

MINUTES OF THE Soldier for Life, FORT HOOD RETIREE COUNCIL MEETING

1. The 15 April 2015, meeting of the Soldier for Life, 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) Thurman, Co- Chairman
CSM (Ret) King, Jr., Co-Chairman
COL (Ret) Phillips, Jr., Member
LTC (Ret) MacMillan, Secretary
CSM (Ret) Small, Member
CSM (Ret) Bobb, Member
CMCPO (Ret) Hall, Member
SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickley, Member
SFC (Ret) Moore, Member

Ms. Roupe, Member
COL (Ret) Oliver, Jr., Assoc. Member
COL (Ret) Portmann, Hon Member
LTC (Ret) Woodward, Hon Member
CSM (Ret) Minosky, Hon Member

b. Members Absent:

COL (Ret) Phelps, Member
LTC (Ret) Christ, Member
LTC (Ret) Pierce, Member
CSM (Ret) Waller, Member
SGM (Ret) Lopez, Member
COL (Ret) Somera, Hon Member
SCPO (Ret) Lubasky, Hon Member
1SG (Ret) Fisher, Hon Member

CW3 (Ret) Hanger, Assoc. Member
Ms. Greathouse, Assoc. Member

3. The Co-Chairman, GEN (Ret) Thurman called the meeting to order at 1145 hours and thanked everyone for their service. He introduced our newest Member COL (Ret) Phillips, Jr. GEN (Ret) Thurman then had all members introduce themselves for COL (Ret) Phillips' benefit.

Gen (Ret) Thurman stated that his goal is to make sure we are representing the retirees and complying with our charter as the Corps Commander's representative. He said our area of responsibility has a large number of retirees because it is a good area and has a relatively low cost of living. Secondly, GEN (Ret) Thurman wants to make sure we get the information out to the retirees. He wants the council to remain a diverse group in order to share ideas.

4. Topics of discussion for this meeting:

- The primary topic of discussion was the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD). GEN (Ret) Thurman appointed a committee to look at ways to improve or adjust the RAD. CSM (Ret) Small briefed the results of the committee meeting. He stated that the Operations Order for RAD 2015 is out. The committee

recommends that an IPR be conducted with the Garrison Commander and Command Sergeant Major because it is the responsibility of the FT. Hood Garrison. CSM (Ret) Small stated it should be a small group to raise awareness early for what should be done this year. GEN (Ret) Thurman asked Mrs. Bedgood to schedule a meeting. This year's RAD is the 50th Anniversary of the Viet Nam War and it was recommended, the guest speaker should be someone who served in Viet Nam. Another suggestion for the RAD was to tour the new hospital, but the opening is now delayed until October so it may not be feasible. CSM (Ret) Small suggested we meet with the commissary managers to find out what they can provide. He said we need to know what the purpose is for the commissary dinner. It was stated that the purpose is a meet and greet social prior to playing Bingo. GEN (Ret) Thurman said we need to manage the expectation. For the Saturday night dinner, the sub-committee recommended making the social hour separate from the dining area perhaps to the lounge. Another idea was to set up a static display of today's soldier and a Viet Nam era Soldier. The thought was to show how a Soldier of today is equipped. CSM (Ret) Minosky said he would call the club to talk to them about the space. CSM (Ret) Small said he would talk to the NCO Academy about the Soldier display.

5. Individual Council Member Updates:

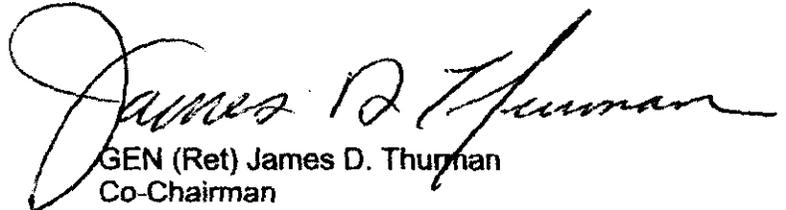
- Health Care Advisory Council Update: No report.
- Benefits Update: CSM (Ret) King said the Tri-care co-pays are increasing. He recommended everyone use Express Scripts for prescriptions. He stated the reality is there are cuts.
- Installation Update: CSM (Ret) Bobb handed out some flyers regarding events happening on Fort Hood. They included the Case Lot sales, post-wide garage sale, and the Ride 2 Recovery veterans who will be riding through Fort Hood on 22 Apr 15. She stated the Garrison Change of Command will be on 2 Jul 15.
- AAFES/DECA Update: SFC (Ret) Evans-Quickly attended the February meeting of the AAFES/DECA Council. The minutes for that meeting are attached. The Fort Hood exchange has taken over management of the Camp Mabry Exchange. Dominos has grown on post and delivers on post. The new Exchange and Commissary are targeted to open in October. The new Exchange will have the Pharmacy refill center.
- Ms. Roupe reported the change of command for Darnall Army Medical Center will take place on 30 Jun 15. COL Mark Thompson will be taking command. The Never Forget Fun Run will take place on 5 May 15.

6. Final Comments: CMPO (Ret) Hall stated he will be attending the Navy Retiree Issues meeting. GEN (Ret) Thurman asked that he share the results of the meeting with the council. CGM (Ret) Minosky said a change in leave policy will adversely affect unemployment for soldiers leaving the Army. CSM (Ret) King asked that we look at the blue packet regarding CWO Warner's membership on the council. We will vote next meeting. CSM (Ret) King announced the next Retiree Ceremony will be on 24 Apr 15

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at the Phantom Warrior Center. Mrs. Bedgood stated that by the next meeting we need the name of the RAD guest speaker and honorary retiree.

7. GEN (Ret) Thurman closed the meeting at 1300 hours. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 16 July 2015.



GEN (Ret) James D. Thurman
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved



Christopher M. Doneski
Colonel, GS
Deputy Chief of Staff