

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBINS CHIEFS GROUP MEMBERS

FROM: Robins Chiefs Group Executive Committee

SUBJECT: November 2015 Robins Chiefs Group Meeting Minutes

1. Date/Time/Location: 20 Nov 2015 / 1530 / WELLston Lounge

2. Chiefs Present

Bell, James
Blankenship, Melanie
Burke, John-Paul
Butler, Jim
Davis, Anthony
Dawes, Conrad
Fite, David
Freeland, Kristine
Gray, Natalie
Johnson, Danny
Lopez, Larry
Marion, Wes
McConnell, Dean
Meadows, Don
Milan, Angel
Miller, Peggy
Mobley, John
Morris, David
Munson, Ernie
Orrell, Jack
Rodriguez, Andy
Serrano, Teresa
Stewart, Robert
Thomas, Michelle
Trotter, Steven
Wade, David
Williams, Billy

OPENING REMARKS: Larry Lopez called the meeting to order at 1530 hrs.

GUEST SPEAKER: Col Timothy Brester, 461 ACW Vice Commander

Reinforced Leadership taking care of Airmen; ensuring their safety and the safety of their families, taking it seriously; we loss people daily, how can we, in our everyday workings, reverse the trend and prevent
Emphasized the importance of perception; Senior Leaders have the responsibility to be cognizant of the message we are sending to our Airmen through not only our actions, but perceived actions; avoiding inappropriate situations that would contradict expectations and standards

POC: CMSgt Teresa Serrano, RCG Secretary, HQ AFRC/A4RX, DSN 497-1718

Focused on mentorship, not only of our Enlisted Airmen, but also our CGOs
Reminded us to make time for our Airmen, build relationships
Discussion turned to building relationships as we move further into Total Force Integration
When integrating, acknowledge the experience, build relationship, and then try to influence change over time; focus on teamwork, can't do it without each other, personalities drive relationships, come together to meet challenges
Perception of Senior Leadership carries over into retirement; focusing on influence in the community and making a difference promoting networking, community relationship potential, trust in Chiefs

3. Standard Agenda Items

HAILS/FAREWELLS: Natalie Gray

Hails

None

Farewells

Chief Orrell PCSing (recognized with Appreciation Certificate and group photo after meeting)

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES: Teresa Serrano

Minutes provided via email and hard copy at the meeting; Jim Butler motioned to accept minutes into record, motion seconded and approved

RCG FINANCE/TREASURY REPORT: Tanya Greene

Tanya Greene returning from TDY in which she was hand selected to represent all of NGB in regards to the Field Kitchen unit at the Senior Leadership Conference
Refer to Treasury Report

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: LaTrease Malone, not in attendance

FTAC: Natalie Gray

Nothing new to report; working with MSgt Gardner on COAs to bring to the group

ALS: Michelle Thomas

Chiefs Panel was this week, chili cook-off and volleyball game is next week
No Chiefs showed up for the last volleyball game, First Sergeants had to play for us
We need Chiefs to show up and play
Will send out a reminder

OPEN ITEM: resend solicitation for Chiefs to play in volleyball game – POC: Michelle Thomas

NCOPE/SNCOPE: Jamesha Barnes, not in attendance

Melanie Blankenship stated there was nothing to report

CHIEF'S CHOICE AWARD: Jim Butler

Accepting nominations through Dec, haven't received any yet - David Fite is working on a submission
Provided quick recap for newer members; quarterly recognition program, Chief nominates individual, panel selects, supervisor and Command Chief notified for presentation
Will send out criteria again

Still looking at gifts, coin – for now will include a Chiefs coin
TFI Award

OPEN ITEM: resend Chief's Choice award criteria via email – POC: Teresa Serrano

RCG STORE: Danny Johnson

Store is open for business

Working on getting Robins Air Base artwork to order new RCG coin

Would like to reduce prices on older merchandise in order to make room for new merchandise

Question as to whether there is a Quartermaster to take responsibility for Chiefs stuff in the cage; currently there is not, however, Larry Lopez assumed responsibility

OPEN ITEM: approve to reduce prices on older merchandise to move out in order to order new merchandise, consider appointing a Quartermaster-type position – POC: Executive Committee

4. Old Business

a. RCG Golf Tournament

CFC will not extend this year, will find out the first available date to raise funds

