

**Quarterly Family Readiness Support Council Meeting Minutes: 26 April 2010
Ocean Breeze, Camp Foster (0903-0945)**

Members Present

MajGen Krusa-Dossin, Commanding General, MCB Camp S.D. Butler
Mr. Michael Jackson, MCFTB Director, Chair
Mr. Chris Ulrich, FRO, MCB Camp S.D. Butler/H&S BN
SgtMaj Adams, Senior Enlisted Representative, MCB Camp S.D. Butler
CAPT Keane, Senior Chaplain, MCB Camp S. D. Butler
Col Timberlake, CG Representative, III MEF
Mrs. Cathe Robling, Spouse Representative III MEF (Non-voting Member)
Mrs. Denise Loftness, FRO, III MEF
Mrs. Sharon Damren, Spouse Representative, III MEF
Col Leppelmeier, Assistant Wing Commander, 1ST MAW
Mrs. Cindy Fox, Family Readiness Advisor, 1ST MAW
Mr. Frank Fay, FRO, 1ST MAW
BGen Laster, Commanding Officer, 3D MARDIV
Mrs. Stacey Zebb, FRO, 3D MARDIV
Col Goddard, CG Representative, 3D MLG
Mr. Terry Burmester, FRO, 3D MLG
Mrs. Kelly Goddard, Spouse Representative, 3D MLG

Members Not Present

Spouse Representative, MCB Camp S.D. Butler
Spouse Representative, 3D MARDIV

Quorum Present? Yes

Others Present

Col Falcam, MCB Camp S.D. Butler
Mr. Steve Pauli, AC/S, MCCA
Mrs. Elicia Graham, FRO, 9TH ESB
Mrs. Shandra Hardy, FRO, HQBN
Mrs. Amanda Butucel, Family Readiness Advisor, 4TH MARINES
Mrs. Jacqueline Arrieta, FRO, 7TH COMM
Mrs. Deborah Dangremond, FRO, CLR-35
Mrs. Barbara Lilley, FRO, MWHS-1
Mrs. Megan Tyson, FRO, MWSS-17
Mrs. Stephanie Schwartz, FRO, MASS-2
LtCol Howard, CO, H&S BN
Mrs. Lauren Eastmead, FRO, 3D INTEL
Mrs. Susan Hulsey, FRO, MACG-18
Chaplain Pena, 7TH COMM
Mrs. Ana Kukowski, FRO, MWSS-172
Mrs. Maretta Clements, Spouse, HQBN 3D MARDIV
Mrs. Lashawna Roe, Sponsorship Coordinator, MCCA FP&R
Mrs. Melinda Hernandez, FRO, 3D CAB 3D MARDIV
Mr. Rich Palma, FRO, 31ST MEU

