



## American Legion Post 75

Minutes of the in-person meeting held on **11 May, 2022**. Meetings are normally held at 23 Hutchison Street, Franklin, MA. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month. 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	Excused
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice & Post Service Officer-John Hefele	Present
Adjutant – Bruce Watkins	Present
Finance – Dave Labonte	Present
SGT at Arms – Juan DelValle	Excused
Chaplain – Bob Markunis	Present
Historian – Steve Szilniczky	Excused
Quartermaster – Frank Coughlin	Present

➤ 7 members in attendance.

### NOTES:

1. There were only 7 members in attendance at this meeting which is not a quorum.

### OFFICERS' COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The minutes from the April 2022 meeting were accepted and are on the post's website.
2. The finance report was given. The current bank balance is \$7079.78 with an available balance of \$4555.54. Dean Bank sent a letter to the post's commander validating our claim that we were not responsible for the fraudulent activity on the post's debit/credit card. The money that was taken from the account has been permanently credited back to our account. The cards have been destroyed and will no longer be used. The finance report was accepted and is on the post's website.
3. The officers voted to donate \$50 to the Franklin Food Pantry.



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### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. John H. is going to meet with the scout groups about helping to clean veteran plaques at the cemeteries.
2. 22 of the veterans' bricks will be dedicated at the Memorial Day ceremonies on the Common.
3. The finance officer needs tax information on the poker tournaments that were held in Walpole.

### GENERAL OLD BUSINESS 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. About 155 Veterans' markers have been cleaned at St. Mary's cemetery thus far. The post hopes to continue the cleaning this coming spring.
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.
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.



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### NEW BUSINESS

1. John H. said that we currently have 450 poppies with which we hope to received donations for at the parade.
2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> vice said that nominations for post officers for the coming year have been completed.
3. The commander stated that the Medway post is officially closed and the members moved to our post.
4. The commander suggested having a bbq post meeting hoping to increase attendance and participation.
5. \$67 was donated by the meeting's attendees and put toward the bugle fund.

### 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