

VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Borough Hall Chambers
Regular Meeting
January 11, 2025

MINUTES

1. Meeting Called to Order at 10:36 AM

2. Chairman's Statement

Committee Chairman Thomas Lang called the meeting to order by reading the Open Public Meeting Act and the notice requirements have been satisfied. Meeting dates are confirmed at the Annual Meeting. Notices of this committee's meeting are here by posted on two municipal public notice bulletin boards, published on the websites for the Borough of Bergenfield and the Veterans Advisory Committee and on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

3. Roll Call

Roll Call	Present	Absent	Excused
Venus Carpenter, Member	X		
Kean Castillo, Member			X
Joseph J. Cutolo, Member	X		
Gerald J. Ferra Jr., Vice Chairman	X		
Edgar Garcia, Member			X
Jose Henriquez		X	
Barry Hirschberg, Member	X		
Thomas Lang, Chairman	X		
Edward Lora, Secretary	X		
Peter M. Matthews, Member	X		
Willie Moree, Member		X	
Richard Morf, Member	X		
Dina Moore, Member	X		
Marc Pascual, Council Liaison	X		
Dr. Samuel Paul, Chaplain	X		
Fredrick Sahlberg, Member			X
Wilfred Selby, Member			X
John Smith, Member	X		
Jose Vasquez, Member	X		

Amos White, Member	X		
Warren Williams, Treasurer	X		

4. Flag Salute

Led by Committee Chairman Thomas Lang

5. Invocation (Chaplin)

Given by Committee Chaplin Pastor Dr, Samuel Paul

6. Agenda Changes (Additions/Deletion)

No additions/deletions to meeting agenda

7. Approval of Minutes (January 2024)

Motion Offered by Joseph J. Cutolo and **Second** by Dina Moore to approve minutes for December 14, 2024 Regular Committee Meeting minutes and to be published on the Veterans Committee website. All present voted in favor YES.

8. Treasury Report (January 2025)

a. The treasury report for January 2025, the current account balance, \$1605.63 USD and no expenses and billing transactions for the reporting period of December 14, 2024 to January 11, 2025 treasury report. **Motion Offered** by Gearld Ferra and **Second** by Barry Hirschberg to approve treasurer's report for January 2025 Committee Treasury Report Meeting. All present voted in favor Yes.

b. Holiday Party Expenses for the December 20, 2024 was presented by Joseph Cutolo American Legion Post-21, give the following breakdown of expenses. The expenses incurred for the AL, DAV, VFW & BVETAC holiday day on December 20, 2024. Total food expenses and utensils were \$2,140.82. Recommendation by Gerald Ferra that the total food expenses be divided up equally between the four organization to their portion of 535.14 to the Cresskill American legion Post 21. **Motion Offered** by Jose Vasquez and **Second** by Barry Hirschberg that the holiday expense be divided by all four organizations to an equal amount of \$535.14 and the DYI Award Plaque expense of 202.99 for Uma Nath will be paid by Mr. Williams. All present voted in favor, YES.

9. Presentation

a. Transition of Committee Leadership

The Oath of Office was presented by Councilman Marc Pascual to newly elected Committee Leadership; Chairman Thomas Lang, Vice Chairman Gerald Ferra, Secretary Edward Lora and Treasurer Warren Williams. The new committee

leadership is here by officially assumed their leadership positions of the Veterans Committee.

b. Oath of Membership:

The oath of membership was presented by Committee Chairman Thomas Lang to newly appointed Committee Members, John Smith and Jose Vasquez. The new appointed committee members is here by official members of the Veterans Committee.

10. Correspondence

No Correspondence presented

11. Unfinished Business

- Committee New Polo Shirts: Still waiting on information prices of shirts. Gerald Ferra will follow up with a company for an affordable price quote for bulk order for Polo shirts, (short & long sleeve) for men and women, style.
- Committee Table Display Cover: Still need to have committee cover remade do to the misspelling tile name. Recommendation was made to check with 4-Imprint to get an affordable price quote
- Grand Marshal Sash: Need to have the Grand Marshal Sash ready for this year's memorial day
- Golf Tournament:
Gerald Ferra suggested that the committee try to plan a fundraiser event (Golf Tournament) at one of the county's public golf courses. Feedback from the other committee members, that the committee will need to have a good preparation plan and try to get some sponsors to support this golfing event.

12. New Business

a. Memoria Day 2025

- The letter and entry form for this year's Memorial Day Ceremony and parade information must be updated and be ready to forward the Borough PR POC AJ Stweart by March 1st 2025
- Recommendations to have this year's Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade at Cooper's Pond and use the same parade route as last year South Prospect Ave to memorial Field on New Bridge Road

b. Grand Marshall Nomination Application letter and form need to start sending information now and all nomination packet be turn-in to the committee no later than April 1st, 2025.

c. VIP Invitations need to be send out ASAP due to VIPs calendar schedule.

13. Public Comment *(Please be advised there will be a limit of three (5) minutes per each speaker)*

No one came forward

14. Good of the Order

- VFW-NJ Voice of Democracy Awards Dinner, January 11, 202 at 6:00PM, Carlton Hotel, Toms River, NJ
- VFW-NJ Patriot's Pen Awards Luncheon, February 8, 2025 at 12:00PM, Carlton Hotel, Toms River, NJ
- Bergenfield VFW Post, Valentine Day Dance/Fundraiser, February 14, 2025 at 7:00PM
- National Vietnam War Veterans Remembrance Day Event, March 29, 2025, 9:00AM – 3:00PM, Fort Lee, NJ
- New 2025 VA Benefits Handbooks and NJ State Veterans Benefits Handbooks are now available

15. Open Comments (Members Only)

No one came forward

16. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Veterans Advisory Committee, **Motion Offered by** Joseph J. Cutolo **and Second by** Barry Hirschberg to adjourn the meeting. All present voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at **11:43AM**. The next committee schedule will be on **February 15, 2025** at Bergenfield Municipal Building at **10:30AM**.

Respectfully Submitted

Edward Lora

Edward Lora

Committee Secretary