

Minutes from the Meeting of the 452d Alumni Association

Date: 11 October 2014

Place: Cloisters/Residence of James Sperl

Time: 1145 Hours

Attendees: Anderson, Drellos, Hoard and spouse, Lovering, Nicoud, Mehring, Peters, Preston, Richtmyre and spouse, Scheeler, Sperl, St. John, Ufnowski, and Ziemendorf: Total: 16

A. Roll Call:

President: Mehring

Vice President: Nicoud

Treasurer/Administrative Assistant: Preston

Secretary: Ufnowski

Historian: Nicoud

B. Reports:

1. President's Report:

- None. Commented on the sudden passing of Mr. Thomas G. Nardelli, a member of the association.

2. Vice President's Report: None.

3. Secretary's Report: Minutes from the meeting of 17 May 2014 were read and accepted.

4. Treasurer's/Administrative Assistant's Report:

- (Treasurer) Currently there is \$4349.27. This amount can vary based upon any expenditure, reasonable and necessary, to include the annual dinner and for memorials for deceased members and their immediate family..

(Additional comments from the membership: Requests from military funeral honors can be made through the Veterans Administration. There will be no future burials at the Wood Cemetery. Reservations for future interments are being accepted for the Union Grove site.)

- (Administrative Assistant)

a. There have been problems in the sending of e-mails for the meeting agenda. Different procedures will be used to transmit future e-mails.

b. Discretion is being exercised in screening before the forwarding e-mails being received on non-military and military-related matters to members. An example of one such e-mail, which was forwarded, was on discounts to seniors and retired military personnel (Mr. Pugens)

C. Old Business:

1. Annual Dinner at the North Hills Country Club: Feedback on the food, parking and access has been favorable. An observation was made that the turn out was lower than had been anticipated.

Discussion:

a) Mr. Anderson: October is a good month for the dinner.

b) Mr. Preston: Would the membership entertain a motion to invite a surviving member's spouse? Does the surviving spouse retain membership in the association? (Motion was seconded. Motion was approved.) Invitations will be sent to surviving spouses with current addresses to all future events.

c) Ms. Scheeler would like future dinners for Friday evenings. The consensus was that Fridays and Sundays are acceptable.

d) The first choice for the site of the next dinner would be the North Hills Country Club. (Motion made. Seconded)

e) Mr. Preston: What would be the availability of dates for the next calendar year? Mr. Lovering accepted the responsibility to contact the country club as to the availability for dates in October 2015.

f) Door prizes are nice feature. Should door prizes be optional? Should every attendee receive a door prize? (Motion made and seconded that the solicitation for door prizes should be made optional. This motion includes the decision that not all attendees should receive a door prize.

g) Should all non-members and their guests pay the same costs of the dinner as a member and their guest (spouse/significant other, etc.)? The consensus of the membership was that the events are solely for its members. Non-members may be invited but are not entitled to the benefits of membership. Events such as the dinner and the baseball game, for example, have on occasion been subsidized through the treasury. This is done to encourage attendance and foster camaraderie. The cost of the members will not be the same as that of the visitor.

2. RAD at Fort McCoy: (Mr. Preston) This event features speakers and displays. Attendees can field questions and have an answer on a variety of matters pertaining to the membership.

Medical Coverages:

There are changes being proposed to drop TRICARE Prime, plus add premiums.
As of 1 October the costs of SCRIPTS rose. Generic prescriptions are favored over others in a tier.
DELTA Dental costs have lowered to around or about \$50.00.

3. Historical Picture Albums:

The pictures were displayed at the annual dinner.

Mr. Richtmyre is in the process of digitizing all of the pictures into separate albums via decades. Unfortunately, reprints in many of the pictures from the era of the 1960's are unidentified as are some from the more recent history of the hospital. This creates a problem, which cannot be solved without the assistance.

Mr. Anderson suggested contacting CSM Bob Nienas or COL Cook. Both soldiers preceded any of our members being in the hospital unit in its earlier years. It was left open as to the contact with the retired CSM.

Ms. Scheeler volunteered to perform photo screening, plus putting up the display as parties.

D. New Business:

1. Brewers Game 2015: Ms. Gormley has volunteered to take charge of coordinating the Brewers Game for 2015. A block of 30 tickets will be purchased. The target month would be June. Costs are unknown. Tickets are purchased on a first come basis.

2. Annual dinner 2015: Your attention is invited to comments under "Old Business". October 2015 is the anticipated month.

3. Guidelines for Alum/Family Member Death:

Discussion: Should a donation in the name of the deceased or flower tribute be purchased for association member and spouse? What should be the maximum allowance for a donation or a floral arrangement?

Motion made for the maximum allowance of \$100 for a donation or floral tribute.

The motion included limiting the allowance to an active member of the association. \$50 for spouse and children. The motion was seconded. The membership voted to accept this as policy.

4. Next Meeting January 2015 being moved to 5 December 2014:

Discussion: Motion was made to move the January 2015 meeting to Friday, 5 December 2014. The purpose is to have a holiday/Christmas social. This would be at the Cloisters (residence of Mr. Sperl), from 1830 to 2030 hours. E-mail will be (has been) by the Administrative Assistant to the membership.

Motion was made. Seconded. A vote of the membership approved moving the January 2015 meeting to 5 December 2014.

Discussion: Under consideration was to increase or to keep meetings at three per year (January/May/October). Consensus of the membership is to keep the number of meetings to three per year.

5. Meeting Schedule for 2015:

Next meeting is scheduled for 2 May 2015.

E. Good of the Order Membership:

1. Mr. Dick Hanson joined the association. He served in the 452d General Hospital in the 1960's. He was a wardmaster.

2. Mr. Anderson asked that any and all members call or make a visit to COL Cook. Age has placed limits on her availability to be at meetings or future association events.

3. There has been no update on SGM Horwitz. Mr. Preston has made numerous attempts to reach her on the telephone without success. There is not an answering system on which to leave a message.

4. Mr. Brunner has a new address. Evidently, he has moved into a residence at the Gables. An exact, current address is appreciated being sent to the Administrative Assistant.

5. Mr. Preston read Mrs. Marcia Nardelli's thank you for the association's floral tribute and to those who attended Tom's service.

NOTE:

Military Honors: How a deceased soldier can receive military honors at their funeral services?

1. Tell the funeral home director that the deceased was a member of the armed forces.
2. Proof for eligibility is the DD Form 214, a discharge order, or an assignment order to the Retired Reserve.

3. Without any of the documents listed, the funeral home director can use the deceased veteran's Social Security Number to access the Wisconsin Veterans Affairs Office.
4. There are two websites which can be accessed: www.ebenefits.va.gov and www.va.gov.
5. The Wisconsin Veterans Affairs telephone number is 1-800-827-1000.

(If at all possible, use the websites, the telephone number take a caller through 6 options. Using the websites, a veteran can updates everything that is if you have computer savvy.)