



American Legion Post 75

Minutes of Zoom Meeting on **1 February 2021**. Meetings are normally held at 23 Hutchison Street, Franklin, MA. but due to the Covid-19 pandemic, meetings are being held through Zoom.

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	Present
Interim Adjutant – Bruce Watkins	Present
Finance - Kent Belcher	Present
SGT at Arms – Juan DelValle	Present
Chaplain – Bob Markunis	Absent
Historian – Steve Szilniczky	Absent
Quartermaster – Dave Labonte	Present

- **13** members in attendance.
- No minutes from January 2021 meeting were available.

NOTES:

1. Bruce Watkins has been appointed as the interim Adjutant replacing Kim Leone. Elections will be held as scheduled in June.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The visits by our Chaplain Bob Markunis to Franklin's assisted living facilities have been suspended due to the pandemic. Once it is determined that this will be safely allowed, a schedule will be determined and put forth at our meetings and in these notes to allow members to participate.
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 1600 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Finance Officer's report was approved. The only expense was for the mail box renewal. There are still enough funds in the post's account to give a scholarship to a Franklin High School senior. John H. was going to try and get a contact from Tri-County to see if they are interested in the program this year. The Finance Officer, Kent Belcher officially recused himself from participating in the selection of the qualified seniors in that his son will be applying for one.



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2. Road Race – It was confirmed that the road race for this year is canceled due to the pandemic
3. A Franklin squadron of the Sons of the Legion has begun to get going with paperwork, etc. being done in coordination with our post and state. Alan Earls has been spearheading this endeavor. If any member knows of anyone who may be qualified to join the squadron, they can contact Alan.

There was interest from a Wrentham squadron to start a Sons of the Legion chapter in Franklin. The Post needs to initiate this. By-laws will need to be drafted. John H., John M and Bob agreed to look into this further. The squadron could assist with our efforts and events.

4. Virtual Veterans Coffee Socials are being held the 1st Wednesday of each month at 10 AM, John H, sends out an email each month with the zoom link needed to join the discussion.
5. John Hefeles wife has offered to sew patches on uniforms for free if assistance is needed.
6. Quartermaster Dave Labonte is able to assist members in purchasing uniform items.
7. There is a new American Legion Basic Training Course – see www.mylegion.org/training. Upon completion you get a pin and certificate of completion.
8. The Post Historian – Steve S. is assembling archives. If anyone has any material or pictures, please pass this on to Steve.
9. Members, please remember that Bob Markunis takes prayer requests for the sick. This will be added to the Post website.
10. 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, Dick Hynes and Dave Labonte
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
5. Public Relations committee -John Hefeles, Steve S.
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 Hefeles, Bob Markunis, Kent Belcher, Dave Labonte, Jim Gurganus 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