

American Legion Post 550 Minutes for November 2021

- Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Commander Luis Campero
- Roll call of officers: All present.
- No guests present.
- October minutes approved as amended to include the name of Mary Touve of Humana as a guest.
- 1st Vice: Thank-you notes came from a baseball player, Oak Grove Middle School, Hastings Veterans Home (countertops in the kitchen we paid for).
- Adjutant: Post members are going to Saluting Community Heroes fundraiser on Nov. 18 in Hutchinson in a van. A motion was made for \$146.06 to rent the van. Approved.
- Finance: ATM profit was \$413. Total funds sit at about \$337,000. Estimate is 20 percent more than a year ago.
- Chaplain: Moment of silence for members who died. (See memoriam on next page of newsletter.)
- Athletic: Post 550 will host the state DI Jr. tournament in 2022, along with an all-star game. Need to see more of own veterans at the ballpark at state DI Jr tournament July 28-31. There are almost daily games for our teams in June and July to attend. Baseball is a proud part of Post 550.
- Membership: Present total is 260. Membership dinner is set for 5-7 p.m. Nov. 10 at Knights of Columbus Hall in Bloomington.
- Sergeant-at-Arms: Auxiliary has cupcakes in celebration of Auxiliary's birthday.
- Gambling: Donations in November totaled \$13,500. Report approved.
- Boy Scouts: Troop 328 gave its possessions to other troops in the council and will have a Court of Honor with the last three Eagle Scouts.
- Gun Safety: Date of April 27 for classes, will use conference room for classes. Date of April 29 to go to Post 435's gun club and firing range. To sign up, call Kurt at 612-812-0854.
- SAL: 34 paid members
- Riders: Bikes being put away, Riders hosting Pearl Harbor Rally on Dec. 4 at Montgomery Post 79. Riders will plan a new ride to raise funds for Veteran Assistance Fund.
- Adjutant Tim Engstrom asked about efforts to find a caterer. Clarence Bunkholt would investigate.
- First Vice Cmdr. Ron Nenovich reported on Post 550 giving out more than 1,000 pieces of candy for Halloween at city event at Normandale Lake.
- Joint Post 550/1296 Honor Guard Captain Dan Welsh said new uniforms would cost \$777 apiece, and there are 14 members, and he asked for \$16,000 so the unit has funds available for new members. A motion was made for \$8,000, noting uniforms can be approved as needed. New members can call Welsh at 952-607-8706. A discussion was had. Motion carried with 1 opposed.
- Chaplain Jim Mead said the Honor Guard would host Congressman Dean Phillips at noon on Veterans Day by the flagpole.
- A discussion was had on the January meeting, where Department of Minnesota Commander Tom Fernlund would visit. Engstrom explained he would hear a presentation on the Bloomington Veterans Memorial being built.
- Department Membership Director Paul Hassing noted National Vice Commander Angel Narvaez was coming to Minnesota and would be at the Pearl Harbor Rally Dec. 4 in Montgomery.
- Mead said Post 550 expected to hear about the status of playing bingo again.

- Campero said he and Engstrom went to a Beyond the Yellow Ribbon ceremony at City Hall earlier that evening and met the commander of the Armory, along with Meghan from the Family Readiness Foundation. He felt getting to know them would be good for growing membership.
- Prayer offered and meeting adjourned.

– *Adjutant Tim Engstrom*