

ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday December 10, 2024

The Executive Board meeting was called to order by President Jim Atieh, at 9:31 AM at the Wyckoff Reformed Church, Wyckoff, New Jersey. The following members were in attendance:

Jim Atieh, President

Tom Donch, 1st Vice President

Gaspar Lesznik – 2nd Vice President

Mike Kelley, Treasurer

Scott Japko – Assistant Treasurer

Rich Bernarde, Secretary

Harry Bennett, Immediate Past President

Doug Cooper, Outgoing Past President

Jim Webb - Membership Chairman

Marty Valerio - Communications Chairman

Jim Mallen, Liaison to the WRC

John Toth – Chairman of Care and Concern

Adolph Galluccio – Incoming 2025 2nd Vice President

Gabe Carifi – Incoming 2025 Assistant Treasurer

- President Jim Atieh proposed that the minutes from the Board and General meetings of October 8, 2024, be approved; all concurred.
- Treasurer's Report – Mike Kelley Treasurer, reviewed the November 30, 2024, with the Board. Mike advised the Board that we have not yet this year given funds to Pastor Andy. Our 2024 Budget amount is \$2,000. Mike proposed giving Pastor Andy the \$2,000 today. Doug Cooper proposed that the Board approve the payment of the 2023 surplus totaling \$1,635 to the Wyckoff Reformed church at the December General meeting. This payment

will satisfy the requirement of the By Laws (Article IX, 4) to disburse excess funds to the church when it is determined they are not required to meet budgeted expenses. This is typically done approximately 12 months after the year end closes. Mike asked if there was any concerns about giving Pastor Andy both of these checks today, as well as \$297.50 which was raised this year in 50/50 which will be donated to the Wyckoff Reformed Church Food Pantry which the Wyckoff Reformed Church sponsors. No exceptions were raised, the Board approved the disbursements of these checks to Pastor Andy.

- Membership – Jim Webb advised that as of today December 10, 2024, we have 324 members. So far this year, we have 28 new members.
- 2024 Christmas Party – the Board briefly discussed the success of the 2024 Christmas which was held on December 2, 2024, at Season's in Washington Township. There were 198 members (including wives and significant others) at our 2024 party including 6 guests that were sponsored by AU. The Christmas party was \$1,352 over budgeted levels. Great food, dancing to a lively DJ, and fellowship was enjoyed by all. For 10 years John Murphy and Bill Mastellon have managed AU's Christmas Party; this has been a tremendous accomplishment, and the AU Board expressed their sincerest gratitude for all of John and Bill's hard work, determination, and support over the years. Looking forward to December 2025, a deposit for the 2025 Christmas Party at Seasons has already been made. The date is December 8, 2025. All members are recommended to keep the date open.
- Care and Concern – John Toth who recently stepped forward and will lead AU's Care and Concern attended the meeting. AU has 50 members 90 years old or older. John is going to send all 50 members birth card on their birthday. The Board thought this was an excellent idea and fully encouraged John to go forward.
- 2025 Spring Luncheon – The Board has actively reviewed locations to hold the 2025 spring luncheon. Due to the high inflation of the past several years, the Board is having an extremely challenging time in finding a restaurant/caterer whose luncheon costs will be amenable to our members. The Board made a decision to return to the Indian Trail Club, in Franklin Lakes. After thoughtful deliberation, and in an attempt to keep the cost of the luncheon as reasonable as possible to our members the AU Band will not be playing at this year's Spring luncheon. As you may or may not be familiar with; because the AU Band plays at the luncheon, AU picks up the cost of the luncheon for all Band members. At 2025 prices, this becomes a material amount and raises the cost of the luncheon to our membership. In lieu of the band playing, DJ Peter Liberman will be providing the music. As you probably know, DJ Liberman has been providing music for years at our Christmas gala at Seasons. He consistently has been very well received by our members. Switching to DJ Liberman is a substantial savings to our members.

- Bridge Club playing at the Larkin House, Wyckoff NJ – For the past several years the Bridge Club chooses to play bridge at the Larkin House in Wyckoff. The Larkin House charges AU for the use of their facility. AU pays the Larkin House, and the various bridge club members reimburses AU quarterly. The Board reviewed this arrangement for 2025, and the Board approved its going forward. Incidentally, the Bridge club is capped at 24 members and currently there is a waiting list to join the Bridge club.
- Changes to AU's Website – Progress has been made with restoring the changes that were made to AU's website. Jim Webb will work with John Abrahamsen.
- AU Marketing – Gaspar is working on a new internal marketing department to increase public awareness of AU and help increase membership. Gaspar held one meeting and more are being planned shortly.
- Speaker Program – At today's General meeting, two Detectives were from the Wyckoff Police Dept. Sgt Michael DeMaio and Det. Sgt. Michael Ragucci will discuss common scams perpetrated on the elderly. In addition, they will review common Christmas time scams and how to prevent them from happening.
- The Board meeting concluded at 11:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bernarde, Secretary