

# Northern Alaska Military Retiree Council

October 4, 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, Retiree and USO Pathfinder Site Manager

***RSO:*** Steven Schack, Retiree and Soldier For Life Retirement Services Officer

**Subject:** Minutes of Meeting, Northern Alaska Military Retiree Council (August 2, 2018)

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

## **Attendees:**

1. Walter Crary, retiree, Commander of American Legion Post 11, Vietnam Veterans of America Veterans Service Officer, Local Ch 2 Disabled American Veterans Treasurer and Secretary, Past Commander, 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 RSO
4. Janice Westlind, USO Pathfinder, and retired AK Army National Guard
5. Virginia Yeaton, AF Sergeants Assoc, EAFB
6. Kayleigh Hardcastle, BACH
7. Angie Crary, AAFES Operations Supervisor
8. Milt Sawyers, retiree and UAF representative
9. Rick Young, WAXIE Inc. representative
10. Jenny Davis, AAFES
11. Charlie Deer, retiree
12. Jackie Morton, UAF Dept of Military & Veterans Services
13. Markeanne Rowe, BACH
14. Beverly Marshall, DeCA

### **Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) planning:**

**Schack:** RAD is this Saturday. The ballroom will be open on Friday night from 5-8pm if folks want to setup in advance. Vaccinations will not be available for shingles. DFAS will have a table, give a presentation, and help with annuitant pay. Verdie Bowen confirmed as keynote speaker and he will make an announcement regarding the new Veterans Cemetery in Ester. COL Foote from Fort Greely will speak, and CSM Cornett will deliver the opening remarks. Starbucks will provide coffee. Soldiers will man a Stryker display outside. Red Cross will bring refreshments.

**Hardcastle:** Will be setup for lipid profile, health risk assessments. Clients should be fasted before bloodwork is drawn. Can also do blood pressure screenings, optometry and orders for glasses, pharmacy screening and resources.

**Yeaton:** brought throws, gift baskets and a quilt for the giveaways.

**Crary, W:** Shed Winston from DAV will attend, and the VFW will be present.

**Rowe:** Many soldiers will be participating from the Dental office.

**Deer:** Will attend with Navy memorabilia.

**Blashill:** The Arctic SGM Association will attend. Dan got 30 coupons from the golf course for groups of 4 people. Dan also received donations of Yeti cups from Chevrolet, coffee gift cards, and car detailing coupons.

**Morton:** UAF will have a booth setup.

**Davis:** AAFES will have a STAR card table, gift baskets, coffee, a Spin The Wheel game, drawings, and wine sampling.

**Marshall:** Commissary will donate gift cards but will not attend due to store reset.

### **Other Business:**

**Crary:** Veterans StandDown is 17-18 August.

**Hardcastle:** Change to retiree dental plan – it's going away but will be aligned with federal employee dental plan. POC is Jen Evans. More new doctors are coming in.

**Blashill:** AUSA is active again, Nick Braun and Chick Wallace are involved.

**Westlind:** Troy Robinson has left USO Pathfinder. Next employment workshop is with the National Park Service on 21 August at the Morris Thompson Center downtown.

**Sawyers:** The Alaska Veterans Foundation is working on suicide prevention and homelessness. They are working with clients in Anchorage and North Pole and are planning on building 2 veterans' villages. Occupants will need to work for residency. Program includes recovering prisoners and those recovering from alcohol or drug additions. The Rescue Mission is assisting with this program. Mike Sanders runs the Homeless Coalition for the City of Fairbanks/Mayor's office.

**Morton:** Jackie introduced herself and explained her background as an MI and PSYOP officer. She also worked at Human Resources Command and SOCOM. She is trained as a mental health and school counselor.

Meeting adjourned 6:34pm. Next meeting is Thursday, Oct 4, all approved.