

American Legion Post 550 Minutes for October 2021

- Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. Oct. 12 by Commander Luis Campero.
- Guests: Mary Touve of Humana and three ballplayers
- Roll call of officers: all present.
- 2nd Vice Commander Clarence Bunkholt: Remind members of the membership dinner on Nov. 9, where there will be roast beef and chicken.
- Adjutant Tim Engstrom: Bunkholt has report on effort to have meals at meetings. He looked at the Knights of Columbus Hall but our night is taken. He spoke with the VFW chef and he would do a buffet and is working out a price to bring back next month as an action item. Engstrom reported on bringing a 2021 Officer Manual back from National HQ, and he said the Trumpeteer was out.
- Finance Officer Jerry Narragon: Finance report read and approved.
- Chaplain Jim Mead: Moment of silence for three veterans who died. Also noted member Paul Hassing, the department membership director, is recovering from surgery.
- Athletic Officer Ron Nenovic: Meetings are happening at VFW Post 1296 every month to discuss tournaments.
- Membership Director & Sgt.-at-Arms Richard Walker: Post 550 has 254 members in this membership year, but more are expected to be processed as MyLegion.org's kinks are worked out.
- Gambling Manager Rick Warren: Gambling operation at Sports Page Bar & Grill broke into again. Thieves had a sledgehammer but didn't get the safe. During the finance meeting, Post 550 proposed making \$13,500 in donations — to Kennedy football, Kennedy pantry, scholarship, Jefferson hockey, Kennedy hockey, Kennedy/Jefferson girls hockey, booster clubs, Veterans on the Lake, Veterans on Big Marine Lake, Minnesota Military Family Foundation. Motion to approve report and donations approved.
- A discussion was had on changing bylaws to pay lawful expenditures. Motion to regularly pay lawful expenditures approved.
- Warren described the City of Bloomington's effort to honor veterans with a veterans memorial at the Civic Plaza.
- Warren said Post 550 was fined \$100.
- Gun safety: April classes are being planned, minimum age is 12.
- SAL: There are 25 paid members.
- Riders: Don Alman said the Minnesota Legacy Run ended in Hopkins and was fun despite 35 minutes of rain.
- New business: Richard Skinn and Mike Mellin said there is a need for the honor guard to get new uniforms. Mellin said they will return with options.
- Engstrom said Department of Minnesota Commander Tom Fernlund is coming to our post meeting in January to hear about the new Bloomington Veterans Memorial.
- Engstrom said he is looking at van rental options for the Saluting Community Heroes gathering on Nov. 18 in Hutchinson. The van would depart at 3:30 p.m., he said.
- Motion to approve August meeting minutes carries.
- Prayer offered and meeting adjourned.

— Adjutant Tim Engstrom