



THE MILITARY COALITION

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

MINUTES OF August 7, 2014 MEETING

Air Force Sergeants Association. 5211 Auth Rd, Suitland, MD 20746

1. The monthly TMC meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Hayden. All member organization representatives were present except: AMVETS, AAAA, AUSN, EANGUS, GSW, MCL, MCRA, NGAUS, NCOA, ROA, TREA, CPOA, VVA, WFS. MOPH was excused due to their national convention.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance: Co-Chairman Davis
- b. Introductions: AFSA introduced their COO, Mark Stevenson
- c. Presentations: none
- d. Minutes approved for July 10, 2014 meeting.
- e. Treasurer's report approved.

2. Co-Chair Discussion Items: Co-Chair Davis (FRA) said that H.R. 3230 was being signed by the president today at a ceremony at Ft. Belvoir. The TMC Awards will be held September 11 at ROA. The first member of TMC organizations has free admission; every additional member will cost \$20. Payments should be made to The Military Coalition and sent to Mike Blum at MCL.

USA Today approached TMC to take out a Veterans Day ad. TMC declined, but encouraged any interested individual organizations to participate. Davis told TMC members that FRA will send *USA Today* advertisement information to TMC members.

A memorial service for Marshall Hanson will be held at ROA on August 12 at ROA.

3. Coordinator Announcements: No report.

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

a. **Awards.** Eileen Huck (NMFA) discussed upcoming awards ceremony. She said all award recipients have accepted invitation.

b. **Guard and Reserve.** John Davis (FRA) reported on behalf of Committee Chair Larry Madison (TREA). Madison will be sending an update for the next committee meeting. Co-chair elections will be held then.

c. **MilCon/MWR.** No report.

d. **MilPersonnel/Compensation/Commissaries.** Co-Chair Grugin (AFSA) informed TMC of several MLA staff changes in Congress. He urged TMC members to inform their members to respond to MCRMC survey, if they get it in the mail.

Co-Chair Moakler (NMFA) discussed two sections of the House NDAA that were concerned to the committee: section 538, regarding unpaid leave for childbirth, and section 621, regarding relocations.

e. **Retired Affairs.** Co-Chair Davis (FRA) discussed Senate amendments to the NDAA. After meeting with Senator Reid's office, there will be amendments to expand concurrent receipt. The committee is looking to get an amendment filed to extend the sunset of SSIA for widows.

f. **Survivor Benefits.** Co-Chair Holleman (TREA) discussed provisions of the expansion of eligibility for Fry Scholarships in H.R. 3230. The committee has concerns about the benefit's eligibility date (date of death of the service member vice date of enactment of eligibility for the scholarship).

g. **Taxes, Social Security.** No report.

h. **Veterans.** Co-Chair Norton (MOAA) discussed provisions in H.R. 3230. Davis mentioned Agent Orange Ship Accountability Act provisions in House and Senate NDAA.

The next committee meeting will be September 3 at MOAA.

i. **Health Care.** Co-Chair Beasley (MOAA) discussed a new report by GAO calling for the elimination of USFHP. Beasley also mentioned TRICARE nurse hotline has been activated. The next committee meeting will be September 25 at 8:30 AM at FRA.

j. **Membership and Nominations.** Co-Chair Rosenbleeth (JWV) announced that at the November TMC meeting, John Davis (FRA) will be up for reelection as TMC Co-Chair, Herb Rosenbleeth (JWV) will be up for reelection as TMC President, and Phil Odom (MOAA) will be up for reelection as TMC Secretary. **Nominations for these positions should be submitted to the Membership and Nominations Committee by September 30.**

k. **Website.** No report.

5. Old Business. COA asked about the status of a TMC Communications Committee. The committee will be ad hoc and is looking for volunteers.

6. New Business. IAVA announced that there will be an executive order to combat suicide announced soon, most likely at the American Legion national convention.

7. Good of the Order. USAWOA said that they have a corporate sponsor looking to raise awareness for awarding the Presidential Medal of Freedom to the creator of the GI Bill. Inquiries should be directed to Jack Du Teil at (usawoed@verizon.net).

IAVA announced that Tom Tarantino was leaving to accept a position at Twitter.

MOAA invited people to attend its Warrior-Family Symposium on September 10 at the Ronald Reagan Building.

a. Appreciation was extended to AFSA for hosting today's meeting. The next TMC meeting will be **10:00 AM, September 4, 2014 at AFSA.**

8. Adjournment: 9:55 AM this date.

Respectfully,
Jamie Naughton, Coordinator