



American Legion Post 75

Minutes of Meeting on **7 October 2019**. Meetings held at 23 Hutchison Street, Franklin, MA.

Mailing Address: American Legion Post 75, P.O. Box 42, Franklin, MA 02038.

Website: <http://www.mapost75.com/>

Officer roll call:

Commander - John Milot	Present
1 st Vice – Dick Hynes	Present
2 nd Vice & Post Service Officer John Hefelee	Absent
Adjutant – Kim Leone	Present
Finance - Kent Belcher	Absent
SGT at Arms – Juan DelValle	Present
Chaplain – Bob Markunis	Present
Historian – Steve Szilniczky	Present

- **13** members in attendance.
- Minutes from September 2019 meeting read and accepted.

NOTES

1. **Post 75 – If you need a ride to one of our monthly meetings, PLEASE contact the Post Commander John Milot 508-520-8771.**

OLD BUSINESS

1. Bob Markunis continues to book visits at Magnolia Heights, Benchmark Senior Living, Atria and the Franklin Rehabilitation Center on Chestnut Street. Magnolia Heights visits are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 and Franklin Rehab visits are every third Saturday of the month at 2:00. Atria visits are luncheon events at 11:30 on the first Saturday of the month each month. Benchmark Senior Living (on Grove Street) sessions are scheduled the last Thursday of every month at 1:30.

Veteran's Day – Benchmark would like to re-dedicate their veteran's wall on Veteran's Day – Looking for volunteers to attend if available.

2. John Hefelee is on the committee for the Veterans Walkway on the town common. Bricks will be for sale until they are sold out. Over 1500 bricks sold so far. The bricks will display the honorees name and branch of service. The honoree can be someone living or deceased and they do not need to be from Franklin. The names will be laser engraved with the information. The price is \$100 per brick. Applications can be found online on the post website or the VFW website. More bricks will be dedicated on this upcoming Veteran's Day.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Raffle – Jim got the laptop for a prize. Also some Red Sox memorabilia has been donated to the raffle by the Boston Red Sox. Tickets handed out and sales to begin in September and hold the drawing on December 2, 2019. Other raffle items: a wine basket, a shower radio, a gift certificate to the Home Depot and B.J.s and a tour of the State House. It was agreed that the member who sells the most



American Legion Post 75

tickets will get a \$100.00 prize. Discussion in September about whether we should order another 500 tickets since ticket sales have been good and some folks have run out of tickets..

2. Post social gathering will be held on October 30th at 6:30 at the Rome.
3. The Strategic Committee presented a SWOT Analysis of the Strategic Plan. All members are asked to complete this and return at the next meeting.
4. Wreaths Across America will be coming up this December – Saturday, December 14th in Bourne. The post would like to get a group together to attend.
5. Next year the post will be 100 years old – Suggest we think about a good way to celebrate and make the post more visible – Perhaps attend the Harvest Festival? It was agreed that we should renew our membership in the Downtown Partnership and perhaps get an American Legion pop-up tent to use for these events? And should we have a joint event with the Wrentham post? It was suggested that a committee be formed to plan events for the 100 year anniversary – volunteers for this: Steve S. (leading), John M., Dave L. Dick Hynes, Kim.
6. The folks that participated in the Wall That Heals event in Bellingham reported that it was an amazing and moving event.
7. Veterans Coffee Socials are held at the Senior Center. These are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00. Starbucks provides the coffee and pastry.
8. Poker tournaments - This was approved and the committee is proceeding with the paperwork. Permit has been obtained. Next item is to schedule dates for the tournaments.
9. There is a new American Legion Basic Training Course – see www.mylegion.org/training. Upon completion you get a pin and certificate of completion.
10. The Post Historian – Steve S. is assembling archives. If anyone has any material or pictures, please pass this on to Steve.
11. Reminder to members that Post 75 has a display at the Franklin Historical Museum which is open most Saturday mornings.
12. Members please remember that Bob Markunis takes prayer requests for the sick. This will be added to the Post website.
13. If you know of any potential members, please direct them to the post website for membership information and an application and also let Dick Hynes know so that he may give them a follow up call.

COMMITTEES

1. Post Strategic Plan. Dave Labonte and Matt McGrath and Dick Hynes.
2. Raffle committee - John Milot, Matt McGrath
3. Road Race Committee – Doug Wahl, Frank Coughlin, Jim Gurganis, Dave Labonte, Kim Leone, Judy Hynes, Juan DelValle
4. Franklin High School Scholarship committee. – Kent, Ray, Steve



American Legion Post 75

5. Public Relations committee -John Hefele, Steve S. and Jim G.
6. Assisting/Visiting Veterans in Local hospitals. Matt McGrath leads this committee.
7. The American Legion Boys State program. Committee members: John Milot and Doug Wahl.
8. Franklin Funeral Homes committee –John M, Matt McGrath, Jim McNeil, John Hefele, George Ferguson, Bob Markunis, Kent Belcher, Dave Labonte, Jim Gurganis and Doug Wahl.
9. Uniform Etiquette Committee – John Milot, Steve S. and Bob Markunis
10. 100 year anniversary committee – Steve S. John M, Dave Labonte, Dick Hynes, Kim