

MEMORIAL RIFLE SQUAD
FORT SNELLING NATIONAL CEMETERY
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SATURDAY - JANUARY 4, 2020
ROSEVILLE AMERICAN LEGION

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 1000 Hours - Commander Pluta

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; Officer of the Day - Ken Gibson

INVOCATION - Chaplain - Alan Krueger

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS; - Commander Pluta

Commander	Mike Pluta	Present
Vice Commander	Richard Geis	Present
Adjutant	Harry Braaten	Excused
Finance Officer	Bill Lee	Present
Quartermaster	Rich Asbury	Present
Ordinance Officer	Howard Tellin	Present
Historian	Jim Jore	Present
Trustee	Bob Nelson	Present
	Jack Wallace	Present
	Bob Selden	Present
Web Site Co-ord.	Ken Tibesar	Present
Officer of the Day	Ken Gibson	Present
Medical Officer	Gerry Ballot (acting MO)	Present
Chaplin	Alan Krueger	Present
Judge Advocate		

ROLL CALL OF SQUAD LEADERS;

Monday	Mike Rose	Present
	Allan Johnson (assist.)	Present
Tuesday	Dan Fischer	Present
	Dale Mallberg (assist)	Present
	Lee Aragon (assist)	Present
Wednesday	Mike Hanzal	Present
	Bob Nelson (assist)	Present
	Ken Tibesar (assist)	Present
Thursday	Ray Frisvold	Present
	Dave Fleming (assist)	Present
Friday	George Weiss	Present

Charlie Kotlath (assist.) Present
Mike Pluta (assist) Present

HONORED GUEST;

KIMBERLY WRIGHT FSNC
JOHN KNAPP FSNC

HONORARY MEMBER;

JIM HOEY AUTHOR

70 Memorial Rifle Squad Members were present.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA: Commander Pluta
Motion to accept was made.
Motioned was seconded.
Motion was carried.

MINUTES - - from September 21, 2019.
Approved after 30 day posting, no changes made.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

Vice Commander – Rich Geis
Talked about how well the (picnic)40th Anniversary went.
That he will stand by the Commander to keep MRS going.

Adjutant – Bill Lee reporting for Harry Braaten.
The Thank You letters are going out in 1 – 2 weeks after the donation
Has been recorded.
MRS Manual is coming along, but slowly.
There will be additional names that will need to be added
To the Ballot.
By Law change – Making the Vice Commander and Judge Advocate
One position.

Finance Officer – Bill Lee
The Trustees held an audit earlier in the morning,
All is in agreement.
Bill then discussed the finances of the MRS.
An end of the financial report was passed out for discussion and then
recollected.

Quartermaster – Rich Asbury

All things are good, everything that needed to be ordered by the end
Of the year, has been done.

Pouches for the collection of shells are on top of the locker.

Gary Klein, and Wednesday Squad very helpful past year,

If need white gloves they are placed on top of locker, same for
same for the pockets for collection of expanded rounds..

Trustees – Bob Nelson

Trustees meet with Bill Lee, FO> before the meeting, and would like to
Report all is very good.

Officer of the Day – Ken Gibson

No report.

Medical Officer – Not Present

No report.

Web site Co-ord. – Ken Tibesar

Web donations are down, but will keep working on.

Please check Roster info and give any updates to Jim Jore or myself.

COMMANDER'S REPORT:

Introduction of Director Kimberly Wright and John Knapp from the
Administration of Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

John Knapp comments and updates to FSNC.

Honor and Privilege to work in partnership with the Memorial Rifle
Squad to serve our veterans It is a great relationship that no
other National Cemetery has.

Updates;

Gate 3 renovations.

Grounds maintenance will be closing restrooms for renovation.

Gravesite renovations in certain areas.

Encourage MRS members to attend a "VA Town Hall" meeting,

(Have 1 per quarter).

Memorial Day.

Storage space donation.

Let John know if you have any questions.

Bob Peterson – Question about lead car between Flag and Visitors.

Discussion held, John Knapp would look into.

