

Northern Alaska Military Retiree Council

May 3, 2018; 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Last Frontier Community Activity Center

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order

Introductions

Chairman: Walter E. Crary, VVA VSO

Vice-Chairman: Daniel Blashill, Retiree and BACH Representative

Recorder: Janice Westlind, USO Pathfinder Scout and Retired MAJ, Alaska Army National Guard

RSO: Steven Schack, Retired Soldier for Life

Subject: Minutes of Meeting, Northern Alaska Military Retiree Council (April 5, 2018)

Approval of previous meeting's Minutes: {allow members to review, vote on}

Attendees:

1. Walter Crary, Commander of American Legion Post 11 and Vietnam Veterans of America Veterans Service Officer, Local Ch 2 Disabled American Veterans Treasurer and Secretary, Past Commander, Senior Vice Commander of DAV Dept AK, Chairman of Retiree Council.
2. Daniel Blashill, Retiree and Bassett Army Community Hospital Human Resources, Vice Chair Retiree Council
3. Steven Schack, Retired Soldier for Life and RSO
4. Charlie Deer, Retired Navy
5. Janice Westlind, Retired Major, Alaska Army National Guard and USO Pathfinder Scout
6. Carl Westlind, Prior service SGT USA, former VP Student Veterans of UAF, member of Team RWB Fairbanks
7. CSM Juan Cornett, Garrison Command Sergeant Major
8. Karen Hardcastle, Bassett Army Community Hospital representative
9. Mike Durbin, AAFES Manager
10. Milt Sawyers, UAF representative
11. Angie Crary, AAFES Operations Supervisor

Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) planning:

Blashill: Golf course has a tournament the day before RAD; spoke to Lee Canter (sp?) –has a tent we can use, maybe we can do static displays in parking lot. Other location options are Skeet Range at Birch Hill or the Last Frontier Community Activity Center.

(general discussion on other locations such as the AHA or a hangar)

CSM: Recommended setting a Suspense Date. Can make some calls; will also ask units about tents or use of a building.

Schack: Did an Op Order with LFCAC and used a Suspense Date, can change it. Great Harvest Bread Company has a donation request form; need a volunteer to coordinate, and volunteers to gather donations for door prizes. Color Guard: Stryker Brigade not available, but Lathrop JROTC will do it. Has 2 potential guest speakers. Guests may wear their old uniforms if they wish and are encouraged to do so. Will call COL (Ret) Sheehan. We also need a sound system. Will Team RWB attend?

Westlind, C: will inquire about Team RWB.

Crary, W: Can get sound system from American Legion. Has 1 potential guest speaker; also suggested SGM McGhee from Greely.

Blashill: Will inquire about a guest speaker from Eielson. Suggested an ad in The Delta Wind to advertise the RAD.

Hardcastle: BACH will support RAD with vaccinations but cannot use a tent – must be an indoor, controlled area.

Durbin: AAFES will host a 6-foot or 8-foot table for RAD and provide door prizes and gift cards.

Election of New Officers:

Crary and Blashill remain as Chair and Co-chair, Recorder is now Janice Westlind. Passes with 1 Nay.

Other Business:

Blashill: SGM Association meeting is next week. “Old Soldiers Breakfast” occurs on the first Saturday of every month at Denny’s at 8am.

Westlind, J: Briefed on opening of new USO Pathfinder office on Fort Wainwright.

CSM: Army Emergency Relief effort doing very well, ends May 15. USARAK re-flagging. BOSS Symposium on August 7 at PFC gym, Volunteer Recognition Ceremony on April 18.

Hardcastle: PCS cycle affects providers and employees at BACH; many will leave before replacements arrive, so it may be difficult to make appointments. Readiness mission has priority. Internists will be short. No change in Pediatrics. Transition to new Tricare has been difficult, BACH asked for an exception, may be going back to HealthNet. Authorization letters are no longer mailed – use email or the website and save your copy. Ongoing trouble with the phone system, trying to correct.

Durbin: 16 job positions available at AAFES and more in the Food Court; April 14 is the Beauty Bar, Month of the Military Child event April 21.

Sawyers: Cyber-conference at UAF, military and vet office at UAF is still working on hiring a director.

Meeting adjourned 6:54pm. Next meeting is Thursday, May 3rd for RAD planning, all approved.

