

# Bloomington American Legion Post 550

## Monday, October 10, 2022 Minutes

- Meeting called to order by 1st Vice Commander Ron Nenovich
  - Colors presented, prayer offered. The POW flag was in place on an empty chair. Pledge and Preamble recited.
  - Guest Julia Eszlinger Jensen came to thank Finance Officer Jerry Narragon for his assistance earlier this day in obtaining flags for a special memorial service for her husband. Julia was a member of the Richfield Legion Post 435 but decided during tonight's meeting to join the Bloomington Post 550.
- Also, new tonight to the American Legion Post 550 is An Dang, who worked with the U.S. Army during Vietnam War.
- Roll call of officers: Two were excused, Commander and 2nd Vice Commander.
  - Chaplain's report, Jack W Hanson, WWII, Army Veteran has died.
  - Financial Officer Narragon gave the Financial Report, Welch moved, Warren seconded, and the report was approved.
  - Membership Director, Paul Hassing reported that membership for 2023 is at 232 or 62 percent of the goal. Tim Engstrom added the Legion would like to purchase Post 550 Pins for paid members of the post. The cost is \$362. Mead moved, Welsh seconded. Approved.
  - Gambling Manager Tim Engstrom provided the Gambling Report. Donations were approved the Legion-VFW honor guard (new uniforms), Big Marine Lake Campground (repairs), gun safety training, Jefferson and Kennedy hockey, youth hockey, Bloomington Travel Baseball, Bloomington Athletic Hall of Fame (banquet), city (Veterans Appreciation Day), Veterans Resiliency Project, Saluting Community Heroes. Also decided was to pay off the no-interest loan for the shuttle bus. Welsch moved, Zesch seconded, and the report was approved.
  - Gun Safety committee thanked the American Legion Post 550 for its continued support.
  - Jim Mead reported for the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) membership is at 18.
  - Paul Hassing provided a recap of the Minnesota Legion Riders presentation at the National Convention in Milwaukee. It was the largest contribution from any one state: \$155,000 for 2022. Other states including Maryland are a very close second. The Minnesota Legion Riders aim to stay on top in 2023. A change to a one-weekend Legacy Run is being planned for next year.
  - Printed copies of the September minutes distributed. Servin moved, Engstrom seconded, and the September minutes were approved.
  - An additional Up to \$1,000 was approved for Veterans Appreciation Day, Nov. 9, expenditures.
  - Agreement was reached to pursue gambling possibilities at the new Richfield American Legion in the future when it opens a restaurant.
  - Veterans Appreciation Dinner will be Oct. 23 at the Bloomington Event Center.
  - Rick Skinn discussed DAV organization Life Member Options.
  - Nov. 15 is the Celebration Dinner Saluting Community Heroes in Hutchinson, MN. A group of up to 10 Post 550 Members will be attending. The Legion shuttle bus departs at 3:30 p.m.
  - Prayer offered.
  - POW flag recovered.
  - Meeting adjourned.

— Adjutant Warren Christopherson