

**VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
March 19, 2022**

MINUTES

1. Meeting Called To Order at 10:07 AM

2. Open Public Meeting Statement

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, the notice requirements have satisfied. Meeting dates are confirmed at the Annual Meeting. Notices of this meeting was provided to the Record, Star Ledge, and Cablevision. These minutes are posted on two municipal public notice bulletin boards, published on the borough website and veterans committee's website and on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk.

3. Roll Call

| Roll Call | Present | Absent | Excused |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Alexandra Rodriguez, Member | | X | |
| Thomas Lang, Member | | | X |
| Rafael Marte, Council Liaison | | X | |
| Richard Morf, Member | X | | |
| Willie Moree Jr, Member | X | | |
| John Opatovsky, Vice Chairman | | X | |
| Dr. Samuel Paul, Chaplin | X | | |
| Fred Sahlberg, Member | X | | |
| Joseph Sokol, Member | X | | |
| John Smith, Chairman | X | | |
| Wilfred Selby, Member | | X | |
| Benjamin Whalcy, Member | | X | |
| Amos White, Member | X | | |
| Warren Williams, Secretary | X | | |

4. Salute to the Flag

Pledge of Allegiance led by Committee Member Richard Morf

5. Invocation

The Invocation given by Chaplin Dr. Samuel Paul

6. Changes to the Agenda

No Additions/Deletion or Revisions at the present time

7. Presentation

No Presentation at the present time

8. Correspondence

No Correspondence at the present time

9. Approval of Minutes

Motion Offered by Committee Member Richard Morf and **Second** by Committee Member Willie Moree approve the minutes for February 19, 2022 regular committee meetings minutes and publish to the committee's website. All present voting in favor and none opposed.

10. Treasury Report

Committee Member Warren Williams update the committee with the monthly treasury report for period of February 19, 2022 through March 19, 2022. No change addition funds added to committee's treasury. Current balance of funds available is \$2,507.32. **Motion Offered** by Committee Member Fredrick Sahlberg and **Second** by Committee Member Richard Morf approve the committee's treasury report for the period of February 19, 2022 to March 19, 2022 Report. All present voting in favor and none opposed.

11. Unfinished Business

A. Street Pole Banners for Veterans (Update)

Committee Secretary Warren Williams presented the committee an update on the assigned street poles that the committee has the selected locations. The street locations are; West Church Street, New Bridge Road (Veterans Memorial Park), South Prospect Ave, South Washington Ave and West Clinton Ave. The following street poles location have been identify for New Bridge Road (Veterans Memorial Park), South Prospect Ave. The street poles for West Church, West Clinton Ave and South Washington, ave still need to be worked on and still waiting on the Mayor and Council to approval the Liability Insurance to submit submit the information back to PSEG for the street pole locations for placement of the banners.

B. Parade Grand Marshal Guidelines

Committee Secretary Warren Williams presented to the committee, with five different samples of biographical sketch format the 2022 Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshall. All committee members reviewed all five sample The biographical sketch format and voted on the best format for the all grand marshal nominee to use to submit for final selection of the 2022 Grand Marshal.

C. Create Meeting Sharing Zoom Link

Chairman John Smith, recommend that this matter be tabled for next month meeting, since Committee Member Thomas Lang was excused from this meeting do to a family emergency. **Motion Offered** by Committee Member Fredrick Sahlberg and **Second** by Committee Member Willie Moree, to move this matter for the April Meeting. All present voting in favor and none opposed.

D. Discuss Ideas/Plans for Special Golf or Bowling Events

Chairman John Smith, recommend that this matter be tabled for next month meeting, since Committee Members Benjamin Whaley and Joseph Sokol are still trying to get more information for the Golf and Bowling events are pending information. **Motion Offered** by Committee Member Warren Williams and **Second** by Committee Member Amos White, to move these matters for the next meeting in April. All present voting in favor and none opposed.

12. New Business

A. Bergen County Veterans Services

Committee Chairman John Smith and Committee Secretary Warren Williams met with Mr. Shaun Hutchinson, Director of the Bergen County Veterans Services, on March 15, 2022. This meeting was for

both organizations to meet each other. The meeting give both organizations some very good feedback and ideals to help better serve the veterans of Bergen County. Mr. Hutchinson, was very interested in working with the our veterans committee and are planning for the near future partnership. One of the project is to help the Mr. Hutchinson Office with some volunteers to work along with the Bergen County Veterans Services Office.

B. Committee Secretary Warren Williams, presented to the committee with updated information pertaining to the Caregivers Program. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs(VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) offers enhanced clinical support for Family Caregivers of eligible veterans who incurred or aggravated a serious injury in the line of duty, including a serious illness, along with other eligibility criteria. Changes to the program result from the new "Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Improvements and Amendments under the VA Mission Act of 2018" Final Rule, RIN 2900-AQ48, effective October 1, 2020. These changes include:

- Expanding eligibility for Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC).
- Offering legal and financial services for designated Primary Family Caregivers of eligible Veterans.
- Making other changes affecting program eligibility and VA's evaluation of Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) applications.

13. Verbal Communications

No public communications at this time

14. Chairman's Comments

No comments at this time from Committee Chairman

15. Adjournment

Motion Offered by Committee Member Fredrick Sahlberg and **Second** by Committee Member Richard Morf to adjourned the meeting. The announcement for next month meeting is on April 16, 2022; Time 10:00 AM, location VFW Post. There being no further business to come before the Veterans Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Warren Williams
Sgt Major (Ret), U. S. Army
Committee Secretary