



**Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad
MRS Leaders Meeting
March 11, 2023
Fort Snelling Squad Room**

1. Call to Order – Commander Denzer, 0900
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Terry Winters
3. Invocation – Chaplain Ricky Youngmark
4. Quorum – Mike Pluta Friday Squad Leader, Ernie Denzer Commander, Bill Lee. Quarter Master, Dick Middleton. Vice Commander, Bob Nelson Trustee, Joe Starr Trustee, Mike Rose Monday Squad Leader, Terri Winters Officer of the Day, Jerry Kosel. Recruiter, Dan Fisher Tuesday Squad Leader, Jim Folstad Finance Officer, Paul Pokorsky, Ordinance Officer, Ken Tibesar Web Master and Wednesday Ast Leader and Adjutant for the Day, Dave Fleming Thursday Squad Leader, Tom Mullon Medical Officer, Ricky Youngmark Chaplin, Jim Jorge Former Historian, Mike Hanzel. Wednesday Squad Leader
5. Director of Fort Snelling – Dr. Huth was present thanking MRS for our work. He explained that we are the Veterans and their families last stop. Fort Snelling will be open for another 35 to 40 years before space is fully used. Currently at 70% cremations, the family hold the ashes and schedule interments for the summer.
6. Squad Leaders Reports
 - a. Commander – everything going well, new members on roster
 - b. Vice – activities and leaning the job is much larger than anticipated.
 - c. Monday – Mike Rose, 23 members, delays by VA Services in vetting new members
 - d. Tuesday – Dan Fisher, 23 active, 1 out medical
 - e. Wednesday – Ken Tibesar, 23 active members, 2 out due to medical
 - f. Thursday – Dave Fleming, 20 active, 2 new members, 1 member medical,
 - i. lunches not in a bag
 - ii. condiments inside the sandwich bag
 - iii. lunches Ernie will follow-up talking to the Vol Services
 - iv. New members – proposed be remote interview
 - g. Friday – Mike Pluta, 23 on roster, losing 1, new member
7. Officers Reports
 - a. Adjutant – Ken Tibesar for Dan Goedken, Dan is responsible for maintaining the roster, report roster changes, rosters online, discussion on content of the roster
MOTION: Simplify the printed roster, reduce website to eliminate military rank

and military job name. Branch, year joined MRS, Veterans Service Organization (Am Leg, VFW, et.), to be retained. All squads roster to squad leaders and officers only

- b. QM – Bill Lee, forms to be filled out for new members available, placed a box in the Squad Locker for misc. items such as belt buckles, pins, etc. Supplies: lots of items in the outside storage, Ammo boxes available, just ask. Raincoats – someone ordered 5, VIP hats available to give out to VIP visitors
 - c. Treasurer report – Jim Folstad, donations need to know who it is for and family name/address. Adjutant send THANK YOU
 - d. Website – Ken Tibesar, online registration for new members, need new list of current officers for the website.
 - e. Ordinance Officer – Paul Pokorsky, more difficult to get parts but maintaining rifles
 - f. Medical Officer – Tom Mullon, Please keep updated medical information on each member, carry on the bus, id suicidal tenancies brochures available, AED operations training was discussed.
 - g. Historian – Open, Jim Jore joined the meeting and discussed the importance of historian role, next year 45th anniversary, I'm 81 years old and now asking for help from someone younger, Terry Winters willing take the role.
 - h. Trustees – Joe Starr, books reviewed and balanced.
8. Old Business –
- a. Previous meeting minutes were accepted.
 - b. Clarion – Dick Middleton –
 - i. Promoting the repair and activation of the Cemetery Carillon.
 - ii. Letter from Dept of Veteran Affairs, Exec Director of Engagement and Memorial Innovation, partnering with Am Leg Post 580
 - iii. Fort Snelling admin approval
 - iv. Have \$15,000 donation, estimated Carillon cost \$90,000
 - v. No funds possible from MRS
 - vi. Am Legion Post 580 member and Dick working together
 - vii. The project is not approved as a 501 c3 approved. Saving account at Wells Fargo.
 - viii. MRS members asked for individual private donations – all funds for the project are desired only from military donations.
 - ix. Will visit each squad for program donations and presentation to the MRS maintenance crew.
 - c. New Space Committee update – Tom Mullon for Lee Aragon
 - i. MRS would like a new free standing building versus moved to an existing
 - ii. Working with an architect on plans for MRS space
 - iii. Building plans available on request
 - iv. Timeline is not defined
 - d. Bus Maintenance
 - i. New seats with durable materials
 - ii. a/c cannot be tested to see if it needs repair until summer
 - iii. paid for Veterans for Veterans Foundation

9. New Business –

- a. Roster Size – Mike Pluta, proposal to increase from 25 to 27 members on each squad. Increase has been approved. Daily Squad Leaders may individually increase the size of their squads, to a maximum of 27 active members, as needed.
- b. By laws – Dick Middleton, proposed changes presented
 - i. Bylaws changed only 1x per year at our January Meeting.
 - ii. Proposed changes for Squad Leader to allow dismissal of a member – don't want a board for review
 - iii. Quorum requirement proposed to be removed. To be discussed at our June Meeting.
- c. New Members – Jerry Kosel – 39 names on the website “join” list. I need input from squads on their needs for new members. Please have anyone interested that contact you directly in becoming a member, have them sign-up on the “join” page on the website. TV stations publications were very good at helping add members.
- d. Discussed a proposal to put 3 substitutes on each squad adding backup to anyone being absent. No Motion made. Currently all squad members will continue be full squad members. Squad Leaders will manage their squad memberships relating to squad sizes and individual attendance.
- e. Let Recruiter (Jerry) and Adjutant (Dan) know when the candidate has been added to a squad.
- f. Memorial Day – Commander, signup sheet will be available
 - i. Standing guard on tomb of unknown soldier
 - ii. Monday morning for service, looking for 21 people, sign-up sheet will be available.
- g. Meetings with Director – proposed quarterly meetings versus monthly. Will be discussed at the March 29 FSNC & MRS Leadership Meeting.
- h. Closing Comments
 - i. Squad room chairs will be taken outside for cleaning
 - ii. Tom Mullen – compliment Leader and members for having operations and coordination going well.
 - iii. Vice Commander – Comments from a Marine 101 years old that has attended number funeral and greatly appreciates the services that MRS provides.

10. Benediction - Ricky Youngmark

11. Officer of the Day - Terry Winters, Salute

12. Meeting Adjourned - 11:15

MRS Minutes, Respectfully Submitted

Ken Tibesar

Adjutant for the Day