

ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

The Executive Board was called to order by President Douglas Cooper, at 9:30 am. at the VFW Hall. The following members were in attendance:

Doug Cooper, President

Harry Bennett, 1st Vice President

Jim Atieh, 2nd Vice President

Rich Bernarde, Secretary Absent

Mike Kelley, Treasurer

Marty Valerio, Assistant Treasurer Absent

David Voehl, Membership Chairman

Mark Cohen, Immediate Past President

Bob Dauer, Past President

Jim Mallen, Liaison to the WRC Absent

Don Kirkpatrick – Guest

George Lewis - Guest

- The minutes of the December meeting were accepted unanimously by the Board.
- Doug made remarks about the Corona 19 virus and its impact on activities and club meetings.
- Treasurer's Report – Mike Kelley reviewed the balance sheet. Currently AU has \$9200 in the Columbia account and \$11,843 in the TD America account and \$100 in the fund raising account, used for 50-50's. We spoke about the TD America Affinity Program. Mike brought flyers from TD to be distributed to the members regarding the program. Mike is also checking with TD Bank to see why AU has not received a payment for 2021.
 - Mark Cohen reviewed the budget line for reserves and surplus, stating that the reserve portion is \$5,000, it is identified for insurance but also for possible dues shortfall, which is a mix of \$30 and \$50 payments and excludes the 41 members over 90 years who do not have to pay. Mark will deliver a \$2,000 check and a \$150 check to Reverend Andy, which represent the annual payments to the WRC from AU for 2021. Mark also mentioned the \$1300 to \$1400 refunds that were made to members who did not attend the Christmas party, mostly due to Covid, and the additional \$300 for invited guests.

- We discussed the possibility of coming up short on the budget if we do not get additional 20-30 new members. Currently we have 242 paid members.
- Currently, we are paying down the 2020 credit of \$1000 that is for non-use of the Larkin House in 2021. We discussed the possibility of asking for a discount or possibly adding some capital improvements in lieu of future payments. Hold harmless, as a result of our new insurance policies letters have been given to Wyckoff and Franklin Lakes.
- Harry asked for an explanation of the \$350 line item for Computer Technology. Don Kirkpatrick explained that it is for website host, license fees for the name and Zoom fees.
- Doug explained that approximately \$4500 is now included in the budget for insurance costs. \$2800 for liability, \$300 for the umbrella policy and \$1100 - \$1200 for our accident coverage.
- A motion was made by Harry Bennett to accept the budget as proposed. Mark seconded and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Mike Kelley indicated that the current tax exemption certificate is available. We reviewed the activities that will likely need one.

- The audit committee has been set up. Frank Nusspickel will be the audit leader.
- John Abrhamsen will be asked to send an email to those members who have not paid dues yet. Any members with dues still outstanding will be contacted by phone by board members early in February. This item will be followed up at the February Board meeting. Mike Kelley will provide a list of those members who do not have an email. They will be called to ascertain their status.
- Care and Concern – Mike indicated that a \$50 donation has been made to St. Judes Hospital in memory of Jeff Mohn. A donation was also made to Manhattan College in memory of Neil Boylan, last year.
- Meeting venues – Harry Bennett reported that the VFW Hall is available every Tuesday and Wednesday. The Larkin House is available on Wednesdays and the Ambulance Corps is available on the second Tuesday of each month for our General Meeting. The Franklin Lakes OEM building is also available for our Board meetings prior to the General meeting. Harry reviewed the possible club schedules and will formalize it after speaking with the club chairs. A long discussion about scheduling was held. Doug said that usage of the Ambulance Corps requires setup and breakdown of chairs and tables. The address is 480 Bender Court.
- Membership – Dave Voehl reported that the membership now stands at 357, as of December 31, 2021. There have been two new applications so far in January. Dave questioned if the pre-paid envelopes were still good. It was determined in the past that it was not worth the cost. Dave indicated that the Membership Letter in the Newsletter needs to be updated and changed. He will draft a new one and distribute it to the Board members for comments.
 - Dave asked if it is possible to get a backup for membership. Dick Hensch is listed with Walt Widmer on the club list. Dave will approach Dick to see if he will be the backup.
 - Dave also asked if there will be any storage capability at the Ambulance Corps for badges, Etc. Harry did not know.
- Speakers Program – Today's speaker is Anthony Walsh, a physical fitness person. Next month, Gregory Gordon, from Merrill Lynch, will talk about aging and technology. Murray Perl will speak about how vaccines work in March. Futures speakers may include a talk from AARP and

Bergen County genealogy. Don Kirkpatrick and Harry will plan for the possibility of Zoom meetings, if necessary.

- Low Stakes Poker – Doug contacted Legalized Games of Chance of New Jersey and they said no. Any organization must be properly licensed. Doug will contact Roy Peppard to let him know.
- Effect of Covid on meetings – General discussion. It is hopeful that we might be able to return to continue live meetings in the future. It is too soon to tell with the situation being so fluid, day-to-day. We must still plan for hybrid meetings. Don and Harry will plan for contingencies and a notice should be made to members at least two weeks in advance of a hybrid or total Zoom meeting. Harry mentioned that it is difficult to see a video presentation on Zoom. Doug will review the situation at the General Meeting.
- YMCA Picnic/ BBQ – Should we do it again? Joe Pullaro has volunteered to work the YMCA to set it up. Mark Cohen said we need to acknowledge that AU now lacks the luxury of a carry forward which would allow AU to subsidize future events, such as the picnic. In general, we must be aware of the consequences of any subsidy.
- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Harry Bennett and seconded by Mark Cohen. President Cooper adjourned the meeting at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted;
David Voehl, Secretary

After the formal Board meeting, George Lewis asked to address the Board in regards to some suggestions and comments that he feels the Board should be aware of. Some items were:

- Social contact with new members.
- More representation of Board members at our functions.
- The need for outreach to insure the future of AU. This should be the responsibility of Board members and Club Chairs.
- We need a new Chairman for the Investment Study Club and each club should have a co-chair.
- Try to select speakers for the maximum draw at the General Meetings.
- Possibly coordinate with other men's clubs for Trips and Tours.
- Try to identify possible future Board members during the year, rather than at year end.
- Better utilization of the data base.