

Bloomington Post 550

Monday, February 13, 2023, Minutes

- Meeting called to order by Post Commander Luis Campero
- Colors presented, prayer offered. The POW flag was placed on an empty chair. Pledge and Preamble recited.
- Guests: Mike Dardis, Les Fordahl, Fran Stachour and William Botsford from Bloomington Remembers Veterans. They thanked American Legion Post 550 for its ongoing support.
- Roll call of officers: 1st vice commander excused.
- Printed copies of the November minutes distributed. Mead moved, Walsh seconded, and the minutes were approved.
- Chaplain's Report, 52-year member Kenny "Jay" Benkowski, 35-Year member Wayne J. Dvorak (former post chaplain), 47-year member Elmer "Bud" Potter, and 36 Year member Arthur C. Welsh Jr. recently died. A prayer was offered by Chaplain Mead for the deceased.
- Financial Officer Jerry Narragon gave the Financial Report. Dan Welsh moved, Keith Zesch seconded, and the report was approved.
- Membership reported that membership for 2023 is at 305 or 84 percent of the goal.
- Gambling Manager Tim Engstrom said new software for the gambling operations was implemented in January and took much time from the gambling staff. They have to catch up. He will provide the Gambling Report for January along with the report for February at the March 13 meeting.

The Post 550 Gambling Committee recommended approval of the following to be paid in February:

- American Legion 9th District of Minnesota Band: \$500
- Bloomington Remembers Veterans: \$5,000
- Bloomington Friends of Forensic (speech team boosters for school district): \$2,000
- Bloomington Legion Baseball: \$8,000
- Kennedy Pantry: \$4,000
- Bloomington Girls Hockey: \$1,000
- Bloomington Mites: \$1,000
- Bloomington Traveling Baseball Association: \$1,000
- Bloomington Fastpitch Association (Blast): \$500
- Angelica Cantini Youth Choir: \$500
- ISD 271 (Senior Achievement Recognition Event) \$500

Approved the following to be paid in March:

- Bloomington Remembers Veterans: \$5,000
- Bloomington Legion Baseball: \$8,000

Approved the following to be paid in April:

- Bloomington Remembers Veterans: \$5,000
- Bloomington Legion Baseball: \$8,000

Approved the following to be paid in May:

- Bloomington Remembers Veterans: \$5,000

Approved the following to be paid in June:

- Bloomington Remembers Veterans: \$5,000

- Motion was made by Mead and seconded by Stachour at general membership meeting to make those donations. Motion carried.
 - Gun Safety Committee plans has scheduled the 2023 Spring Firearms Safety Course at the VFW Post 1296 on April 25 and 27 with the Field Day on April 29 at American Legion Post 435 in Elko.
 - The Fall Firearms Safety Course dates are Aug. 15 and 17 and Field Day is on the 19.
Gun Safety Questions Contact: Ken Lundgren 612-812-0854
 - Sons of the American Legion reports 42 paid members
 - New Business: A discussion on supporting Legion Riders with Jacket Patches will be discussed next month Mullen moved and Mead seconded. Motion carried.
 - Prayer was offered.
 - POW Flag was recovered.
 - The meeting was adjourned.
- Adjutant Warren Christopherson