



April 5, 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

Minutes of the April 2019 Bi-monthly membership meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees' Association (MMRA)

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday April 2nd at 1700 In the Gray Room of the Consolidated Open Mess, with presiding officers President-Paul Sayles, Vice President-Toby Fanelli, Joseph Roginski, Secretary and Treasurer-Dave Barton, and 15 general members.
2. Joe Roginski read the minutes of the February meeting which was accepted and approved by the membership.
3. OLD Business:
 - a. Joe Roginski reported on the status of disposal of Chief "T"'s estate. He reported that the will had been probated and the funds in the Navy Federal account will be distributed according to the will after the final accounting of expenses is approved by the executor. (Open)
 - b. Paul Sayles reported that the Red feather campaign is finished and that the MMRA donated JPY 12,000. Paul stated that the association will not get a trophy this year as we came in 8th of the donating organizations. (Closed)
4. New Business:
 - a. Dave Barton reported on the Vietnam Veterans' Day, held at the Exchange on March 29th. Dave Barton set up an impressive display of the Vietnam War and its history, and presented an excellent speech about the involvement of veterans who were stationed here at Misawa. The turnout was way more than expected, with great base participation. The Exchange provided the location, sound equipment, display tables, and the commemorative cake. DeCA, Services, Fire Department, and the Fighter Wing contributed to the success of this event. Col Kirmis, 35FW/CV and Cecil Hahn cut the cake, and everyone had coffee, sandwiches from the commissary, and goody bags from the Exchange. The Exchange has posted a video of the event on their Facebook page. Dave said that March 29th has been designated as a permanent event as Vietnam Veterans' Day.
 - b. Dave Barton reported that there was some confusion about this year's base sticker, but with Col Kirmis, the issue has been resolved and retirees have a choice of getting the one-year vehicle pass or the base sticker. The Pass and ID Section asked that retirees get their stickers after the "road tax" collection is finished. Mark Collin added that retirees can pay their 'road tax' at their insurance companies, while Dave reminded that the vehicle pass will not work at other bases, and Alan said that you can get both the vehicle pass and the base pass, and Cecil reminded everyone to save their tax receipt. We'll report next meeting on how well the process has gone this year. (Open)
 - c. Paul Sayles asked if this year we were going to give a donation to the people collecting the vehicle (road) tax as we have done in past years. Dave Barton responded that this is a regular thing and that if they still would like a donation, they will get one from us. (Open)
 - d. Bobby Battle announced that he is selling his business. (Closed)

- e. Dave Barton and Joe Roginski reported that we were having problems sending e-mails from the office to commercial addresses like Yahoo.com and AOL, etc. Dave said he was working with Comms on this but it looks like it will be an ongoing problem and if it is not resolved, we may have to start sending e-mail from our home computers. (Open)
 - f. We again had a lively discussion about keeping ones records, such as insurance beneficiaries, will, and other documents up to date will save your survivors a lot of hassle when the inevitable finally happens. (Closed)
 - g. Bill Tuttle said that Japanese social security payments can go to American spouses of Japanese spouses who are receiving Japanese social security payments, just as it is done in America. Joe Roginski said he will investigate and get back to the membership. (Open)
 - h. Paul Sayles said the new VA Representative was supposed to come to this month's meeting but something prevented her from attending and he will try to get her to the next meeting. (Closed)
 - i. Joe Roginski reminded the membership that this year's air show will be on September 8th which enables us to begin work on the schedule for our Misawa AB Retiree Appreciation Day. Dave Barton said he will begin work on the schedule ASAP. (Open)
5. Dave Barton read the financial report for the period January through March. He reported beginning balance \$8,282.20, dues income of \$120, dividends of 0.66, donations of \$455, for a total of \$575.66, and expenses of February club bill \$135.75, web hosting \$335.76 for total expenses of \$471.51 Dave reported the current standing balances of \$4,308.45 Widow's Fund, and \$4,077.90 General Fund, ending balance of \$8,386.35. The financial report was accepted and approved by the membership present.
 6. There being no further business, it was moved and approved to close the meeting, which closed at 1745. The next bi-monthly meeting will be at 1700 on 4 June 2019 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

Joseph Roginski
Secretary, MMRA