Others Present Continued

SgtMaj Pyland, 7TH COMM
Mrs. Lia Gonzalez, FRPT, MCFTB
Mrs. Satsuki Fraling, LINKS, MCFTB
Mrs. Yvonne Ruffner, FRO, MACS-4
Mrs. Kim Matos, Family Readiness Advisor, 7TH COMM
Col Damren, CO, 31ST MEU
Mrs. Debra Sparkman, FRO, CLR-3
Mrs. Cindy Reiter, FRO, CLB-31
LtCol Wester, CO, 3/12 3D MARDIV
Mr. Ron Appling, FRO, HMM-262
Mr. John Velker, SACC, MCCS
Mrs. Jaimel Lee, Network, JSFSN
LtCol Baggett, CO, H&HS MCAS Futenma
Mrs. Cindi Hedrick, FRO, 4TH MAR
Mrs. Janet Faulkner, Family Readiness Advisor, 3D MLG
Mrs. Candace Currier, Advisor
Mrs. Jocelyn McNair, FRO, 3D MED BN
Mrs. Mary Hatton, Family Readiness Advisor, CLR-3
Mr. Kevin Lathrop, FRO, HMM-265
SgtMaj Gilliam, 3D MARDIV
Mrs. Alex Miller, FRO, 3MHG
Mrs. Josette Knapp, FRO, MAG-36
Mrs. Tina Smilie, Lifelong Learning, MCCS
Mrs. Rachel Distefano, CAP, MCCS
Mrs. Gina Rabassi, FRO, 3/12 3D MARDIV
Col Clements, CO, HQBN 3D MARDIV
Mrs. Mari Meak, FRO, 3D SUPPLY BN
Mrs. Yvonne Poole, Family Readiness Advisor, 3D MAINT BN
Mrs. Ann Marie Leal, Family Readiness Advisor, 3D DENTAL BN
Mrs. Bobette Rossiter, FRO, 3D MAINT BN
Mrs. Stephanie Taber, FRO, CLR-37
SgtMaj Giannecchini CLR-3
Chaplain Quinn O'Bannon, HQBN 3D MARDIV
Col Ken Helfrich, 3d MarDiv
Mrs. Angela Alexander, FRO, 3D RECON
SgtMaj Allen, HQBN 3D MAR
Mrs. Salina McBride, Navy Liaison, PSC/MCCS
Mrs. Sharon Parks, Family Readiness Advisor, 4TH MAR REG
Col Hatton, CO, CLR-3
LtCol John Harmon, XO, CLR-3
Mrs. Wendi Livingston, Family Readiness Advisor, 3D SUPPLY BN
Mr. Manuel Torres, Assistant, 3D MARDIV
Mrs. Michelle Arellano, FRO, H&HS MCAS Futenma
Mrs. Shelly Henderson, FRO, MTACS-18
SgtMaj Fierle, III MEF
SSgt Prophette, Wounded Warrior Program
Mrs. Julia Nunez, MCFTB

Proceedings

The Marine Corps Family Team Building Council was called to order at 0903. The Chair, Michael Jackson, welcomed all attendees and asked that cell phones be silenced. He stated that he will email everyone a copy of the PowerPoint after the meeting adjourns.

Approval of Minutes

The council was given the opportunity to review the meeting minutes from 17 November 2009. There were no additional amendments voiced.

Old Business

The Chair briefed an agenda item from the previous Council meeting about the inclusion of MSC FROs into the New Comer's Orientation and Welcome Aboard Briefings. The recommendation to include MSC FROs as briefers to the New Comer's Orientation and Welcome Aboard Briefings was approved, completing this agenda item.

New Business Marine Corps Family Team Building

- MajGen Krusa-Dossin briefed the council on the 19 April 2010, Quantico Family Readiness Committee meeting. Topic areas briefed were:
 - Unit Family Readiness Marketing Materials HQMC is working on standardizing marketing material to promote family readiness. However, MCB has taken the initiative to procure between \$7,000 to \$9,000 of promotion items such as key chains, magnets, ink pens, etc., to promote family readiness here in Okinawa.
 - Unit Family Readiness Funding (UFRF) NAF Debit/Credit Card HQMC is working out the details for future issuance of debit cards to Commanders for UFRF. When implemented, funding for the debit card will be provided directly by HQMC. Target implementation date is August 2010.

Question from Mr. Terry Burmester- Will there still be flexibility to transfer money from one facility to another?

Answer from MajGen Krusa-Dossin- yes, but further details about the debit card is still being worked on at HQMC.

Question and Comment from Terry Burmester about ensuring MCCS facilities are honoring unit family readiness events with a 10% discount. Currently, some MCCS facilities are not aware of the directives that enable facilities to grant this discount. Mr. Burmester suggested a card system be issued to FROs so the card could be displayed for the 10% discount for unit events. MajGen Krusa-Dossin stated that the card seems doable but will have to have MCCS look into the particulars.

- Mass Communication Tool. This program will not be ending any time soon. It was noted that it isn't being utilized by FRO's to get information to families. Headquarters acknowledges that it needs more work. They need everyone to use it in order to give suggestions and work through the kinks.

