



## Post 419 & Family & Friends Meeting

**Date:** January 19, 2023

**Time:** 4:00pm to 5:15pm

**Attendees:** Vera Bland, Landen Becket, Tina Prinz, Gabriel Simpson, Richard Hamilton, Daniel Burgos, Barbara Collins, Pat Collins Ruth Cordner, Randy Riotta, Jim Santiago, and Ihab Fayoumi.

### **New Business**

Meeting place: We are now meeting at the Old Bergen Church on Bergen Ave. We are utilizing a large meeting space for a fee of \$20 per meeting.

Discussions on determining our way forward. Discussions on expanding our membership and selecting community-based projects based in helping others, working with children, volunteering to assist with neighborhood beautification (e.g., volunteering at the food pantry, cemetery maintenance, special events).

### **Old Business**

TSGT Oliver Hobart Monument: Comrade John Hallahan prepared a statement regarding the location of the monument dedicated to TSGT Hobart. Ruth will add some paragraphs indicating the Post endorses this request and present it to Hudson County Leadership seeking their endorsement to relocate the monument. We also provide Tom Zuppa with a copy of the statement and filled him in on our intentions.

Action: Need to follow-up with Jersey City Division of Veteran Affairs.

Meeting closed at 5:15pm

Next meeting: February 15, 2023, at **the Old Bergen Church located at 1 Highland Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306** at 4pm. Come join our team working together for our community and Veterans.

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month at 4pm in the VIP Diner – come and join us.

### **On-going available Resources for Veterans and Families**

1. Denied VA Benefits?

VetLaw assists veterans who have been denied VA benefits. JC Division of Veterans Affairs had Brendon Garcia speak on HOW TO FILE AN APPEAL when you claim has been denied. His contact details are: <https://vet.law/brendan-garcia/> telephone:855-430-0752

2. Armed Forces Vacation Club

If you have served in a branch of the armed forces, then the AFVC welcomes you! They offer eligible members of the US Military and Veterans, vacations at affordable prices. Explore your options. This includes weeklong stays for as little as \$379 (\$369 if you become a Premium member). MEMBERSHIP IS FREE or pay \$119 a year for Premium membership! It's their way of saying THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE! <https://www.afvclub.com/>

4. Caregivers Act For more information, contact Jersey City Division of Veterans Affairs: 201-547-4919.

5. Jersey City Division of Veteran Affairs, Director Juliet Foster and Scott Hakim are very helpful. Contact details are Department of Health & Human Services, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. City Hall Annex, 1 Jackson Square, Jersey City, NJ 07305: 201.547.4919 (Office)

6. Recovery Junction: A Hudson County based recovery Center offering inclusive peer support for anyone seeking recovery from substance use and it is free of charge. Contact Dana Mott at [dmott@preventionslinks.org](mailto:dmott@preventionslinks.org) or call 201-284-8535.

7. PTSD/Suicide Prevention Programs: The Hudson County Office of Veterans Affairs, has services available for Veterans suffering from PTSD and suicide prevention programs. Website: [www.hudsoncountynj.org](http://www.hudsoncountynj.org)