



October 10, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

FROM: Misawa Military Retirees Association

SUBJECT: MMRA Meeting Minutes October 2017

1. The bi-monthly meeting of the Misawa Military Retiree Association (MMRA) was held on 3 October 2017 at 1700 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.
2. Joe Roginski read the minutes which were approved and accepted by the membership present.
3. Joe Roginski introduced a guest, Mr. Kenichi Nakamura, Secretary General for the Social Welfare NPO 'Dojinkai' and the Home for the Elderly with Special Needs 'Uruwashi No Mori'. Mr. Nakamura had approached me last July about getting military retirees involved with the elderly community and that proposal was received favorably by the membership (see minutes from last August). Today he came with a special request to Misawa retirees to interact with his patients in the special needs home. He said that most of the patients will occasionally receive visits from family but most do not have any interaction with anyone other than family. The discussion progressed to possibly participating in a Christmas party in late December, again received favorably by the membership. Chief Tinnirella made a motion to wait for specific information on the schedule at the home and then at the December 5th meeting, act to fund items for the party such as gifts, food, even cash. The motion was accepted and approved. Mr. Nakamura will provide specific information on the date and time before the December 5th meeting. (Open).
4. OLD Business:
 - a. Paul Sayles announced that the club card conversion has run into some problems and said that you should not yet ditch your old card. The club will be honoring the old card for the near future. However, you should still go to MemberPlanet.com to set up your new club card account and if you have problems, the club cashier's cage has been assisting members in setting up their accounts. (Open)
 - b. Gate Closures – Paul Sayles announced that the POL gate will remain closed through October and possible November. He said that the Gettysburg Gate (main base housing area) will open two hours morning and evening to handle traffic. As more information on the closures becomes available, we will share as best we can. (Open)
5. NEW Business:
 - a. At the last meeting Joe Roginski announced that he was approached by Dr. Kojika, owner of the Misawa Chuo Hospital and Director of the Yasuragi-So Home for the Elderly, and Mr. Kenichi Nakamura of the Special Needs Home for the Elderly Uruwashi-No-Kai. They both asked if I could talk with our members and see if anyone would be interested in volunteering in any capacity in helping with the elderly community through events and visits. Mr. Nakamura visited this meeting and made an appeal for retiree participation, the gist of which is in the first paragraph of these minutes. (Open)

- b. Dave Barton announced that the POW/MIA Retreat Ceremony had a good turnout and thanked the membership for attending. (Closed)
 - c. Retiree Appreciation Day - Dave Barton reported on the progress of the event and he reminded all who had not responded to invitations to do so ASAP. He announced that the Misawa Enlisted Spouses Club and the Misawa Officers' Spouses Club had made equal donations of \$500 each to fund our breakfast portion of the event. Paul Sayles reminded everyone that the MOSC Bazaar would be held Octr 21, 22 and 23 and were looking for volunteers. Paul made the point that volunteering for the bazaar would be the perfect way to respond to their kindness., and Allen Holocek made it known that there was a website you can go to and select the volunteer hours you want to work. (Open)
 - d. Kevin Boskett announced that flu shots will be available at the RAD, but as yet other activities such as blood pressure and glaucoma testing will not be available. He also announced that the pharmacy closing hours had been changed to 16:30, but that if there was a pending action, such as waiting for the primary care physician to post a prescription, they would remain open for you to complete that action. (Closed)
6. Dave Barton gave the Financial Report and the attending membership approved and accepted the report.
7. The meeting was closed at 1745. The next bi-monthly meeting will be at 1700 on 5 December 2017 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

JOSEPH ROGINSKI
Secretary, MMRA