Bob Nelson – Shelter 5 – discussion on putting concrete over the rocks,

Members have fallen in area. John Knapp, this has been a topic
of discussion and is on the FSNC radar

Lee Argon – Expansion of the Rifle Squad Room – next renovation,
As it was an oversight now.

Jim Albrecht – Section Q – To remain flat stones (Markers)
Not to put in upright marker. Decision made by NCTo

SQUAD LEADERS REPORTS:

Monday – Mike Rose – 21 members on the roster.
19 active, all doing fine.

Tuesday – Dan Fischer – 26 members on roster, (463 Honors, 2019)
3 inactive with medicals.
Jim Mahoney, new member.
Provide Honors for Archie Hazard, in Cannon Falls.

Wednesday – Mike Hanzal - 26 members on roster.
4 medicals, about 20 active during winter.

Thursday – Ray Frisvold - 25 members on roster,
2 inactive with medicals.
4 snowbirds.

Friday – Ernie Denzer (assist) reporting – 25 members on roster
18-20 normal
New member – Jeff Resinco

COMMANDERS REMARKS:

Remarks about the 40th Anniversary (picnic). This was set up to Honor
Our Korean War Veterans. A Plaque was presented to those Veterans
On behalf of the MRS.
Richard Geis presented Ray Frisvold his plaque, as he was not in
Attendance of the picnic.

Update on the new Coats – Lee Aragon, mentioned that Monday and
Tuesday Squads have received their coats, and are paid for.
Wednesday Squad should receive theirs by the end of January.
Thursday and Friday squads should receive theirs by the end on
February.

Dan Fischer commented the Lee did a lot of foot work, and gave a
Thank you to Lee for pursuing this task.

Taking an oral vote, to place the office of Judge Advocate
With the duties of the Vice Commander.
Judge Advocate duties are the following,

The duties are to provide advice to the Memorial Rifle Squad
Officers regarding contract, protocol during official meetings
And be familiar with “Roberts Rule of Order”, and the “Articles

Of Corporation”, “Constitution”, “By-Laws”, and the “Manual Of Procedures” of the Memorial Rifle Squad, Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Discussion;

Make this a temporary position.

Need of a professional Lawyer for advice. (Vietnam service lawyer).

Dan Fischer mentioned John Baker, a criminal lawyer, who Helped the American Legion Post 39, No. St. Paul.

Bob Nelson, suggested splitting into two positions,

One for MRS, and other for outside council for legal Matters.

Motion was made to combine the Vice Commander and Judge Advocate position for our meetings and protocol.

Motion to accept by Geo. Weiss.

Motion seconded by Terry Sventek.

Motion Carried.

Jim Hoey (The only Honorary MRS member) presented a check to the Commander, for the sale of his book about the Memorial Rifle Squad. Jim also gave a Thank you to all members for the Honor Bestowed to him.

Commander past out Commanders caps to all past MRS Commanders;

George Weiss

Richard Geis 2015

Clarence Dick

Allan Johnson 2017 (did not accept cap)

Dan Kirchnoffer 2018

Dan Fischer 2013

Bob Nelson 2011

Terri Winter 2014

Charlie Korlath 1986

Ray Frisvold 1996

Keep putting daily schedule in three-ring notebook.

Ken Tibesar mentioned that the schedules are archived back to August 2018.

Jim Jore, Talked about the roster and our deceased members, 7 members were not on the list of members deceased.

Remember the new procedure for deceased members of

The Memorial Rifle Squad.

A member of the MRS will stand his post at the Shelter of the deceased member, until all Family members have left the shelter and deceased has been Picked up for burial.

New members added to the roster NEED their full legal name And DOB.

All new members , Two copies of info to go to Jim Jore and Ken Tibesar.

All members should've received email concerning the use of the Post Exchange.

Memorian Board, there are several discrepancies on the board, Commander Pluta has put Rich Geis and Jim Jore in charge of Getting in order and correct.

Commander Pluta , by the end of his term, will put together a new Memorian Board, with the correct spelling And all updates of past members.

