council. CSM (Ret) Minsky directed everyone to some handouts which included the Retiree Council Charter and By-laws plus the new council organization. He explained how we have not been following the term limits as specified in the documents. The Charter states four year terms with one extension for another four year term. GEN(Ret) Griffin stated that we are not trying to push anyone off but to have a healthy council we need changes and should be sticking with the charter. He said we need to be in line with the Chief of Staff of the Army's Retiree Council. CSM (Ret) Minsky talked about the total of eight years one can serve on the council. Basically, he said if you have served more than eight years you will need to rotate out so we can bring new people into the council. Gen (Ret) Griffin said we are now in a bind because we did not follow the charter and need to fix it. He wants to ensure backup. He clearly stated that this is not personal that we are just going to follow the guidelines and set the council up for success. GEN (Ret) Griffin opened the floor for discussion of the term limits and reorganization of the council. SPCO (Ret) Lubasky asked why he was being moved from the Commissary team since he had been working with CW3 (Ret) Hanger. GEN (Ret) Griffin explained that the changes were made to allow new folks to join the council and rotate those currently on the council who have completed the eight year term limit. He asked for our help to find replacements and people to join the council. In addition, he said he would personally speak to each member who has served eight or more years on the council. There were no motions to change the new council organizational chart. No one had any recommendations or suggestions to change the Retiree Council Charter or By-Laws. GEN (Ret) Griffin asked Mrs. Bedgood to change the signature blocks for the new III Corps Commander on the documents.

- COL(Ret) Somera made a motion to nominate CSM (Ret) Hall to the council and LTC (Ret) MacMillan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.
- Someone asked which side of our chest do we wear the nametags issued to us for the council. CSM (Ret) Minosky stated the right side so when you shake someone's had there is a direct line to your nametag.
- CSM (Ret) King stated that we should have representatives from the council at every Retirement Ceremony.

5. Individual Council Member Updates:

- Health Care Advisory Council Update. COL (Ret) Portmann handed out his report of which a copy is attached. He also stated that preventive medicine programs are perceived as being very helpful. He was asked what feedback does the hospital get from other hospitals like Seaton, Scott and White, and Metroplex about retiree care. A discussion ensued and COL (Ret) Portmann and CSM (Ret) Waller will investigate.
- Volunteer Activities. LTC (Ret) Woodward reported there had not been any recent meetings. He handed out information about the Military Mentoring Program and a Drinking and Driving Laws booklet from TABC.
- Exchange & DECA Update. COL (Ret) Somera reported that the next meeting with the Exchange and DECA personnel will be in February. He handed out the current Exchange flyer and a Buddy List flyer to use to shop online. He gave the closing dates for all the Express Shops, Warrior Way PX and Clear Creek PX to conduct inventories. He also stated the Exchange is happy with us. SCPO (Ret) Lubasky said the commissary is going to do away with their commissary meeting.

6. Closing Remarks were made by GEN (Ret) Griffin. He said the new organization of the council goes into effect immediately. COL (Ret) Oliver took a minute to say a few words in honor of recently deceased GEN(Ret) Meyer and asked that we keep Mrs. Greathouse in our prayers. The meeting was then adjourned. *(I asked CSM Minosky "to research how we can retain those members who wish to stay as 'Honorary members'")*

7. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 11 April 2013, Location: TBD

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Fort Hood Retiree Council Minutes, 10 January 2013 (cont'd)

  
GEN (Ret) BENJAMIN S. GRIFFIN  
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved 

*For*  *Disuse Read CofS*  
HENRY A. KIEVENAAR, III  
Colonel, GS  
Chief of Staff