

Memorial Rifle Squad
Annual meeting
June 12, 2021
Lost spur Event Center, Eagan Minnesota

Call to Order – Commander Pluta

Invocation – Alan Krueger

Pledge of Allegiance – Commander Pluta

Roll Call of Officers;

Commander – Mike Pluta

Vice Commander/ JA – Bill Lee – excused

Adjutant – Harry Braaten – excused

Ordinance – Interim – Paul Prokoey(appointed)

Howard Tellin retired from position.

Quartermaster – Rich Ashbury

Asst. Quartermaster – Gary Klein

Trustees – Wayne Duerfeldt

Bob Nelson

Jack Wallace

Historian – Jim Jore

Web site Coord. – Ken Tibazar

Medical Officer -

Roll Call squad Leaders;

Monday – Mike Rose

Assist. Allan Johnson

Tuesday – Dan Fisher

Assist. – Jerry Kosel

Wednesday – Mike Hanzal

Assist. Bob Nelson/Ken Tibazar

Thursday – Assist. Dave Fleming

Friday – Charlie Kolath

Assist. Mike Pluta

Welcome - Special Guest – John Knapp - FSNC Executive Director

Adoption of the Agenda – Motion carried.

March minutes Approved with no changes.

Officers Reports;

Vice Commander/JA No report

Adjutant – No report

Finance Officer –Report given by Dave Fleming - All books are in good shape

Donations from on-line are starting to get better, after the
Covid interruption.

Trustees –Bob Nelson - Finance books are all in good shape.
Audit completed in March for Leadership meeting.
Bob Seldon mentioned that MRS cannot receive more than \$50,000.00 in one year. (Does not matter how much is in checking account).

Quartermaster – Rich Ashbury
Commander thanks you for all your hard work in keeping supplies on hand. All in good shape
Web-site – Ken Tibazar
All good.
Comment is to fill refrigerator with water at end of duty day for the next day's squad.
Historian – Jim Jore
Thanks you from Commander picture taking, and maintaining records.
Looking forward to 2029, 50th Anniversary book.

Squad Leaders Reports;

Monday – Mike Rose
3 new members (1 Bugler).
Tuesday – Dan Fisher
24 on roster, 20 active, and 4 on long term absent.
New bulgur, 2 retirements.
Wednesday – Mike Hanzal
20 on roster, 16/17 weekly. Looking for a bugler.
Thursday – Dave Fleming
23 on roster, 16/18 weekly. 1 new in process with VA.
Bulgur Bob Volk retired, Jim Johnson has taken over for him.
Everything going well and all glad to be back together.
Friday – Charlie Kolath
25 on roster. Ready and willing to do whatever is asked of the Squad.
Past Friday would like to thank lead car drivers for doing a great job, by being on time. Made for enjoyable day.
Ken Tibazar mentioned the ride along with lead cars and how eye Opening it is with all the paper work that is involved.

Commander's report: 2-year summary.

Thanks to all for being at this meeting.
The last 2 ½ years have been a blur. NOT a MRS member caught covid -19. The commitment by all members during covid was fundamental for all safety.
The protocol that was put into place to get all ready and safe To back to doing our job.
The decision that NO ONE had to make, was to shut down the Squad

Room during covid.

+ IT WAS NECESSARY +

The recommendation now is to continue taking temperatures, but that will be up to the new commander.

Telling WCCO that we were standing down, breaking tradition of 40+ years.

Thanking Paul Pokorney for refinishing the rifles and for Dan Fisher and Robert Peterson for putting them back together.

Thanks to Bob Seldon and Ken Tibazar for getting the old shed down and moving all into the new convex box.

It has an Honor to be your commander and spokesperson.

“The experience has warmed my Heart”.

George’s funeral is June 19th, this date was picked as the first 6 members came out, the original founders.

Covid broke our norm, but didn’t break our spirit. WE HUNG IN THERE..

The decision was made to have a flyover for all past founders, Need a vote to approve...

Terri Winter made a motion to accept all Officers reports.

Motion was seconded and motion Carried.

Old Business;

MRS By-Laws were rewritten and passed out to all Squad Leaders.

New Business;

Covid protocol – required, No shots, must wear a mask.

Take Temps, and sanitize hands.

Ernie Denser – discussion on date change from short sleeve vs. long sleeve shirts to starting in June 2022.

There is confusion among some members, June, July

And August, short sleeve. September to May, Long sleeve.

Memorial Day activities, a committee made the decision to go with Long Sleeve with tie for that day.

Bob Seldon – could leave up to individual squad leaders to make that decision.

Dan Fisher – Tuesday will stay with what we have now. We like it.

