

Missouri National Guard Retiree Council

31 July 2021

The meeting of the Missouri National Guard Retiree Council began at 1100 on 31 July 2021 in Thomas Hall at Ike Skelton Training Site, Jefferson City with the following retirees and other interested parties in attendance.

Bill Leeper

Dave Riley

Jack Argent

Bob Julius

Todd Henderson

Bob Proctor

Randy Rodenberg

Gary Boyd

James Dunn

David Simons

John Lewis

Alan Garrison

Tony Cosentino

Major Adrienne Spadavecchia

Eric Schaben

Bob Julius called the meeting to order at 1058, then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Invocation was given by John Lewis.

Roll call by Randy Rodenberg found the above 11 members in attendance and one guest.

Bob Proctor read the minutes of the previous meeting (11 July 2020). The Minutes passed in its entirety by a unanimous vote.

Gary Boyd asked to accept the minutes as read and amended, Jim Dunn seconded the motion. Motion was pasted.

Major Spadavecchia gave a briefing on what has happened since the TAG brief. The committee has been added to Yellow Ribbon, and several other programs. A.C.E. brief was also given pertaining to suicide prevention. A slide presentation was handed out in hard copy.

John introduced Eric Schaben as the new technician in the RSO office.

Old Business:

Bob Julius introduced Samuel Smith as Central Region representative. Tom Henderson Motioned, Bill Leeper 2nd, Motion Passed.

Bob Julius recommended to begin a committee to research how to be more productive on suicide prevention activities. Bob Proctor volunteered and Samuel Smith volunteered as well as Randy Rodenberg and Tom Henderson.

John Lewis walked the committee through the retirement brief. He also reminded the council of the link he sent to the members on the retirement process.

Bob Julius gave a brief on how the TAG briefing went. He also spoke of the information that went to the armories such as the maps and area RADs. RADs cost money, and MAJ S. asked for a budget from the committee for next year and she would try to get that approved.

The Charter was discussed with the TAG, and a few changes were identified. Bob also spoke of the make-up of the counsel with the TAG, and how RADs are ran, and the lack of assistance and resources from the state. It was suggested to combine RAD with Appreciation days with the Units. The TAG ask as to why the counsel never was invited to family days.

Bob Julius spoke of the calls he's gotten due to the brief, such as from Kimmerly Chillers with Suicide Prevention looking for volunteers.

New Business:

MONGRC Charter:

Bob Julius described the change needed was a paragraph number.

James Dunn motioned the Charter to stay the same except changing the date to this year, and the AR paragraph number required from the updated AR 670-8-1 on the Authority line.

Randy Rodenberg 2nd, passed unanimously.

State fair RAD on Aug 15th, 1000-1600. Outside, three tables furnished. Helpers need to be there by 0900. Gary Boyd, Al, Garrison, Randy Rodenberg, Gaila Sullivan, Bob and Sara Proctor, Samuel Smith, Bob and Judy Julius will attend.

Yellow Ribbon: Sam Smith briefed on what happens and how we can help. Discussion was had about equipment such as table covers. Sam said he'd check on equipment for the tables. Bob Proctor volunteered to be involved with the Yellow Ribbon programs.

SOPs: Dave Riley and James Dunn volunteered to work with the SOP. Protocol is to work with John Lewis as support. Chain of Command is necessary especially where contact is made with the TAG office. Contact needs to go through the Counsel Chair, then John, then through the TAG's contact first as per the chain of command.

There was only one Regional Update:

East: The J B Retiree Assistance Office had been opened for limited weekly hours at Jefferson Barracks.

John Lewis gave the RSO report. Most of the report focused on the new ID cards and the loss of certain VA dependent benefits after the death of the sponsor that was expected to take place in 2021.

New business:

West: Gary Boyd- Going to try to have a RAD with the KC Armory and will brief the group on the TAG brief.

Northwest: Randy Rodenberg- Low on funds but are working with various units to work on communication via newsletters. He and Al Garrison (Northeast) are trying to plan a RAD for 2022.

Southwest: James Dun- Joplin area Hound dogs, had a ceremony for unclaimed Soldier ashes. There will be a Veterans' Day Parade Sept. 9th. We Care Fund will help a Soldier's family that came down with Covid 19. Joplin Armory is being renamed as Robert S. Crowe Armory.

East: There are 3 veterans' organizations active. They are 20+ Armed Forces Association, JB Retiree Assistance Office (A Scott AFB Satellite RAO) and MONGA Area V Retirees (former 131st Fighter Wing Retirees).

September Breakfast for the Troops 35th BGE and Christmas Party for the Kids events given by the FRG and 20+AFA are in the planning phase. There's a church that has adopted the 35th BDE through the 20+ AFA and pays for everything. School supplies will be handed out next two weeks in conjunction with Operation Home Front.

East (cont.) The JB RAO is in the process of opening the office from 1100-1530 on drill weekends. This will be done quarterly. JB had a staff meeting for a meet and greet dealing with security regulations and new personnel on base, new fence and a new AOC is in the planning stage.

Still trying to get CAC cards renewed. The J drive failed, are trying to recreate the J drive, but it's been slow.

Central: Tom Henderson- VA is changing. Vet centers have changed their charters to help those that the VA will not as of now, via a humanitarian basis, blessed by the VA. Vet centers can help those with less than honorable, and even help upgrade to honorable which will allow the soldier to be seen at the VA.

September 11th is the VA car show at Truman VA. Also, VA has opened all vaccinations for military veterans and their immediate family members. 1-877-warvets is an emergency mental health crisis center.

Northeast: Working with the West Region on a plan for A RAD in 2022.

The benediction was given by John Lewis and a motion was called to adjourn the meeting by Bill Leeper motioned to adjourn. Sam Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed

Alan Garrison asked the benediction

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1429 hours.

Prepared by:

Bob Proctor, Secretary