



THE MILITARY COALITION

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Treasurer: Mike Blum, MCL, 703-207-9588

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2013 MEETING

Fleet Reserve Association. 125 N. West St. Alexandria, VA 22314

1. The monthly TMC meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Hayden. All member organization representatives were present except: NGAUS, CPOA, VVA, and WWP. JWV had excused absences.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance: Co-Chairman Hayden
- b. Introductions: Kate O’Gorman introduced Derek Bennett, Chief of Staff, and Jackie Maffucci, Research Director at IAVA.
- c. Presentations: none
- d. Minutes approved for August 1, 2013 meeting, as amended by FRA.
- e. Treasurer’s report approved.

2. Co-Chair Discussion Items: Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) discussed a letter from President Obama regarding an alternate pay plan that would cap the active duty and federal civilian pay raise at 1%. To prevent the pay cap, the currently schedule 1.8% pay raise has to be articulated in the defense bill or some other veto-proof legislative mechanism.

Co-Chair Barnes (FRA) announced that his term at FRA will end next month on October 20. The October TMC meeting will be his last as TMC Co-Chair.

3. Coordinator Announcements: None.

4. Committee Co-Chairs briefed on key issues since the last TMC meeting. Highlights are noted below.

a. Awards. Co-Chair Hanson (ROA) announced that the TMC Awards ceremony will be October 1 at ROA on the 5th floor from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM. If associations have individuals they would like to invite to the ceremony, names and contact information should be sent to Mike Hayden or Jamie Naughton by COB September 5.

TMC organizations get one free representative to the ceremony. Each additional guest costs \$20. Payments should be made to The Military Coalition, and given to Treasurer Blum (MCL).

b. Guard and Reserve. Co-Chair Hanson (ROA) announced H.R. 2907 and H.R. 738. H.R. 2907 would extend early reserve retirement credit to servicemembers with qualifying service between 9/11/01 and 1/28/08. H.R. 738 would eliminate the requirement for reserve retirees to reach age 60 to become eligible for health care benefits. There are currently no Senate companions to these bills.

Co-Chair Madison is still reviewing dates for scheduling the next committee meeting.

c. MilCon/MWR. No report.

d. Personnel/Compensation/Commissaries. Mike Hayden (MOAA) said that a TMC letter regarding ending the current budget sequestration and the consequential threats to national security and military readiness will be sent to members of Congress September 9, 2013, when Congress returns from the August recess.

e. Retired Affairs. Co-Chair Davis (FRA) announced that Senator Reid will introduce a floor amendment to the NDAA with language from S. 234.

Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) announced that the Military Compensation and Modernization Commission has begun to reach out to military organizations. He also announced the commission's timetable for its report.

The next committee meeting will be September 17 at 9:30 AM at FRA.

f. Survivor Benefits. Co-Chair Moakler (NMFA) announced that at a VBA meeting, military survivors were part of a pilot program for a new letter highlighting VA benefits.

g. Taxes, Social Security. No report.

h. Veterans. Co-Chair Norton (MOAA) gave an update on VA claims backlog numbers and progress. He also talked about an [op-ed](#) in the *WSJ* by former VA Secretary Anthony Principi about the issue. Also discussed was an issue with the American Legion and the IRS regarding membership information for 501(c)19 organizations. Diane Zumatto will send an article on the issue out after the meeting.

i. Health Care. Co-Chair Washington (FRA) said that he is getting an increasing number of questions from members of his organization regarding implementation of the Affordable Care

Act (ACA) and TRICARE. Also discussed was a change, effective October 1, 2013, regarding non-service connected care received in the VA for TFL beneficiaries.

Co-Chair Beasley (MOAA) extended an invitation to MOAA's [Warrior Family Symposium](#) on September 12, 2013 from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM. For complimentary registration, please use promo code **MOAA2013**.

j. **Membership and Nominations.** Bob Norton (MOAA) gave the report for Co-chairs Arcari and Rosenbleeth. There are no Board positions up for election. The Committee nominates: Mike Hayden (MOAA) to serve as Co-Chair through 2015. Mike Blum (MCL) to serve as Treasurer through 2015. Jamie Naughton (MOAA) to serve as Coordinator through 2015. Because Oct 3 will be Joe Barnes (FRA) last meeting with TMC, the committee nominates John Davis (FRA) to replace Joe Barnes and serve the rest of his term through 2014.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the October meeting as well as from the floor at the TMC meeting, following the TMC Board meeting at AFA, on November 7.

k. **Website.** TMC letter of support for H.R. 975 will be posted on the website shortly.

5. Old Business. None

6. New Business. Colleen Toussaint (AFWOA) announced that a new caregiver resource directory has been released. For more information, visit <http://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/>. To request a hard copy of the publication, email info@nrd.gov.

7. Good of the Order. Chris Slawinski (FRA) announced new protocol for entering FRA. To enter the building, use the new call box and key pad to dial 001, and then select either 108 or 103 to get buzzed in.

Anthony Wallis (AUSN) announced his organization has a new executive director, Vice Admiral John Totushek, USN (Ret).

Kathy Moakler (NMFA) reminded members that NMFA's sequestration-theme storming the Hill event will take place on September 12.

The November 7 TMC meeting will be held at AFA. Co-Chair Hayden (MOAA) will be sending invitations.

a. Appreciation was extended to FRA for hosting today's meeting. The next TMC meeting will be 10:00, **October 3, 2013** at FRA.

8. Adjournment: 11:05 AM this date.

Respectfully,
Jamie Naughton, Coordinator