

THE ROOSEVELT MILITARY ACADEMY ROUGH RIDER ASSOCIATION, INC.

HOLIDAY INN HOTEL, ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2016

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BIENNIAL MEETING

Pursuant to due notice to the members of the Association, there being a quorum present of more than 20 members, President Jeff Koppel called the meeting to order at 0803 CDT.

Mr. Koppel reported on the last two years and the current status of the Association. He thanked the Officers and Committee Chairs for their participation.

Treasurer Gerald Feitler gave a report on the financial status of the Association indicating that there would be approximately \$3,000 in the bank when all the reunion bills were paid. He suggested the Association would be reaching out to members and alumni for donations in order to continue to publish the newsletter and subsidize future reunions as we have in the past. Our membership has been declining and the majority of members are Lifetime so we are not generating a lot of revenue from Association dues.

Mike Vagi gave an overview of Association membership and indicated that we currently have 86 members – the majority of which are Lifetime. We will concentrate on upgrading the Associate and Full members to Full and Lifetime respectively, particularly when members turn 68 years of age and are eligible to become Lifetime members for \$100. We will also make a focused effort to increasing the overall membership and Dale Ague has offered to help in this regard.

Bob Kramer indicated that we currently have approximately 100 pavers in the Armed Forces Memorial, although sales have been slow since the last reunion.

Election Chairman, Gerald Feitler, opened the election portion of the meeting by thanking Mike Vagi and Mel Bogus for “lighting the fire” under the Association which resulted in having a slate of candidates running for all the Board of Director positions for the 2016-18 term. Gerald explained that the By-Laws were amended to allow the consolidation of the Treasurer and Secretary positions and asked for a motion to do so for the 2016-18 term.

Motion to approve by Mike Vagi, seconded by Tom DeGraffenried and approved unanimously by the members.

Gerald then presented the candidates for the various Board of Director positions to the membership.

President: Mel Bogus

Vice-President: Jack Gwynne

Treasurer/Secretary: Gerald Feitler

Immediate Past President: Jeff Koppel

Board Member: Dale Ague

Charles Ewalt Sr. made a motion to approve the candidates presented by acclamation. Motion was seconded by Hugh DeGroff. The motion and second were approved unanimously.

Jeff Koppel then thanked the 2014-16 Board of Directors for their service and introduced incoming President Mel Bogus.

Mel addressed the attendees and asked for help financially as well as alumni to help the Association Board members with the various tasks needed to keep the Association a viable organization. He indicated that we need a Reunion Chairman for 2018 as well as an Election Committee Chairman. He also requested that we have help with increasing the Association membership from those alumni in the Roster and helping with getting financial contributions from our Alumni. He encouraged suggestions/ideas and you can contact him at either of the following telephone #'s: 936.588.1102 or 281.513.3333.

Jeff Koppel had one item of new business: He was asked for ideas/suggestions to add RMA flags to the new Aledo 911 Memorial and requested that the new Board of Directors take up this request.

Motion to adjourn was made by Charles Ewalt Sr. at 8:50 AM, seconded by Donald Sucher and unanimously approved by the members.

Respectfully submitted:

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Gerald Feitler, Incoming Secretary
(With a generous assist from Mr.
Mike Vagi)