



February 19, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

FROM: Misawa Military Retirees Association

SUBJECT: MMRA Meeting Minutes

1. The bi-monthly meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees Association (MMRA) was held on 2 February 2016 at 1700 hours in the Club Tohoku.

2. Paul Sayles read the minutes of the 4 December 2015 meeting which were accepted and approved by the attending members.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Dave Barton had reported on Tony Watkins' condition and advised member to visit him in hospice. Since then, Tony passed away on December 12th. Some of his friends, former co-workers and fellow retirees attended the funeral ceremonies and cremation. (CLOSED)

b. Base Decals – Dave Barton advised the members that the base decal issue is still open and that there was the possibility that they would be done away with altogether. Dave will advise as information comes available. (OPEN)

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. The issue of honorary or auxiliary membership came up as a disabled veteran wanted to join the MMRA. A general discussion followed on the pros and cons of expanding the membership base and revising the constitution. Some proposals were:

- Auxiliary membership, subject to membership approval, for veterans who have served four years or more with 50% disability or more, with honorable discharge. The auxiliary member would pay the same dues and have privileges as members.
- Case by case for consideration as an auxiliary member.
- Person should be medically retired.
- Poll the membership for each item proposed.
- Put these proposals into the minutes for consideration by the entire membership for possible changes to the constitution to be voted on at a later date.

This item will remain open until we get input from all the membership and determine if and what needs to be amended to the constitution. (OPEN)

b. The attending members voted to accept Mr. Kevin Hart as an auxiliary member. Mr. Hart is a disabled 8-year Marine veteran who is stationed at Misawa as a DODDS teacher. (CLOSED)

c. It was reported that the ongoing project of digitizing the base newspaper, Northern Light, at the base historian's office, was on hold for security clearing of the material. (OPEN)

d. Paul Sayles and Dave Barton presented certificates of appreciation to the "Focus 5/6" and the "Top 3" organizations, respectively, for their support of the Veterans' Day Luncheon. (CLOSED)

e. Paul Sayles moved that the “the hat be passed” at the meeting as the MMRA’s support of the base’s “Red Feather Community Chest” campaign. The motion was seconded and passed, the hat was also passed, and \$56.00 was raised as the MMRA’s contribution to the campaign. (CLOSED)

f. A member reported that there were three GS-3 full-time security guard positions open for work on the new simulator. Applicants must apply on-line at “USA Jobs.” (CLOSED)

g. Joe Roginski and Dave Barton reported that the annual PACAF Retiree Council is requesting inputs from RAOs for the council meeting in May. (OPEN)

h. A member reported that the base hospital was not responding to MiCare messages in a timely manner. Paul Sayles will investigate. (OPEN)

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dave Barton read the financial report which was accepted and approved by the membership present.

6. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1800. The treasurer announced that the next meeting will be on 5 April 2016 at 1700 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

///Signed///

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