

ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday November 12, 2024

The Executive Board meeting was called to order by President Jim Atieh, at 9:28 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.
- Changes to AU's Website – It appears that John Abrahamsen has made several changes to the AU Webpage the no one on the Board was familiar with. These changes include deleting the individual clubs that members belong to when you search for their name. Also, the individual clubs that a member belonged to which was previously listed has now been deleted. Marty Valerio agreed to investigate this.
- Treasurer's Report – Mike Kelley advised that that our cash position was good. There is a combined \$34 K in the AU bank accounts on October 31, 2024.

- Care and Concern – John Toth has graciously stepped forward and will lead AU’s Care and Concern. John has several excellent ideas on how this could be improved going forward. The Board thanked John and encouraged him.
- Membership – Jim Webb advised that as of October 8, 2024, we have 321 members. So far this year, we have 23 new members, sadly 14 have passed, and for various reasons 29 have been deactivated.
- 2025 New AU Board Members – As approved by members at the October 2024, General Meeting three new 2025 Executive Board members attended this meeting. They are Doug Cooper as Treasurer, Gabe Carifi as Assistant Treasurer and Marty Valerio as Secretary. The Board expressed extreme gratitude to Doug who graciously stepped forward to serve AU as Treasurer for 2025, after numerous years in various positions, including President, Past President, and currently as Outgoing Past President. Doug brings an immense amount of experience, knowledge, and dedication to the AU Board.
- 2025 Spring Luncheon – The Board continues actively reviewing 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 will continue to persist in evaluating local restaurants and caterers. Members should be anticipating a significant cost increase for the 2025 Spring luncheon.
- 2024 Audit of AU’s Books and Records – Mike Kelley informed us that Frank Nusspickel has stepped forward to audit AU’s 2024 books and records.
- Distinguished Service Award – The Board discussed and finalized the recipient of the 2024 AU Distinguished Service Award. The decision will remain confidential until the 2024 Christmas Dinner and Dance at Seasons.
- AU Bulletin Board – Harrey Bennett updated us that usage of the AU Bulletin board has been going up.
- 2025 Budget – The Board had a preliminary 2025 Budget discussion. More follow-up is required.
- Associate Memberships – The question of what an Associate AU Membership arose. The Board discussed this topic and agreed that the current wording is vague. The Board agreed to address Associate Membership on a case-by-case basis going forward when needed.
- 2024 AU Thank You Luncheon - The Board voted unanimously to approve the 2024 Thank You Luncheon for Club Chairman, Club Co-Chairman, and the Executive Board. Through the dedication and efforts of these individuals AU continues to be a vibrant and active Men’s Club. The luncheon will be held at FINO’s Italian restaurant in Allendale on Wednesday December 11, 2024.

- Today's General Meeting Speaker – Unfortunately, today's General meeting speaker cancelled this morning due to illness. Tom Donch reached out to Murray Perl who graciously agreed to do a presentation on the problems with the Boeing 737. The Board voted unanimously to give Murry a small stipend to show our thanks and appreciation.
- AU Marketing – Gaspar has working on a new internal marketing department to increase public awareness of AU and help increase membership. Gaspar has reached out to several members you have agreed to support this endeavor. He plans to hold formal meetings shortly.
- Speaker Program – At the December 2024 General meeting, Detectives from the Franklin Lakes Police department will discuss common scams perpetrated on the elderly. In addition, they will review common Christmas time scams and how to prevent them.
- The Board meeting concluded at 11:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bernarde, Secretary