



August 16, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

Minutes of the August 2021 Bi-monthly membership meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees' Association (MMRA)

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, August 2nd at 1700 In the Gray Room of the Consolidated Open Mess, presiding officers: President-Paul Sayles; Secretary-Joseph Roginski; Treasurer, Dave Barton, and 15 general members. Vice-President Toby Fanelli was in hospital.
2. Joe Roginski read the minutes of the June 2021 meeting, which were accepted and approved.
3. OLD Business:
 - a. COVID-19 – Paul Sayles commented that you must make an appointment for the shot and be aware that you should make your appointment for the second shot at least three weeks beforehand. Appointment availability depends on the type of the second shot. Paul Sayles reminded us to keep current on travel etc., check the bulletins from the Misawa Covid-19 cell that comes out every Friday and the bulletins relayed every week from the RAO. This item will remain open until the pandemic crisis is declared over.
 - b. Retiree Appreciation Day – Dave Barton reported that the Retiree Appreciation Day will be the 2nd of October. He said, however, that funding for the breakfast is not sure, and that the EWC has pledged only \$200 this year, and any amount from the OWC is still pending. The breakfast funding needed is close to \$1000, and if funding is insufficient, do we want to fund the difference? Ray Eberhardt moved the MMRA fund the difference if needed, from the general fund. The motion was seconded and passed with a show of hands. Dave Barton added that the OWC will let him know if and how much funding will come from them right after their next meeting, and he will message everybody. He added that the Commissary and Exchange will support the event as before. (Open)
 - c. Hospital referrals, translator support, etc. – Paul Sayles commented that the TOPA briefing that was scheduled for this meeting has been postponed because procedures were still not firm and that the briefing should occur next meeting. He said that the hospital will still do referrals, and that translation services will still be available on a space-available basis. Follow-ups will continue as before. He said the issues are still being assessed and should be more definite by October. Lee Martin asked if there would be a contract made with the translator provider, and Dave commented that was still an option. Paul commented that the base hospital would handle patient transfers, as before. Paul Sayles and SSgt Pagan of TOPA are the POCs for this issue, and members should run any questions through Paul. (Open)
 - d. Aomori and Michinoku Banks merger – There was no more information other than a comment that the banks were converting accounts. All who will be affected by the merger have moved their direct deposit accounts to Aomori Bank. (Closed)
4. NEW Business
 - a. Air Show/American Day/Japan Day/Halloween – A member commented that the Air Show and other events will be combined into a limited attendance event on October 31st. (Open)

- b. Toby Fanelli – Lee Martin gave a report on the status of our member, Toby Fanelli, who had a stroke in July. Toby is in the Hachinohe Shimin Byoin (Hachinohe City Hospital). He had two surgeries, but is now recovering and in physical therapy. Lee will make information available as it comes to him. His wife’s family in Kyushu is the only person allowed to get patient information. (Open)
 - c. Cecil Hahn – Don Ohman commented that Cecil is still in hospital but as his wife has been staying at the hospital with Cecil, it is hard to get information about his progress, other than that his wife is hoping to get him in a hospice. (Open)
 - d. Bill Tuttle and his wife, Asako, who manages the base library, asked if we could set up the Vietnam War Display that the RAO did last year at the library could be done again this year. Membership unanimously agreed and the display will go up again this year. (Open)
5. Financial Report – Dave Barton read the financial report which included the missing information from the report from the previous meeting He reported: Beginning balance of \$9,280.22, Dues income \$20.00, dividends \$0.16 for total income of \$20.16. The club bill for the last meeting was \$135.24. Widow’s fund balance was \$4,904.62, General Fund \$4,260.52, Ending balance \$9,165.14. A motion passed to accept the report. (Closed)
6. The meeting closed at 1740. The next bi-monthly meeting will be at 1700 on 5 October 2021 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

(signed)

JOSEPH ROGINSKI
Secretary, MMRA