

MINUTES of NCMAC Quality of Life Subcommittee Mtg.

North Carolina Military Affairs Commission's Quality of Life Committee meeting held on Monday October 14, at 10 am. Meeting held at Robert Anderson's Office on Cool Spring Street in Fayetteville, NC.

Meeting called to order at 10:08 AM by the host, Robert Anderson

Those in attendance included:

Robert Anderson, John Matthews, George Breece, Paul Dordal, Vice Chair of the Commission, Senator Wesley Meredith, Scott Dorney, representing the NC Community Colleges, Doug Taggart, representing the NC Dept. of Public Instruction, and by phone Darryl Black, representing the Chairman of the Commission.

Not present and excused were voting committee members Joshua L. Glover and Bill Lehman.

Also, arriving at the meeting later was Lario Pantano, Director of the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs.

The opening of the meeting was turned over to Paul Dordal, Vice Chair of the Commission for the election of a Chair for the Quality of Life Committee. Nominations opened and Robert Anderson was nominated by Commission Members George Breece and seconded by John Matthews. Anderson was elected unanimously by those voting members present. Anderson then took over the meeting.

Darryl Black discussed by phone a number of military issues and announced the Governor's appointment of his new Military Advisor MG (RET) Cornell Wilson. Black asked that the committee please keep him informed on all issues moving forward. There was also discussion of where and when other committee meetings would take place within the Commission. Committee Chairman Anderson then spoke in detail concerning the issue of MWR funding being removed from the state budget and the history of that funding and wanting the Commission to work to reinstate that money in future budgets and provide similar funding to MWR's throughout the different bases.

Next there was a discussion of the NCMAC draft by-laws of 9/3/13 as well as other issues before the NCMAC. Commission Vice Chair Dordal spoke in depth as to the draft By-laws and the goals, objectives and process described in the draft By-laws. There were suggestions for three issues; 1. Appoint a community delegate, 2. Define clearly the interactions between the committees as a whole, 3. to have the Chairman and Vice Chairman be designees to break tie votes and for quorum purposes.

Committee Chairman Anderson nominated Breece to serve as the point of contact to Fort Bragg and that passed unanimously by the committee member present. Breece stated that he would be glad to serve but felt it more appropriate for the other members of the local delegation to have input as to who should be the POC from the local Fort Bragg delegation as to who that POC should be. Senator Meredith excused himself from the meeting and offered his continued help moving forward.

The Chairman appointed John Matthews to be the Liaison for the Quality of Life Committee with the Department of Public Instruction on Education Priorities as well as other educational issues that affect Quality of Life. Both Taggart and Dorney spoke to several education issues as well. Taggart is to forward some suggested educational issues to Matthews to bring before the committee.

Dordal spoke to the fact that this Commission is required to report to the Governor and General Assembly every six months and the committee's will be accountable for results and actions that move forward to the Commission. Dordal added that prioritizing issues will be the key to all of these issues facing the Quality of Life committee moving forward.

A motion was made by Matthews and seconded by Breece to approve the draft by laws with the three suggested amendments to that draft. The vote was unanimous in favor of the amended by laws.

Ilario Pantano, Director of the North Carolina Department of Veteran Affairs spoke about the NCDVA, its history and where he wishes to move forward from here. Director Pantano spoke about a legislative agenda moving forward and showed a detailed history of legislative activities over the past few sessions of the North Carolina General Assembly. Director Pantano also spoke about the next Legislative session in May and that NCDVA were considering a ten category North Carolina Veterans Initiative. Director Pantano went into detail on some of the issues and sought the input of the committee. Director Pantano said that the Administration was looking at the possibility of announcing this Veterans Initiative around Veterans Day on 11 November. Director Pantano said he would forward other information

to the committee members and would be available for any input. Director Pantano left for a meeting with Representative John Szoka. Committee Chairman Anderson asked if there were any other issues to be brought forward at this time. Those in attendance thanked Anderson for hosting the meeting. Matthews offered to host a meeting in Raleigh in the future. Motion to adjourn by Breece and seconded by Matthews was approved and the meeting ended at 12:13 pm.

Minutes recorded and prepared by George Breece, Committee and NCMAC
Commission Member