



## American Legion Post 75

Minutes of the in-person meeting held on **08 June, 2022**. Meetings are normally held at 23 Hutchison Street, Franklin, MA. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander – 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 – Matt McGrath	Present
Chaplain – Bob Markunis	Present
Historian – Steve Szilniczky	Excused
Quartermaster – Frank Coughlin	Present

➤ **10** members in attendance.

### NOTES:

### OFFICERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The minutes from the May 2022 meeting were accepted and are on the post's website.
2. A motion was given to set aside the normal meeting in order to elect officers. There was only 1 nominee for each office so therefore could vote by acclamation. This was then done. There is only one change from the current officers' roster and that is for Sgt. at Arms. Matt McGrath is the post's new Sgt. at Arms.
3. The finance report was given. The current bank balance is \$6404.62 with an available balance of \$4813.38. It was noted that a total of \$792.00 was received from donations for poppies at the Memorial Day Parade. The report was approved and is on the post's website.
4. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander noted that we have 80 members with a 2022 paid membership which is 119% of the state's expected renewal rate for our post. Norfolk County is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the state with a 105.6% renewal rate.
5. The Quartermaster noted that he has 3 pairs of pants and 3 jackets. To see about getting one or to ask about sizes or any other clothing questions contact the Quartermaster, Frank Coughlin.



## American Legion Post 75

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. John H. stated that a scout finished section 1's cleaning at St. Mary's cemetery. He noted that a brass plaque from the Civil War was found there.
2. 22 of the veterans' bricks were dedicated at the Memorial Day ceremonies on the Common.
3. John H. sent out an email requesting having a BBQ as one of our monthly meetings but he had only one response. It was discussed and it was tentatively agreed upon to possibly doing this for our August meeting.
4. Dick H. told the group that there was no candidate for Boys State this year.
5. Dick H. briefed the post on the Memorial Day Parade. He said that in general, everything went well considering the short time we had to prepare. Discussions were had on how to make the parade better for next year. He noted that the considerable time spent with Ernest Carruthers of the VFW post and the interactions between the posts' members have brought the 2 posts closer together.
6. Dick H. said we are working on improving the street sign memorials.

### 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 over the Memorial Day weekend.
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 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.
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.



## American Legion Post 75

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](http://www.mylegion.org/training) .
11. A podcast, Tango Alpha Lima, tells folks what's going on.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. The poker tournament permit is set to expire and must be renewed.
2. The commander has received an application for a state trooper for anyone interested.
3. American Legion baseball is about to start. It was discussed about putting an ad in the program book. It was voted on to put a quarter page ad into the book.
4. It was also discussed about having a color guard for the team's opening home game.
5. The commander brought up whether we should coordinate our color guard with the Franklin VFW color guard. And, also, whether our rifle squad could/should practice with the Wrentham post's rifle squad.
6. There will be no Veterans' Coffee Social in July.
7. It was discussed about giving a certificate or proclamation to Bob Catalano for his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### 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 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