

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
2521 CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202
(703) 699-2950

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING

DATE: June 22, 2005

TIME: 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM

MEETING WITH: National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda

SUBJECT: Briefing and tour of Bethesda

PARTICIPANTS:

Captain Mark Olesen, MD, Deputy Commander, National Medical Center, Phone: Work 301-2952427, E-Mail: MCOlesen@bethesda.med.navy.mil.

Captain Kathleen Pierce, Director of Communications and Customer Care, Phone: 301-295-0832, E-Mail: KMPierce@bethesda.med.navy.mil

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Commission Staff:

Thomas A. Pantelides Senior Analyst *

Lesia Mandzia, Senior Analyst

MEETING SUMMARY: Captain Mark Olesen provided a briefing of the National Naval Medical Center, (NNMC), Bethesda (Attached).

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Title of Item: Memorandum of Meeting
Installation or Community: Naval Medical Center, Bethesda
Source: visit
Certified Material? yes no
Analyst / Provider: Tom Pantelides Date Received: _____

The main points of the brief highlight the Mission and quality of family centered care provided at the center. Five BRAC recommendations affect the National Naval medical Center in Bethesda (see attached briefing slides). The recommendation with a large impact is the closing of Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the creation of the New Walter Reed Military Medical Center (WRMMC) at Bethesda.

According to NNMC representatives, some of the challenges they face with the creation of the WRMMC are:

- the integration of the Army/Navy/Air Force because they “do business differently”;
- finding places/locations to build facilities;
- funding the proposed BRAC recommendations; and
- how to deal with traffic issues of more patients and staff coming into the facilities.

After our brief we took a tour of NNMC and viewed potential areas of future expansion. The main point made during the tour was that NNMC has the ability to absorb the projected increase of services and associated personnel proposed. Officials pointed out the locations of expansion and or demolition and or renovation of the facilities; however they noted the plans have not been finalized, attached is a Map of NNMC.

During the Tour it was agreed that the level of planned construction outlined would exceed the projected estimates. The attached summary shows projected estimates for the Medical Section and the Technical Section. Officials said these estimates were low because the BRAC deliberations did not consider all of the construction needed as a result of the planned consolidation. Additionally, all of the personnel/positions affected were not considered because personnel numbers do not reflect positions that are currently being performed by contract personnel.

We have asked for additional information in support of the higher estimates, to include contractor personnel filling required billets. Officials estimate the new numbers would increase construction costs and reduce personnel savings. All agreed that the proposed consolidation of the medical functions at NNMC is a good recommendation. One official questioned the need to have the Extramural Research Program Managers at NNMC.

* Denotes individual responsible for completing the memorandum

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MEMORANDUM OF MEETING

DATE: June 22, 2005

TIME: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

MEETING WITH: Naval Medical Education and Training Command, (NMETC), Bethesda

SUBJECT: Briefing of NMETC, Bethesda

PARTICIPANTS:

Rear Admiral Carol L Turner, Commander, NMETC, Bethesda
Captain Thomas McGue, Deputy Commander, NMETC
Captain Jamie Luke, NMETC, Strategic Planning, Public Affairs and Marketing
Captain Florence Crosby, Prospective Commanding Officer, NSHS San Diego and head of Medical Service Corps Programs
Captain Robert Taft, Director, Graduate Programs
Commander Resa Warner, Director, Academics
Lieutenant Commander Ethan Josiah, Deputy Director, Governance
Dr. Anne Ballard, Instructional Systems Specialist, Governance
Ms. Louise Nazario, School Course Management, Governance
HM1 Andrew Neville, Strategic Planning, Public Affairs and Marketing

Commission Staff:

Thomas A. Pantelides Senior Analyst *

Lesia Mandzia, Senior Analyst

BACKGROUND: NMETC is the Naval headquarters office responsible for the basic and specialty medical enlisted training. The training programs at Portsmouth, San Diego and Great Lakes are proposed to move to Fort Sam Houston in BRAC recommendation Med-10.

MEETING SUMMARY: Rear Admiral Carol L. Turner provided a briefing of NMETC (Attached).

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The main points of the brief highlight the Mission of NMETC while noting the training philosophy differences within the Army and Navy. Many of the concerns expressed centered on the differences in this training philosophy. Admiral Turner agreed to provide additional details to include questions that need to be addressed at San Antonio which should help in understanding the challenges being faced by both the Army and Navy in implementing this proposal.

NNMC has begun to make changes in the training programs provided. For example, corpsman and dental technician training will be combined; electroneurodiagnostics, urology technician, dermatology technician, the basic radiographer course, otolaryngology technician and basic and advanced dental prosthetic laboratory technician training will be eliminated.

Another issue discussed was the need to maintain the Navy's high standards of training especially as it applies to independent duty corpsman and the high standards required for credentialed standards.

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