



Air Force Sergeants Association

Chindit Chapter 567
www.AFSA985.org

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2011



The regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Chapter 567 general membership convened at 1500 hours 23 Mar 2011 in the 6 SOS auditorium.

Members Present (27): A1C Tyler Strickland, SrA Howard Schilling, SrA Nigel Bain, SSgt Amanda Vann, SSgt Melissa Flanagan, SSgt Eric Blain, SSgt Timothy Farmakis, TSgt James Butterworth, TSgt William Jackson, TSgt Demika Hunter, TSgt Archie Johnson, TSgt Crystal Goff, TSgt Jayly Jackson, MSgt Patrick Lehmann, MSgt Chris Williams, MSgt Chris Decorte, MSgt Karen Dreitzler, MSgt Melissa Levister, MSgt Austin Kikta, MSgt Edward Puttbrese, MSgt Ryan Leith, SMSgt Brian Stone, CMSgt Daniel, Leick, SMSgt Jerome DuBose, CMSgt Joseph Montgomery, CMSgt Matthew Grengs, CMSgt Les Roy Williams

Visitors Present (11): SrA Tanisha Williams, SrA Joshua Lucas, SSgt James Myers, SSgt Salena Olmstead, SSgt Zahira Farthing, TSgt Bobby Walker, TSgt Joseph Arstill, TSgt Patrick Raass, MSgt Victor Claudio, MSgt Michael Fernandez, MSgt Jeremiah Dinan

1. Meeting was called to order by TSgt Jayly Jackson
2. Members and visitors recited the Pledge of Allegiance, stood at attention while the AFSA Preamble was read and remained standing during the invocation all led by TSgt Jayly Jackson.
3. TSgt Demika Hunter introduced our guest speakers for the Chief's panel: CMSgt Dexter Mitchell (CCC, 1 SOW), CMSgt David Brinkley (CCC, 505th CCW) and CMSgt Matthew Grengs (CFM, Aviation Resource Mgt Branch, AFSOC) (**CLOSED**)
 - a. During the Chief's panel, various questions were asked of the Chiefs by members and visitors alike.
 - i. The Chief's gave knowledgably advice about the enlisted force management plan and how we are to enforce it as NCOs. We were reminded by CMSgt Brinkley that our service is not a one mistake Air Force and that supervisors have a great responsibility in guiding our force from within
 - b. When asked about suicide prevention, specifically about what we can do to reduce this tragic event in the services, CMSgt Mitchell stated that we need to stay knowledgeable about the resources that are out there to help all, reduce the stigma by using these resources, meet at private organization events like "this AFSA meeting", and understanding that leave & down time is just that; LEAVE & DOWN time. CMSgt Brinkley reminded us that we are brothers & sisters in arms and that we need to treat each other better. Echoing this point, CMSgt Grengs stated that we need to stay engaged with the people around us to

ensure that they know that they can trust us when they need someone to turn to in their time(s) of need.

- c. All of the Chiefs were asked whether or not they were approachable and though they all said that they are they reminded us that we all need to take a step back as leaders and examine how we are leading. If you are not being honest with yourself, having a Pygmalion personality (self-fulfilling prophecy), not speaking honestly to your people, are not trusting, and not really working on being approachable, than you will never be a leader who people will feel comfortable being around.
 - d. The Chiefs let us know some things to keep in mind regarding making SMSgt and CMSgt. They all agreed that making those ranks start early in your career and not at MSgt. Chief Brinkley told us that our [EPR] records speak for themselves and that when we are writing for our folks that we should keep this in mind for their future ranks. With this point, CMSgt Grengs said that the boards will look at a 10 year history of your EPRs and that though we may do our job well in our career fields, do not be afraid to step out of your comfort zones to highlight yourself in other ways. Additionally CMSgt Mitchell said that it is great to have a well worded job description but as CMSgt Brinkley stated, your record will speak for itself. Ensure that you show professional growth throughout your career and capture the full scope of your responsibilities in all that you find yourself involved in.
4. Everyone was very grateful for the comments made and the Chiefs were invited to stay if they would like for the rest of the meeting.
 5. MSgt Edward Puttbrese gave the President's report where he stated that we have dwindling AFSA numbers but locally and nationally. He asked the crowd for suggestions on how to boost our numbers.
 - a. One attendee suggested having AFSA memberships offered during BMT. CMSgt Brinkley informed us that there was a time that AFSA was able to do this but now we are forbidden from doing recruiting in that environment. **(CLOSED)**
 - b. Others stated that we should have more membership drives, be more visible and to get the word out more. **(OPEN)**
 - i. CMSgt Mitchell reminded the crowd that is our national numbers fall below 100K, we will no longer have a voice on the 'Hill.' **(CLOSED)**
 6. TSgt Jayly Jackson stood in for the secretary and noted that there were no minutes to approve as the last meeting we held was just for elections. **(CLOSED)**

7. MSgt Edward Puttbrese stood in for the treasurer and gave us a report of our banking situation. He let us know that we now have a bank card that the chapter can use to purchase the items we need to keep us going more efficiently. He also informed the group that the chapter has \$1,200.75 in the account. **(CLOSED)**
8. SSgt Spaulding gave us her awards and recognition report, letting us know that the stellar TSgt Demika Hunter was chosen as our representative at the conference as the AFSA NCO of the Year. **(CLOSED)**
9. SSgt Vann gave us her membership report, speaking to us about there being incorrect addresses used for members that she has now had fixed. We were reminded of the differences of a renewal & retentions and that any active duty or retiree can become a member of AFSA regardless of rank. **(CLOSED)**
10. MSgt Edward Puttbrese gave the communications report. He asked for unit POCs that would brief their units on AFSA issues and to get people to sign up. He shared that we have different means to get AFSA information out to the masses, such as Facebook, SharePoint and the Webpage but, with the exception of the Webpage, we need volunteers to help manage all of these communication platforms. He announced that there will be a new webpage coming online on 1 Apr 11. **(OPEN)**
11. TSgt Crystal Goff gave the Ways and Means report. There were several item events coming up after the meeting that she wanted to make us aware of:
 - a. Adopt-a-Highway cleanup on 24 Mar 11 **(OPEN)**
 - b. ALS Graduation 24 Mar 11 **(OPEN)**
 - c. Commando Connection 25 Mar 11 **(OPEN)**
 - d. Grocery Bagging Fundraiser 26 Mar 11 **(OPEN)**
12. **Old Business:** None
13. **New Business:**
 - a. We gave away four new memberships. **(CLOSED)**
14. Closing Remarks. MSgt Edward Puttbrese told of the importance of attending meetings and events. He let everyone know of the free refreshments in the snack room. TSgt Jayly Jackson announced that the next general meeting will be held on 29 Jun 11 @1500 at the 319 SOS. If there is a change to this, an announcement will be put out accordingly. There being no other business or comments, meeting adjourned at 1635 hours. **(CLOSED)**

///signed ///

Jayly M. Jackson, Acting Secretary

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Edward J.D. Puttbrese, President