

Branch Meeting
NALC Bergen County Merged
Branch 425
February 11, 2025

Held its monthly meeting at the American Legion in Teaneck NJ.

President Paul Bounassi called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and led the members in the flag salute.

Roll call of officers was taken and all members of the Executive Board were present except for Dennis Spoto, John Dudek and Don Jump who were excused.

Minutes from the January 10, 2025 meeting was read. A motion to accept without any additions or corrections was made by Clary James, this motion was seconded by Taejon Hayes.

Correspondence:

No correspondence received

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was read by Paul Bounassi. A motion to accept was made by Conrad Gugliotta, this motion was seconded by Valerie Keyton-Barlow.

Legislative Report:

Congress reintroduces bipartisan Protect Our Letter Carrier Act.

The bill includes three measures to deter the increasing crime and assaults against letter carriers on the job.

- 1- 7 billion in funding to replace and modernize postal infrastructure.
- 2- Designation for an assistant district attorney in each judicial district to prioritize cases involving an assault against a letter carrier in a timely manner.
- 3- Standardizing sentencing guidelines for those who are found guilty of committing these crimes.

Social Security Fairness Act

The Social Security Administration (SSA) has created a web page for updates regarding the implementation of the Social Security Fairness Act.

MDA Report:

No updates to report

Health Benefit Report:

USPS employees who enrolled in the flexible spending account program, will be receiving their FSA debit card soon, to activate the debit card you must use the last digits of your employee id number.

Retired Members Report:

Director of Retirees report:

For all those retirees who expect to receive their full Social Security checks thanks to HR 82, it's not going to happen anytime soon.

The law requires the Social Security Administration to adjust benefits for more than 3 million people affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO).

In the latest update, the agency said it expects it could take more than a year to adjust benefits and pay all retroactive benefits.

President's Report:

The active membership of the National Association of Letter Carriers has voted to reject the ratification of the tentative 2023-2026 National Agreement with the United States Postal Service.

The vote to ratify was 63,680 to reject the agreement versus 26,304 to accept it.

NALC has notified the Postal Service of the result of the ratification balloting and our intent to reopen negotiations within five days in accordance with Article 16 of the NALC Constitution.

Negotiations will not exceed a period of fifteen calendar days from when they are reopened.

The USPS reported a net income of \$144 million in the first quarter of fiscal year 2025 and operating revenue increased by \$885 million.

E-mail received from our National Business Agent, NALC has been notified by the USPS of new Sorting & Delivery Centers (S&DCs) for Region 15 Branches in the next 29 months.

Old Business:

No updates to report

New Business:

Paul Bounassi made a motion to send flowers, a fruit basket or make a donation in the name of the deceased to a designated charity in an amount not to exceed \$250, upon the passing of an immediate family member of a member of NALC Bergen County Merged, this motion was seconded by Taejon Hayes. The motion was voted on and passed.

Valerie Keyton-Barlow made a motion for Branch 425 to pay \$10 toward the purchase of a food drive shirt per member, this motion was seconded by Brian Gautier. The motion was voted on and passed.

At 8:23 pm Ron Filera made a motion to adjourn, this was seconded by Fanny Perales.