Ken Tibesar mentiond that the MRS has Flag boxes to give to Family members of the deceased Squad member.

Uniform Tailoring;

Shortening of the sleeves, tailoring of the pants, or collar of the Shirt, ARE THE RESPONSIBILTY TO BE PAID FOR BY THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER.

What a member gets for clothing, is what the MRS is going to Pay for.

Friday Squad would like to welcome back , member Ken Dallmann..

Ken has been out for 2 years dure to an accident.

The VA home will provide a van that will transport Ken From shelter to shelter.

Commander Pluta would like to thank all Officers and Squad Leaders For supporting him through his first year.

Commander is excited about visiting each Squad, and to call him If a member has any questions.

BALLOT FOR ELECTION:

Trustees handed out Ballot.

Rich Zech, Medical Officer, has given up the position, for family and Health issues. This is an appointed position. Commander will be looking for a new Medical Officer, If there are any names that would be interested, let Commander Pluta know.

Finance Officer – Bill Lee
Ordinance Officer – Howard Tellin
Quartermaster – Rick Asbury or Paul Porkorny
3 year Trustee – Sandy Kleinke or Wayne Duerfeldt
Chaplain – Alan Krueger o Rick Youngmark

RESULTS OF THE ELECTION:

TWO YEAR TERM – 2020-2022

BILL LEE – FINANCE OFFICER (UNCONTESTED)

HOWARD TELLIN – ORDINANCE OFFICER
(UNCONTESTED)

Motion, by Terri Winter, to approve Bill and Howard in respective Offices,

Motion seconded by Bob Nelson

Motion Carried.

RICH ASBURY – QUARTERMASTER

CHAPLAIN – ALAN KRUEGER

WAYNE DUERFELDT – 3 YEAR TRUSTEE

Motion to accept New Officers.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

Just a reminder to all Members, the January 2021 Annual meeting, we will have an election for the Commander, Vice Commander/Judge Advocate, and the 3 year Trustee.

Discussion about how rough some of the stocks on the rifles look. Remember that they are Govt. owned.
MRS will work with John Knapp as to the procedure for getting Cleaned up.

Commander reminded all members, that we are in a GREAT Partnership (over 40 years) with FSNC and that we are invited guest on the property. We have been welcomed since day 1. We have worked with Excellent Directors, and they have allowed us to do what we do.
PLEASE Remember the Chain of Command, it is there for a reason. Your Squad leader is in charge for that day.

Jim Smith – Question –
Are there any other National Cemeteries that do what we do??
John Knapp – YES – we have helped several get set up and started.
MRS has also supplied them with copies of the By-Laws and Constitution, etc.
We are the oldest Memorial Rifle Squad in the Nation.
We are the professionals, we are the Leaders.
(FSNC is labeled as the “Arlington Cemetery of the West”).

Mike Rose – comment on the heat issue that happened,
Again, this is Govt. property, go thru Chain of command.

Kimberly Wright – FSNC – we will be more reactive to issues.

Bernie Baumann – Shelter 5 funds –

Can MRS donate the \$\$ to have the concrete put in???

Kim/John /Mike will have to look into it.

Charlie Korlath comment – “We do not allow MRS to donate any funds received as a donation”.

Discussion about a proposed new shed that MRS uses for storage. Need of something that will last thru winter months.

Dave Fleming – New Flag Law in effect, (Nov. 7, 2019)

POW Flag should now be place next to the American Flag.

(82,000 MIA / POW are still missing.

Swearing in of the New Officers / Squad Leaders.

By John Knapp

Benediction

Salute to the Flag

Meeting adjourned 1145 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Braaten

Adjutant

Not approved, must be posted 30 days.

Memorial Rifle Squad- Deceased Members 2019

Bernie Reich	DAV CH 2	1/11/2019	Thursday
Archie Hazzard	1 st Marine Div.	6/4/2019	Tuesday
Ronald Root	VFW 8731	8/18/2019	Wed.
Earl Witcraft	AL 523	10/13/2019	Monday