- Volunteer Tracking Tool. The only authorized recognition for volunteers is a certificate from headquarters. It was established this way so that no one volunteer was getting more recognition or extravagant gifts from others. It will be more standardized.
- Family Entertainment and Recreation. Funds will be provided to MCCA by HQMC. We plan on purchasing command recreation suites for each MSC FRO to manage.
- IA Issues. The current decision remains the same governing the IA Program. The IA program is strictly for Marines/Sailors who deploy in support of OIF or OEF. Marine IA's require a Requirement Tracking Number (RTN) and Sailors require a Noble Eagle (NE) number to qualify for this program.
- Transportation for Command Sponsored Events. Units need to coordinate with MCB G-4 to coordinate transportation requirements to use white buses in support of unit events via the individual unit S-4. Transportation requirements to use Garrison Mobile Equipment (GME) should contact their MSC SJA for guidance if applicable.
- Marine Corps Wide FRP Assessment. MajGen Krusa-Dossin informed the council and audience that HQMC IG FP will be in Iwakuni 12-14 May and Okinawa 17-21 May. They will be here to look at and assess the Family Readiness Program. When the assessment takes place there will be a series of criteria that the inspectors will use to examine the readiness program at each command. One MSC will be inspected each day and may include interviews with executive level leadership. The assessment team will be interviewing Commanding Generals, Sergeants Major, FROs, and Marine Corps Family Team Building staff. There will be focus groups at the battalion level that will include a mixture of CO spouses and single Marines. MSC FROs and their commanders will get a chance to talk with the assessment team. The 1st MAW Inspector, Col Tony Prado, will be the lead for the team. An email will be sent out from Col Prado soon with additional information regarding the assessment.

The III MEF Inspector provided additional information about the upcoming assessment. The purpose of the assessment is to assess the functionality and effectiveness of the FRP and identify any recommended changes. The assessment requires total cooperation by all commands. The assessment will be conducted in two phases, field data collection and family readiness surveys. Participates for the assessments are: Commander Team Survey, Family Readiness Officers' Survey, Marine and Family Members' Survey, MCCA Family Readiness Support Personnel Survey, and Volunteer Survey.

- Childcare. The new CDC in Okinawa is projected to be completed by the beginning of 2011. Headquarters Marine Corps will be assessing the needs for childcare funding Marine Corps wide. They are aware of the situation in Okinawa and the lack of childcare option outside of the installation.

New Business Additional Services

- Mr. Randy Mitchell, Single Marine Program (SMP) Director, briefed the council on the SMP program. He provided a general overview of the program in that the program does so many great things for the single Marines to include trips, volunteer work, and community involvement. Mr. Mitchell briefed some of the challenges the program has encountered with regards to the lack of involvement and support from the commands. Marine volunteer assignments are critical when planning an event; however, commands are pulling Marines at the last minute that has already been committed to an event. SgtMaj Adams interjected and asked that if a Marine is committed to an event then the command should let that Marine participate. Mid-level management is also pulling Marines from events. MajGeneral Krusa-Dossin commented that "During the last FRP assessment by the IG regarding SMP it was stated and submitted that commands are not being supportive of the program."
- SSgt Prophette provided a briefing about the Wounded Warrior Program. SSgt Prophette is assigned to the US Naval Hospital Okinawa working as the Wounded Warrior Program liaison out of Hawaii. He briefed that when a Marine becomes wounded they plan to transport them to San Diego or to Tripler for a higher level of care. They also work with the family members of the wounded Marine in order to help them get resources that they need. He can be contacted at Lester Hospital at 643-7600.
- The Chair briefed that My Spouses Career Advancement Account Program (MyCAA) previously put on hold on 16 February for program review has reopened 13 March for individuals already enrolled in a certificate or degree program for more than 136,000 spouses. DoD is working to develop a long-term solution for spouses not yet enrolled would like to establish an account. Until new accounts can be created, Military OneSource Spouse Education and Career Consultants will provide education and training, career options and counseling.
- Mrs. Salina McBride provided a brief on the upcoming Individual Augmentee (IA) "Purple" event being held on 22 May 2010. Flyers are available by the front door.

Meeting Adjourned By: Michael Jackson at 0945
Assessment of Meeting: Well Received
Minutes Submitted By: Julia Nunez
Next Council Meeting: 26 July 2010, 0900-1100, Ocean Breeze

Minutes Approved by: Michael Jackson *Michael Jackson* 13 May 2010