



## American Legion Post 75

Minutes of the meeting on **7 June 2021**. Meetings are 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 <sup>st</sup> Vice – Dick Hynes	Present
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice & Post Service Officer John Hefele	Present
Adjutant – Bruce Watkins	Present
Finance – Dave Labonte	Present
SGT at Arms – Juan DelValle	Present
Chaplain – Bob Markunis	Present
Historian – Steve Szilniczky	Present
Quartermaster – Ron Arpino	Present

➤ **14** members in attendance.

### NOTES:

1. Per the Commander's request, Dave Labonte has taken over the duties of Finance Officer from Kent Belcher.
2. Ron Arpino will assume the duties of the post's quartermaster, replacing Dave Labonte.
3. Joe Manning from the Wrentham post attended the first part of the meeting and told the membership that the Wrentham post was working on getting back on its feet. Any help or suggestions from our post would be much appreciated.
4. Fredrick Wise, Jr. from Medfield was a guest at our meeting.

### OFFICERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Minutes from the May 2021 meeting were accepted and are on the post's website.
2. There was no formal finance report given as we make the transition in finance officers. The commander stated there were no real changes in the post's finances for the month.
3. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice., John H. said that there were 115 new bricks installed on the walkway on Memorial Day. 37 of these were bought by Franklin High School students for those Franklin veterans who died in combat and have a pedestal in their honor. It was only fitting that they had a brick as well. Bricks can continue to be



## American Legion Post 75

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

4. John H. told the post that we would try and hold Flag Day ceremonies at the 3 senior citizen places that we will visit.
5. About 155 Veterans' markers have been cleaned at St. Mary's cemetery thus far. The post hopes to continue with the cleaning throughout the summer. The veteran's coffee socials continue to be held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Franklin Senior Center. All veterans are welcomed.
6. The post thanked brother Frank for getting the scouts to help getting flags put on all the veterans' graves in all of the Franklin cemeteries prior to Memorial Day.
7. Chaplain Bob has been in continue 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.
8. It was noted that there is talk of forming an American Legion Auxiliary for women in Franklin.
9. 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 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.
10. The Quartermaster is going to purchase 2 more XL and 2 L jackets to have as backups for members wanting them. He currently has 1 XL jacket and 1 garrison cap on hand. John Hefe's wife has offered to sew patches on uniforms for free if assistance is needed.
10. Steve S., the post's historian is writing an article for the newspaper about Franklin's American Legion baseball team as well as an article about the Memorial Day weekend and the ceremony at the Common. Any material or pictures about our post that anyone has would be much appreciated.
11. Members, please remember that Bob Markunis takes prayer requests for the sick. This will be added to the Post website.
12. 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.
13. 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](http://www.mylegion.org/training) .

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Sgt. At Arms, Juan DelValle suggested having a rifle squad practice twice a month in order to be better prepared when needed.



## American Legion Post 75

2. The commander suggested putting a blood donor area at the local TV station. He also suggested advertising the post on our local radio and TV stations.
3. It was also suggested that our post's American Legion baseball schedule be printed and disseminated to the members and that we have members attending games to show our support.
4. The Medway and Plainville posts have asked that their posts be closed. The commander is trying to get this not to happen, to try and help them stay open.
5. A car show has been put on at Gillette stadium. It was thought that we should try and get in touch with them to see if we could do it in Franklin.
6. A motion was made that the money from the monthly 50/50 raffle go to the children and youth fund rather than the scholarship fund. This motion was seconded and voted on and passed.
7. Dave Labonte suggested getting rid of the road race committee and then forming a committee to look into having a poker tournament. We would be the only charity. Dave will look into insurance and other items needed to have a tournament.
8. Steve S. suggested forming a Fund-Raising committee.
9. Dick Hynes would like the post to enter information and news into the Vet News paper.

The meeting was concluded and refreshments were furnished by a couple of the members.

### 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. Franklin High School Scholarship committee. – Kent, Ray, Steve
4. Public Relations committee -John Hefe, 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 Hefe, 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