

THE MILITARY COALITION

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MINUTES OF 7 March 2013 MEETING

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

1. The monthly TMC meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Strobbridge. All member organization representatives were present except: AFA, AMVETS, AAAA, AUSA, AUSN, CWOACG, REA, CPOACG, VVA, and WWP.

a. Pledge of Allegiance: Co-Chairman Strobbridge

b. Introductions: Mark Kilgore (FRA) and Alex Moresky (VFW).

c. Presentations: None

2. Co-Chair Discussion Items:

a. The Minutes for the 7 February 2013 meeting, previously provided electronically, were approved.

b. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Co-Chair Strobbridge told the group the House passed the CR and the President's budget should be out in March or early April. He pulsed those present as to whether they'd prefer to coordinate on the exiting draft testimony now, or wait until the President's budget is released - which could take a month. The group said the current testimony should be sent out for TMC coordination now, and that any necessary updates after the President' budget release should be coordinated separately. Mike Higgins has retired from the HASC staff, and Debra Wada's brother passed away.

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) said Christine Gallagher (NMFA) will replace Kathy Moakler (NMFA) as committee co-chair. July 1 is approaching and committee co-chairs need to submit nominations for the award.

b. **Guard and Reserve.** Co-Chair Madison (TREA) said he is waiting for two final organizations to coordinate on a TMC letter. Guard and Reserve Caucus breakfast will be on 14 March and will take the place of the monthly meeting.

c. **MilCon/MWR.** Co-Chair Holleman(TREA) had no report.

d. **MilPersonnel/Compensation/Commissaries.** Co-chair Moakler (NMFA) announced DECA employees are taking Wednesdays as a furlough day.

e. **Retired Affairs.** Co-Chair Davis (FRA) said the March 19th committee meeting is cancelled.

f. **Survivor Benefits.** Co-Chair Moakler (NMFA) said Congressional Fellows are getting calls on the Gold Star pin. TMC is taking no position.

g. **Veterans.** Co-Chair Brown (AFSA) said the recent joint HVAC/SVAC hearing at which many associations testified was well attended. HR 813, HR 562, HR 679 and HR 235 passed the House. All are TMC supported bills.

h. **Taxes, Social Security.** Phil Odom (MOAA) had no report.

i. **Health Care.** Co-Chair Washington (FRA): the committee bid farewell to Barbra Coohone (MNFA). The next meeting with United Health will be 20 March and TMA's meeting with TMC reps is next Thursday. There is no target date for implementation of mandatory mail order for TFL maintenance medications. The next committee meeting is 28 March at FRA.

j. **Membership and Nominations.** Co-chair Rosenbleeth (JWV) said nominations to replace Steve Strobridge (retiring in late April) as TMC Co-Chair are open. He nominated Mike Hayden, who will replace Steve as MOAA Government Relations Director, noting Mike's authorship of MOAA's "Fact or Fiction" brochure on myths concerning military personnel and healthcare costs. Election will be held at the April meeting.

k. **Website.** Jamie Naughton (MOAA), had no report.

5. Old Business. Audit committee met and submitted a favorable report on TMC's finances. TMC voted unanimously to accept the report.

6. New Business. None

7. Good of the Order. ROA: the Senate Caucus breakfast is 16 April. GSW: Rose Lee is in the hospital. JWV: thanked Chris Salwinski for his VSO work.

a. Appreciation was extended to FRA for hosting today's meeting. The next TMC meeting will be 10:00, 4 April 2013, at FRA.

8. Adjournment: 10:40 AM this date.

Respectfully,

Ed Dockery, Coordinator