

**Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers
West Point, NY**

Subject: BOSS Meeting Minutes

04 June 2008

The BOSS meeting was held on Wednesday, 04 June 2008 @ 1530hrs in the Buffalo Soldiers Pavilion (BSP).

The following Soldiers/Civilians were present:

SFC Malone	BAND/ BOSS President	SPC Giusti	HHC
SPC Johnson	AG/ BOSS Secretary	SGT Cacique	WTU
SPC Self	Chapal	SGT Hurst	MEDDAC
Mrs. Miller	BOSS Advisor	SPC Strandberg	MEDDAC
SPC Shepherd	MP CO/ ASST Treasure	1SG Cates	HHC
CSM M ^c Neirney	USAG	Mrs. Emanuel	Commissary
SPC Phillips	MEDDAC		

The meeting was called to order by President, SFC Malone

1. Guest: Phyllis Emanuel from the Commissary

- Spoke about the Commissary Awareness day that takes place on June 5. They will conduct a tour, give briefings, have games, and have a raffle with prizes (i.e. fishing pole, basketball hoop, luggage sets) for the single soldiers.

2. Treasurers Report:

- SPC Self briefed the meeting about the expenses and earnings that BOSS has had since the last meeting. The report showed that we were refunded money that was not supposed to be charged and we also received \$1500 from the Soldier's Show last year. The approximate balance is at \$2100.

3. New Business:

- 5 JUN Commissary Awareness Day at 1530.
 - Janet Berry will set up a tour, samples, and a competition for giveaways.
- 7 JUN, 19 JUL Car Wash (Volunteers Needed)
 - BOSS will need volunteers in order to hold this function and raise money to offset the cost for future recreational events.
 - The Car Wash will be from 1000 – 1300 in the PX parking lot.
 - Volunteers please be there at 0930 to help set up.

- 21-22 JUN Six flags trip (Rec)
 - BOSS is sponsoring a trip for approximately 30 soldiers to Six Flags.
 - Transportation is provided for one day and two day trips.
 - The cost is \$15 for a one day and \$25 for a two day. Lodging is provided for free at McGuire Airbase.
- 6 AUG Community fair (Volunteers Needed).
 - BOSS will need volunteers and representatives for the fair to let the community know who and what BOSS does and welcome the new members of the community.
 - The Fair will run from 1800 – 2100 in Eisenhower Hall.
- 9 AUG Aloha Cruise 1800-2100.
 - Will be on the West Point Ferry with a DJ and refreshments for a small amount of two dollars. Soldiers and their guest are invited.
- 5 OCT Army 10 Miler.
 - Team of 4 preferably with one female. The quarters and transportation will be paid for and the Soldier will receive PTDY.
 - Email Sheryle Miller @ sheryle.miller@usma.edu if you are interested.

3. Old Business:

- 13 MAY Sunday Pot Luck
 - The pot luck was a barbeque with steak, chicken, and beer. There were about 5 single Soldiers that attended and there was plenty of food left. More Soldiers should attend – 1SG Cates attended and provided more info and encouraged Soldiers to attend.
- 22 MAY VA Hospital Visit Memorial Day Ceremony – Castle Point
 - There was a great turn out to this event.
 - 13 Single Soldiers, plus CSM McNeirney and Ms Miller attended to visit with the veterans.
 - The VA Hospital was thankful that we were able to take our time to spend with the veterans during this ceremony.
- 23 MAY Monthly Poker Tournament.
 - The participation in these tournaments has been very limited and there is discussion about hosting the tournament every other month.

4. Words from CSM McNeirney (on behalf of CSM Wells)

- CSM Wells requested that CSM McNeirney speak on his behalf on the following:
- CSM Wells wants to find different ways to recognize Soldiers for their many accomplishments, for starters:
 - Recognition for Soldiers who reach education milestones (i.e. Associates Degree, Bachelors Degree). Information your COC.
 - Ideas for recognition are welcomed and encouraged.

- Reaction from the Soldiers concerning the statement of feeling like or treated as “Second Class” at West Point
 - One Soldier felt that the School receives all of the money – there is more attention given to the Cadets
 CSM McNeirney and 1SG Cates shed a bit of perspective on the issue. One question asked, “What is it that you want that you’re not getting?”

5. Well Being

- LSS issue with the “Jungle”.
 - Keller Hospital DFAC will accommodate the Single Soldiers for Breakfast and Lunch when the Jungle is closed.
 - SGT Cacique expressed the benefit of having the Jungle open for the WTU Soldiers that are on medication and disabled from traveling a far distance to the Hospital to eat.
 - CSM McNeirney and 1SG Cates reiterated the information from the briefing (of the last meeting) to the group on numbers and costs/pro & cons.
- A cigarette butt can for the Barracks.
 - Soldiers are requesting a butt can so they do not have to pick up after the smokers that just throw their butts on the ground because there is no butt can around.
 - 1SG Cates will order butt can for B624 in hopes of having it in place before the next meeting.
- Barracks room assignment
 - Soldiers were told to move without being told why.
 - Discussion about room assignments – Soldiers believe they should be assigned rooms according to rank and time in service when they have to move to smaller rooms.
- Bugs and Mice
 - Reports of bugs and mice.
 - Notify SGT Kiel (Barracks NCO) so he is able to take the proper actions to exterminate them.
- Cleaning Supplies
 - Some soldiers have had to go out and buy their own cleaning supplies due to shortage in the Barracks.
 - Soldiers need to notify SGT Kiel if out of cleaning supplies, so he may attain more for the Barracks.
 - CSM McNeirney and 1SG Cates explained that there was minor glitch when the barracks changed hands—wasn’t intended, which lead to the lack of supplies management for the barracks, but informed Soldiers to refrain from purchasing barracks supplies with their own funds, instead always notify/brings issues to your COC!
- Availability of Ranges
 - Discussion about the frequency of going to the ranges.
 - Soldier needs to talk to COC to see if they can coordinate to piggy back with another unit.

- Weight Equipment in basement.
 - Soldiers feel that the weights in the barracks are substandard and not complete sets.
 - Shift workers are not able to make it to the FMWR Gym due to their hours.
 - It was suggested to contact the FMWR Gym and see if the Barracks can receive their old equipment.

Up to date BOSS information can be found on:

[Http://www.westpointmwr.com](http://www.westpointmwr.com)

If you would like to plan a party or a special event at the Buffalo Soldier Pavilion (BSP), please contact SFC Jay Malone @ 8063.

There will be a mandatory BOSS meeting every six months. Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month. The next meeting will be on 02 July 2008 @ 1530 at the BSP.

Respectfully,
SPC Johnson, Edward
BOSS Secretary