OPEN ITEM: confirm first available fundraising opportunity after CFC – POC: Steven Trotter

b. Shotgun Raffle

Awaiting end of CFC

c. Organization Donation Limits 501c

Discussion about the legal limitations of becoming a 501c organization; Wes Marion spoke to Ms. Varnadoe, 78 FSS, AFRC JA, awaiting response from Ms. Stone, 78 JA office and cross referenced the AFI; nothing prohibiting

Group understands that the Thrift Shop might be a 501c, know that the Officers Wife's Club is a 501c

Process is lengthy, but as long as group is established and on the same page, is not difficult

Group will need to discuss whether to hire a CPA or legal advisor to move forward once response from 78 JA

OPEN ITEM: coordinate with 78 ABW/JA about feasibility of making the RCG a 501c as well as an official private organization at Robins – POC: Wes Marion

d. Veterans HS Chiefs Group Visit

The original dates have passed, but will determine new dates to offer to group

Extended invitation to Veterans HS Christmas Lunch, 10 Dec, 1030-1200 hrs

Come out, meet with Staff and students, cadets will take us on a tour of the school

OPEN ITEM: send out invitation and collect RSVPs to provide to Peggy Miller – POC: Teresa Serrano

e. RCG Website

Awaiting determination on 501c until the future of website is decided, topic deferred

f. Chief's Dinner

Menu has been worked

Andy Rodriguez suggested pushing it back

Jim Butler motioned to move it to 22 Jan, motion was seconded and approved

g. Chief's Release/CRC Committee

CRC has been moved to 5 Mar

Discussed pushing it back more since that's only a couple weeks after the original date, but the Chiefs Release was pushed back a month; want sufficient time to do a good job

Commented that it doesn't matter when we do it, as long as we have enough time to make it the best it can be

Reiterated the need for last year's honorees to step-up and take part on this year's committees

OPEN ITEM: relook at available dates for CRC and move back – POC: CRC Committee Co-Chairs

5. New Business

a. Amending RCG meeting dates in Constitution

Discussion on the effect of UTAs on member participation and the possibility of moving scheduled meetings to third weekend to avoid UTAs

Jim Butler recalled history of meetings and how they have moved from Fridays to Thursdays, to Wednesdays and then back to Fridays

Will changing the day have any effect on participation; members that want to be here will be here, and members that cannot be here are back-briefed

Group decided not to change the date

b. Bringing the US Flag into the building

Danny Johnson brought up that there should be a flag in our meeting building

Larry Lopez and Andy Rodrigues are working on bringing in memorabilia to decorate the WELLston lounge in order to make it our own; that will include a flag

If anyone has items they can donate, please let Andy Rodriguez or any of the Executive Committee know

c. Restoring lost traditions

Discussion on bringing back traditions for newly promoted Chiefs in order to not only provide recognition, but provide mentorship and guidance

Brought up the Jeep tradition, but instead possibly bring back the Chiefs breakfasts

OPEN ITEM: find out about a place to have breakfast with the new Chiefs that all members can participate, i.e. retirees – POC: Executive Committee

COMMAND CHIEF'S FORUM:

David Wade

Reiterated Col Brester's comments; no relationship, no influence

Stripes will only get you so far, relationships foster real influence

Reminded group that this meeting is our "fire pit" referencing Col Brester's comment about Senior Leadership on base meeting at the fire pit to discuss issues and solutions

Provided insight on recent Chiefs Legal Orientation he attended, consult SJA, we are not lawyers
Remember, everything is our business, whether Enlisted or Officer issues

Let us know that Chief Leadership Course is making a comeback, 3-week course, April 16, 7 courses per year, possible recommendation to include CLO in the course

Discussion turned to the separation of the CRC and the Chiefs Release; process was detailed as far as the notifications, the Chief recognition bus tour, Release party

Teresa Serrano reiterated the importance of getting the information as far in advance as possible in order to have the stripes prepared; Steve Trotter said he would be able to provide the information for the AFSC and AFLCMC

Steven Trotter

Forced distribution; emphasized the need for Senior Leadership to refrain from establishing policy based upon the perception; wait until official guidance is released

Holiday season is upon us; suicides are in the triple digits, must engage with our Airmen to include mid-level supervisors, we have to do our part

50/50 DRAW: XXXXXXXXXXXXX won drawing; donated winnings to the group

Meeting adjourned at 1635 hrs. The next RCG meeting is 11 Dec 2015.

//signed//
TERESA L. SERRANO, CMSgt, USAFR
RCG Secretary

//signed//
FLORENCIO L. LOPEZ, CMSgt, USAF
RCG President