



USAFA Minnesota Parents Club

Minutes of Saturday, November 9, 2019

Location: Livio Health, 401 Harding St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

The meeting the USAFA Minnesota Parent's Club (the "Club") was called to order starting at 9:01am by Christine Warner, Co-Presidents, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Draft minutes of the October 2019 meeting of the Club were distributed prior to the meeting for review. Christine asked if there were any questions or requested changes. Hearing none, a motion was made by Steve Gustafson to approve the minutes, with a second by Denise Metzler. The minutes were then approved by a voice vote.

The Treasurer's report was then presented by Christine Warner with information provided by the club treasurer, Wendy Ojala. Additional comments were made that 10 families in the Class of 2023 have not yet become members, and it was suggested that we should be recruiting them via phone calls.

Lt. Col. Grant McCall, our Admissions Liaison Officer (ALO) introduced himself and his background including that he received a Falcon Foundation scholarship; attended flight training flying T6 Texans and then was assigned as a pilot for A10s; was stationed in South Korea and later Afghanistan; and that he has been an ALO for 4-½ years. Lt. Col McCall then spoke about admissions meetings he had attended in the past week at USAFA, where he shared the following:

- Diversity -- including financial, gender, race, etc. -- are considerations for admission.
- Applicants from Greater Minnesota and esp. western parts of the state are traditionally underrepresented and congressional nominations are underutilized.
- Presentations during his time at the admission meeting included one at the USAFA Center for Character Leadership and Development, focused on critical thinking, servant leadership, learning the 9 outcomes (everything cadets do at the academy focus on these 9 outcomes).
- Initial statistics for the class of 2024: although still early, 30 applicants have completed the application with 50 total in process.
- It is now getting late for the nomination process for nominations, with approximately 20 to 30 roughly from MN.

Finally, Lt. Col McCall discussed that there are multiple opportunities to serve in the US Air Force beyond active duty including in the Air Force Reserves -- which would take place after active duty, are still combat ready and can be full- or part-time roles, in the National Guard and also as an ALO which is Grant's area of focus.

Additional updates were provided as follows:

Cookie packing will be held at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, 1750 Yankee Doodle, Eagan, MN, on Saturday, Dec 7th starting at 7:30a with goodies ready to pack. Feel free to bring a note, but no money. Best efforts will be made to deliver boxes within a day or two of packing, but no guarantees. Request to bring 100 items to share including homemade items, granola bars, etc. Volunteers to arrive at 7am. Also OK to take individual boxes home to cadets who will be coming home near the time.

MN Night: \$2,000 donations so far, \$10,000 needed as the amount needed to buy prizes if we don't receive them as donations. Request that each of us can drop off a donation letter and then follow-up to potential sources. NEED HELP with donations. Dave Ryan confirmed as emcee. Caterer is set. Food committee is set. Need a driver for food to arrive on Wednesday, Jan 29th; please contact Wendy Ojala for more details. Next planning meeting will be on the morning just after cookie packing. Also there was

a discussion around inviting our congress representatives; Jackie Maas taking the initiative and will work with Lt. Col McCall who has the congressional contacts.

Parent Night Out, Thurs Dec 12th @ 6:30pm, Tinto 50th and Penn. Contact Jackie Maas if questions.

Finally, there was a presentation by Paul Knabenshue, retired Air Force Major, talking about Air Force Intelligence. Major Knabenshue's presentation provided examples of what an intelligence briefing might look like — based on open source information — and then he gave an overview of the work that Air Force intelligence does. The Q&A was cut short by Christine Warner and then an abbreviated cadet sharing took place, given the imminent start of the Gophers-Penn State game for which several Club members had tickets and wanted to attend.

The meeting then adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A.R. Weiler,
Club Secretary

January 26, 2019