



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON GRAFENWOEHR
Retiree Council
UNIT 28130
APO AE 09114-8130

IMEU-GFW-GR

24 May 08

Subject: Minutes of the USAG-G Retiree Council (RC Meeting) from 20 May 2008.

1. Opening: The USAG-G RC meeting was called to order by the President at 1300 hrs., 20 May 2008.

2. Roll Call.

a. Members Present:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • MSG (Ret) James Federline | President |
| • LtCol (Ret) Doug Kramer | Secretary/Member at Large |
| • CW3 (Ret) Larry Simank | Member-at-Large |
| • SGM (Ret) Dave Stewart | Member-at-Large |
| • Ms. Erika Smith (Surviving Spouse) | Member-at-Large (expired) |
| • SFC (Ret) Myrle Saunders | Volunteer RSO (Berlin) |
| • CPT (Ret) Jim Meredith | Member-at-Large |

b. Members Absent:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • SFC (Ret) Ray Velis (Vilseck) | Secretary |
| • SSG (Ret) Jesse Cabredo (Hohenfels) | Member-at-Large |
| • SGM (Ret) J.C. Moss | Berlin Council President |
| • SFC (Ret) Sheddric Knight | Hohenfels Representative |

c. Non-voting Members:

- Ms. Mary Cooper, HRD
- Mr. John Currie, USAG-G RSO

d. Invitees and Guests:

- COL (Ret) Steve Boylan, AERC Member

3. Welcome remarks/Presidents comments and issues:

- The President opened the meeting and introduced the new USAG-G RSO, Mr. John Currie, and COL (Ret) Steve Boylan.
- The President encouraged everyone to review the Retiree Council By-laws and Constitution.

- Review of minutes from last meeting and recommendations. There were no recommendations, and a unanimous motion to accept the minutes from the previous council meeting.
- Still no resolution on getting list of widows in the USAG-G footprint.
- Even though boundaries are established, retirees can be seen anywhere.

4. New Business:

- Retiree Appreciate Day (RAD)
 - John Currie, described the RAD coming 25 Oct 08. A block of rooms cannot be reserved at the Tower Inn. Individuals must reserve their own rooms.
 - Mr. Currie also requested assistance from the USAG-G Retiree Council members during the RAD. SGM (Ret) Dave Stewart volunteered to be the Point of Contact (POC) for the USAG-G retiree council support to the RAD.
 - CW3 (Ret) Larry Simank recommended the Family Readiness Groups (FRG) may be able to provide assistance
 - LtCol (Ret) Doug Kramer recommended asking the Boy or Girl Scouts for assistance.
 - Location of the RAD changed from the Tower Inn to Bldg. 244 (near Gate 3).
 - Mr. Currie asked for POC's from the local VFW and American Legion.
 - concern expressed in getting NAF for light snacks, drinks, and other refreshments.
 - A letter will be sent to the commissary to determine if any vendors can provide items for prizes.
 - Mr. Currie recommended a USAG-G retiree council booth/table for recruiting purposes. Council members responded that a retiree council booth/table was in place during the last RAD, and resulted in member recruitment.
- USAREUR Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Conference. CW3 (Ret) Larry Simank attended the USAREUR AFAP conference. He described his participation in the conference and provided a handout showing the different groups, the issues discussed, and the three top issues forwarded to DA level AFAP. The seven USAG-G issues and one retiree issue were not among the three issues forwarded to DA. CW3 (Ret) Simank specifically described the issue of retiree's using the community banks. He spoke with a USAREUR lawyer and international lawyer about this issue; still no clear guidance on whether this is covered under SOFA.
- COL (Ret) Boylan reported a few items from the AERC meeting on 14 May 08.
 - retiree's are encouraged to get involved in the Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) efforts. Mrs. Cooper provided a POC for the local WTU in Vilsesck. COL (Ret) Boylan also recommended the local VFW get involved.
 - there is a possibility of a RAD in Ansbach, but Ansbach is not a direct reporting community.

- Heidelberg RAD is 15 Nov 08.
- when registering at a RAD, include email address to update the listserv.
- LtCol (Ret) Kramer mentioned the possibility of getting new retiree data from the transition center. Mrs. Cooper stated there are certain guidelines and policies that may limit the release of new retiree data. SGM (Ret) Stewart recommended AERC use the PAO for release of retiree information.
- COL (Ret) Steve Boylan stated there is an effort in progress to provide retiree data by address. LtCol (Ret) Kramer recommended this type of data should be incorporated into the USAG-G RSO database.
- LtCol (Ret) Kramer suggested having the retiree garrison “footprint” map available at the next RAD. Mr. Currie stated he will check if this is possible.
- TRICARE coverage has changed. It was recommended to find a German provider.
- Retiree Council appointment letters expired on 21 May 08. Elections of new council members and officers initiated. Voting process will be done via email. The current president, MSG (Ret) James Federline, nominated SGM (Ret) Dave Stewart for the next president.

5. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1420 hours, 20 May 08 by the council President.



JAMES P. FEDERLINE, MSG (Ret)
President
USAG Grafenwoehr Retiree Council