

STAR OF THE NORTH CHAPTER

United States Army Warrant Officers Association



MINUTES REVITALIZING CHAPTER MEETING

8 AUGUST 2013

VETERAN'S SERVICE BUILDING

1. The meeting was brought to order by Tina Podratz at 1815 hours at the Veterans Service Building, Saint Paul, MN. The members stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. The following members were in attendance:

CW5 (ret) Howard Lundin	Member
CW5 Peter Panos	Member
CW3 Tina Podratz	Member
CW2 Michael Begley	Member
CW4 Kip Knudson	Guest

The following members were representative by proxy (email):

CW5 (ret) Lloyd Thyen	Member
CW4 (ret) David Pierce	Member
CW5 (ret) Tom Wilharber	Member
CW4 Brent Jensen	Member
CW4 (ret) Donald Nesheim	Member
CW5 (ret) Frances Kienlen (BergerKienlen)	Member
CW2 Joseph Douty	Member
CW4 Robert Gunderson	Member
CW3 (ret) LeRoy Elfmann	Member
CW4 (ret) Kevin Appel	Member

3. Ms. Podratz served as acting Secretary for the meeting.

a. Mr. Lundin confirmed that a quorum was available to conduct business based on the number of members present or represented by proxy.

b. There were no previous Chapter Meeting Minutes for review.

4. Mr. Lundin presented the History of the Chapter.

- a. Mr. Lundin discussed what the chapter had done in the past for fund raisers, marketing, community involvement, and as well as providing mentorship and comradeship for the Warrant Officers.
- b. Mr. Lundin made a motion to reactivate the Chapter. Mr. Begley second. Motion passed.
- c. Discussion took place about marketing and recruiting new members into the chapter by reaching out to those graduating at Fort Rucker or the State WOCS program; contacting accessions command for USAR, WOSM for ARNG.

5. Nomination of Pro-term Officers.

- a. Nomination from Mr. Begley for Ms. Podratz to be President and Mr. Lundin to be Vice President. Mr. Panos second. Motion passed.

6. New Business.

a. Agenda for new chapter. Discussion ensued regarding what we want to do as a chapter. It was decided that we would solicit feedback from our USAWOA Chapter members on what we should establish as goals. We accept the national level Professionalism, Representation, and Recognition and that we are an organization with the opportunity to do good for the community.

(1) How do we want to define ourselves? Who are we? What do we do? Information source for new to retired warrant officers, benefits, grow personally and professionally.

(2) Building / Recruiting. Get the word out. Tri-fold for marketing "What's In It For Me?" (WIFFM.)

(3) Going forward. Webmaster / Facebook.

b. Agenda for next month.

(1) Solicit input via a request for information (RFI) on what the Chapter Members would like to see us defined with suspense to get emails replies by mid-September.

(2) Itemize all input to be prioritized at meeting and develop a COA; items such as Quarterly Social Event; Spouses dinner; WOPD; Mentorship; assist family of deployed personnel, etc., staying in-line with National.

(3) By-laws will be sent out and reviewed at next chapter meeting.

c. Selection of location for next month and future meetings.

(1) Location options to possibly get more MN WOs and Retired MN WOs to attend were identified as: Little Falls (Camp Ripley), Saint Cloud, Fort Snelling Officer Club, Brooklyn Park, Monticello, Duluth, and to use VTC sites with approval of commands.

(2) Next meeting to be held on September 26, 2013 at 1800 at a location TBD.

(3) For future Chapter Meeting Dates, we will try to establish a common Monthly Chapter Meeting date so that it will be easier to remember when the Chapter meetings will be held, i.e. 1st Thursday of the month, second Tuesday, etc.

(4) It was noted that if we should conduct a non-profit event at organization events, such as a WO PD day and this will lend credibility to our group at their location.

7. Mr. Lundin was appointed as Treasure and Ms. Podratz was appointed Secretary until more members are present.

9. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1915 by Mr. Begley, seconded by Mr. Lundin and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

/////original signed/////

TINA L. PODRATZ

Acting Secretary

/////original signed/////

TINA L. PODRATZ

Chapter President Pro-Term