



June 7, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

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

1. The meeting was held on Tuesday, June 1st at 1700 In the Gray Room of the Consolidated Open Mess, presiding officers: President-Paul Sayles, Vice President-Toby Fanelli, Secretary-Joseph Roginski, and 13 general members. Treasurer Dave Barton was on leave.
2. Joe Roginski read the minutes of the April 2021 meeting, which were accepted and approved.
3. OLD Business:
 - a. COVID-19 – Paul Sayles commented that travel into and from Tokyo is still limited. He also said that shot lines are over and now all a person has to do to get the shot is call the shot clinic for an appointment. Appointments are needed so that the batch is not wasted, and it also depends on what brand of vaccine is available for that date. Each batch contains a specific number of doses. Gary Grishaver commented that you can go to the base web page and navigate to the shot clinic and make an appointment on-line as well as calling. Joe Roginski commented that you should protect your CDC shot record as it could become very important for travel, as an “immunization passport”. He also suggested that you laminate the CDC card, and get your shot record printed as a supporting document. Paul Sayles reminded that to keep current on travel etc., check the bulletins from the Misawa Covid-19 cell and the bulletins relayed every week from the RAO.
This item will remain open until the pandemic crisis is declared over. (Open)
 - b. Ray Eberhardt commented that he is now receiving e-mail from the RAO again. (Closed)
 - c. Retiree Appreciation Day – Dave Barton was not at the meeting to comment on if there will be an RAD and if so, when. (Open)
4. NEW Business
 - a. Joe Roginski commented that a retiree was refused a translator. When Joe called the referral office he was told by Captain Kates of Referral Management, that referrals were no longer available for retirees. Joe explained to him that the referral system is necessary for retirees to use hospitals off base. Paul Sayles said he is working with Captain Kates and that the problem is still being worked and he intends to invite him to the next meeting to brief us. Paul advised us to talk to Sgt Knicks or Capt Kates for clarifications and assistance, and you may also call TOPA for assistance. For questions not of an immediate nature, save for the next meeting. Paul said that Capt Kates is working on the operating instruction and will get it to us as soon as it is available. (Open)
 - b. Gary Grishaver introduced a service called ‘Military Living’ that is a good source of information on transfers, vacations, vacation locations, and various sources of information on aspects of military life. He said he would leave pamphlets on the counter for anyone who is interested. (Closed)
 - c. Joe Roginski reminded everyone that if you are the owner of an account at Navy Federal or other stateside banking institutions, it would be a good idea to declare a beneficiary, especially if you are single. The beneficiary could then close the account and dispose of funds according to your wishes

without any delays and hassles. Joe said that Navy Federal has a simple form a member can use to declare a beneficiary. (Closed)

- d. Allen Holecek commented that he read an article in the paper that Michinoku Bank is merging with the Aomori Bank. Another member said he heard the same on the news. This is important for members who have direct deposit to either bank for SSA, SBP, retired pay, etc. We are waiting for further information. (Open)
 - e. Joe Roginski reminded everyone that if you want the base decal you can present last year's vehicle tax which is acceptable to the Pass and ID people and they will issue you the decal. (Closed)
 - f. Gary Grishaver announced that Julie Grishaver, his daughter, has left and right now there is no POC for private organizations. Paul Sayles said that there are major events coming and they should name a private organization POC soon. (Open)
5. Financial Report – Paul Sayles started to read the financial report with the information that Dave Barton left with him, saying that we had a bill of \$163.74 for the last meeting in April, .08 dividends, for total of 0.16 in interest (for two months), and our ending balance \$9,280.22 as of 30 May. However, Dave had not broken down the balance between the general and widows' funds. Joe moved that the report be held until the next meeting, and the motion passed that the report will be presented at the next meeting. (Open)
6. The meeting closed at 1740. The next bi-monthly meeting will be at 1700 on 3 August 2021 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

(signed)

JOSEPH ROGINSKI
Secretary, MMRA