Dave Fleming – Squads could wear the light jackets when cool, with Ties. Squad leader can make that decision. To change what we are doing, just for one event NO....

Gary Klien – shirts if needed are in the back room in the squad room. Use them...

Motion made to change date from May 1 to June 1 for short sleeves

Motion seconded. Motion Failed. MRS will stay with what we have..

Discussion about old rain gear. Rain gear donated to a group and they Made a donation to the MRS.

Mike Hanzel made a Motion to accept the commanders decision for the fly over, Bob Seldom seconded. Motion passed.

Bob Seldon – discussion about January 2022 Election.
Motion by Terri Winter to change the Chaplains position from and elected position to an appointed position. Motion seconded Motion Chaplain to become an appointed position, starting in January of 2022.
Election to be held for the offices of;
Finance Officer, Ordinance Officer, Quartermaster and a 3-year Trustee.. Terms to expired in January of 2024.

Bob Nelson made a motion to return to the Apple Valley American Post for the January annual meeting in 2022.
Seconded by Terri Winter. Motion Carried.

Bernie Denzer – Point of Order –
IRS 501-3c open up donations.
Tom Wallace – 501C IRS better as a 509-19 – veterans group.
501-3C vs. 501-19 Not the same.

Ken Tibazar - Point of Order
VFW and AL are not 501-3C
Motion to have,

Ernie, Tom, Finance Officer and Trustee to work together as a committee to give presentation to membership at the January 2022 annual meeting.
Have all resources necessary to bring to membership.
Motion seconded, motion carried.

Rain Gear –
Discussion. Suggested to donate old rain gear, keeping 6 , and giving the rest to an organization. Made into a motion, motion seconded, motion carried.

Parkas are cleaned and will be added to the January 2022 agenda.

John Knapp – FSNC

Discussion about the hours for the MRS.

Cemetery Procedure is in the future or proposed schedule be
From 10:00am – 2:00pm, and optional is necessary to go to 2:30pm.

A Thank you from Mr. Knapp for all that MRS does at Fort Snelling
National Cemetery the last 43 years. MRS is a special feature and a very important
component that make FSNC a wonderful place.

Thank you to Commander Pluta for his steady hand for the
organization.

Topic is the schedule;

Past, it has been 10 -2 for the slots on the schedule for the MRS.

Old schedule has had 32 time slots a day, this is very hard on the
Cemetery staff.

15 was the max number of services for the MRS.

During the covid interim, went to a 9-2 – new operation model.
Most was 14 services.

Now there are 24 time slots to give more time between services.

Future – MRS going back to 10 – 2, with 11 max services.

2 services at the top of the hour,

2 services at the 45

2 services at the bottom

= 24 from 10 – 2 can this happen NO....

Reality for time slots is 19. MRS????

Split squads A-team and a B-team,

Going to stay with current schedule that we have now.

Questions/Discussion

Mike Rose – Monday squad does not want to be split.

(St Louis call center does 155 schedule for cemeteries each day, Minnesota is
number 14.

Don F. – What is the minimum requirement for personnel?

DOD Honors have 2 – 3 people.

Commander Pluta, MRS - 7 is the min.

Terri Winter By-Laws state 12 is min.

(Not in the By-Laws, but Manual of Procedure.)

John Knapp – 92% of 2600 vets want MRS Honors, Not the DOD.

Schedule is now for 24 services a day to mid July.

42 yr. history, MRS has marketed to the Funeral Directors.

What about families that come in late, staff still has to get all paperwork
done,

Bob Seldon, - Need to stress to Funeral home to be on time.

Need a vote.

Are we willing to do what is asked of us??

Are we willing to take care of the Veterans???

Motion to change hours to 9 -2, possibility to 2:30 to 10 – 2 and possible 2; 30

If needed. Want to get back to 10 – 2..

How are we going to handle 2 at a time?

Discussion followed

Motion made to go from 9 -2 with option for going to 2:30.

Motion seconded.

Motion Carried

Need to change By-Laws.

Ernie – Historical marker memorial, getting it right and getting on the wall.

Vote 40% - Terri Winter can't vote not a quorum.

(10 men constitute a quorum)?????

Voting now to be done for the Commander

Vice Commander/Judge Advocate

3-year trustee

Bob Nelson and Wayne Duerfeld will hand out ballots, collect and count ballots.

RESULTS:

Commander – Bob Seldon (term expires January 2023)

Vice Commander/Judge Advocate – Ernie Denzer (term expires January 2023).

3 yr. Trustee – Jack Wallace

Tom Mullen – We need to remember the deceased members from the last 1-½ years.

Salute to Flag

Benediction

Meeting adjourned. 12:00pm

Minutes official after 30 days without any changes.

Harry Braaten

Adjutant – 2021 - MRS

