

MINUTES
AIR FORCE RECRUITING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
(AFRAA)
August 19, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER:

In the absence of a formal committee, Bob Cantu, acting Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

The meeting was held at American Legion Post 593, 326 Legion Dr., Converse, TX 78109

2. QUORUM CHECK:

Until a formal committee is established, a quorum is not required.

3. PRESENT:

Bob Cantu
Ron Moore
John (Jack) Putalavage
Jerry Nelson
Denny Taylor
Dale Ullrich
Bob George

Ron Lajoie
Candy Moore
Don Haygood
Gregory Biava
Paul Hamilton
Dave Frutchey
Theo Jones

4. OLD BUSINESS:

Candy Moore, Interim Secretary, provided a copy of the Minutes from the previous meeting to members. After review by the members, a motion to approve the Minutes was made by Bob Cantu and seconded by Ron Lajoie. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Ron Lajoie briefed the membership on the status of the organizational Charter. The Charter Committee has met several times to structure the Charter draft. The initial document was sent to all members via email. Solicitation for changes resulted in some very good input. The input was provided to the Charter Committee who updated the Charter and presented the final draft to RS/CC for review. The

Charter draft was then forwarded to AETC/JAG for review and comments. Although approval by RS/CC or the AETC/JAG was not solicited, nor required, we submitted the Charter draft as a courtesy. We strive to establish a close and positive working relationship with RS. The proposed Charter was then emailed to all paid members for approval. As previously communicated, if no response was received it would count as a “yes” vote. The consensus of all votes was “yes” and the Charter was approved.

- B. Bob Cantu updated the membership on the progress of the website that was discussed at the previous two meetings. Karen Gordon, of Tagalong Design, came to the meeting with a product for the members to view. She is working closely with Andy Coppi and Bob Cantu regarding content. The cost to build and maintain this website is \$300. There was also a \$98.00 domain and hosting server fee (2-years pre-paid), which Andy Coppi paid to establish the initial site. Bob asked members for their opinions on this web site and the cost. Candy Moore stated that the cost is very reasonable compared to those she received when pricing another endeavor. A motion was made to approve the web site expenditure, including reimbursement to Andy Coppi for the initial \$98.00 investment. Jerry Nelson seconded the motion, the membership voted “aye”. The URL for this website is www.usafraa.org. It should be noted that a membership application and list of AFRAA members is available on the website. As with all ground floor endeavors, our website will evolve as our organization does and more information will be added and modified as needed.
- C. Don Haygood, a member of the newly formed Nominating Committee, gave the members an update on their efforts to get volunteers to run for the elected officer positions. This Committee called everyone they had phone numbers for to see if they would run for one of the offices. He was quite disappointed in the response, which was, for the most part, a very emphatic “no”. It seems that no one wants to step up to the plate and the only positive feedback was from individuals already involved in the establishment of this organization. To date, Jerry Nelson agreed to run for President; Andy Coppi for Vice President; Ron Lajoie for Secretary; and Stan Staples for Treasurer.
- (1) The membership discussed this topic at length and all agreed that we would like to have at least 2 individuals run for each position. The Nominating Committee will keep trying.
 - (2) Also discussed was the possibility of having the Vice President automatically take over as the President at the end of the term for the sake of continuity. It was decided that

this would not be a good idea since it would commit the VP to basically a two-year obligation. Also, the person holding that position might not work out and this could just exacerbate a bad situation.

- (3) Another area of discussion was the need to get our out-of-town members involved in the election process. This is a vital part of getting this organization off the ground, in large part, because there could be a perception that the organization is “clickish”. All agreed we do not want to give the appearance the organization is a San Antonio group. Getting those members outside the State involved could be a critical element in our success.
- (4) Ron Lajoie suggested we notify members at least two months in advance of the meetings as this would give our out-of-state membership a better opportunity to participate. Also, we might want to put out a yearly calendar once we’ve established a firm date for our regular meetings, such as the third Sunday of every month or something along those lines.

D. Jerry Nelson informed the members that our paid membership is now at 121; however, new membership has stagnated. He proposed that we all get back to our recruiting mentality and recruit five (5) new members each. Also, this challenge should go out via our email to all members because they are in touch with former recruiters from all over the country. This is an excellent opportunity to increase our membership and to use the new website as a recruiting tool and instructions for membership. All agreed to this idea.

E. Bob Cantu has been informed that RS will host their “annual” in November and we have been offered a conference room to meet with all the Groups and explain our organization and purpose. It is his understanding that we will be invited to some of the briefings and the golf tournament. He will get the exact dates and let everyone know at the next meeting. Also, he said that our RS Representative is the Senior Recruiter, CMSgt Ed Vargas.

6. MEMBER ITEMS:

Bob George asked for clarification on the purpose of the organization and Bob Cantu reiterated for him with emphasis on our role in Blue Suit. This prompted a suggestion from Dale Ullrich that AFRAA should possibly move towards obtaining sponsorship for Blue Suit versus being a sponsor. All in

attendance thought this was a great idea, especially since this is exactly what we did when we were in RS. Candy Moore will start a list of ideas that have been mentioned that the organization might take on after we get the officers elected and the organization off the ground and firmly established.

Ron Moore volunteered to find a facility for our next meeting and will get this information ASAP.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be September 16, 2007, at 3:00 PM, location TBA. With no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30PM.