



American Legion Post 75

Minutes of the in-person meeting held on **13 July, 2022**. Meetings are normally held at 23 Hutchison Street, Franklin, MA. on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 1900 hrs. The mailing address is: 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 Commander – Dick Hynes	Present
2 nd Vice & Post Service Officer-John Hefele	Present
Adjutant – Bruce Watkins	Present
Finance – Dave Labonte	Present
SGT at Arms – Matt McGrath	Absent
Chaplain – Bob Markunis	Present
Historian – Steve Szilniczky	Excused
Quartermaster – Frank Coughlin	Absent

➤ **8** members in attendance.

NOTES:

1. There were not enough members to form a quorum.
2. A thank you note was received from Clancy Golden thanking the post for the scholarship he received from the post.

OFFICERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The minutes from the June 2022 meeting were accepted and are on the post's website.
2. The finance report was given. The current bank balance is \$5653.67 with an available balance of \$3995.43. The report was approved and is on the post's website.
3. The 1st Vice Commander noted that our membership renewal goal for the 2023 membership year will be 80, up from 67 this past year. This is mostly due to the increase of members from the closed Medway and Bellingham posts as well as additional members from Franklin. We discussed new members as well as the possibility of having an initiation in October for our new members.
4. The 2nd Vice wrote an article for Vet News about our Memorial Day parade and activities. He also wrote an article for E-Legionnaire about Quilts of Valor and the post's participation.



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5. Chaplain Bob talked about our participation on July 9 at Enclave Assisted Living facility in the presentation of quilts to veterans residing there. He also noted that our next presentation is upcoming at Magnolia Heights. He also stated that there will be bingo on July 16 at Cedarwood Gardens.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. John H. stated that he thought he had a 2nd scout to do a portion of cleaning plaques at St. Mary's cemetery, section 4 and then to section 6.
2. Dick H. is still considering working on new veteran street signs.
3. We discussed the post doing something for member Bob Catalano's 100th birthday in October.
4. There again was a discussion of combining the VFW's color guard with our color guard.
5. It was again brought up that the permit for the Walpole poker tournament needs to be done as soon as possible. This was a very lucrative money maker for the post this past year.

GENERAL OLD BUSINESSS AND REMINDERS:

1. Bricks for the walkway on the Common can continue to be purchased for \$100 each to honor any veteran. The honoree can be someone living or deceased and they do not need to be from Franklin. Applications can be found on the town's website. The next set of bricks will be dedicated on Veteran's Day.
2. See in unfinished business an update on the cleaning of the markers in the town's cemeteries.
3. The veteran's coffee socials continue to be held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Franklin Senior Center beginning at 10a.m. All veterans are welcomed.
4. Chaplain Bob has been in constant contact with the assisted living facilities in town to see when we can start up our visits again. It appears as if it will be soon for those who have been fully vaccinated. We would still be required to wear masks inside the facilities. It is a possibility that we will be able to go to Benchmark soon. He will try and get a schedule for the visits.
5. There is talk of forming an American Legion Auxiliary for women in Franklin.
6. A Franklin squadron of the Sons of the Legion has been formed. Alan Earls has been spearheading this endeavor and has been named the Commander Adjutant. If any member knows of anyone who may be qualified to join the squadron, they can contact Alan.
7. John Hefe's wife has offered to sew patches on uniforms for free if assistance is needed.
8. Members, please remember that Bob Markunis takes prayer requests for the sick. This will be added to the post's website.



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9. If you know of any potential members, please direct them to the post's website for membership information and an application and also let Dick Hynes know so that he may give them a follow up call.
10. There is an American Legion Basic Training course. Upon successful completion you will receive a pin and a certificate of completion. See www.mylegion.org/training .
- 11, A podcast, Tango Alpha Lima, tells folks what's going on.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A meeting will be set up for the strategic planning committee.
2. The post's CPR report as well as other officers' reports need to be completed. The post adjutant will take care of this.
3. 100 miles for Hope Challenge is being encouraged. Members are encouraged to participate and it is still not too late to sign up.

COMMITTEES

1. Post Strategic Plan - Dave Labonte, Matt McGrath and Dick Hynes.
2. Raffle committee - John Milot, Matt McGrath, Dick Hynes and Dave Labonte
3. Franklin High School Scholarship committee. – Kent, Ray, Steve S.
4. Public Relations committee -John Hefele, Steve S.
5. Assisting/Visiting Veterans in Local hospitals. Matt McGrath leads this committee.
6. The American Legion Boys State program. Committee members: John Milot and Doug Wahl.
7. Franklin Funeral Homes committee –John M, Matt McGrath, Jim McNeil, John Hefele, Bob Markunis, Kent Belcher, Dave Labonte, and Doug Wahl.
8. Uniform Etiquette Committee – John Milot, Steve S. and Bob Markunis.
9. Poker tournament committee – Dave Labonte