

ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday October 8, 2024

The Executive Board meeting was called to order at 10:50 AM by 2024 President Jim Atieh at the Brickhouse Wyckoff, New Jersey following the AU's annual breakfast at the Brick House. 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

Jim Mallen, Liaison to the WRC, absent

John Toth – Chairman of Care and Concern

Joe Pullaro – Guest

Mark Cohen - Guest

- President Jim Atieh proposed that the minutes from the Board and General meetings of September 10, 2024, be approved; all concurred.
- Joe Pullaro History Club Chairman – Joe was invited to this meeting. He advised the Board that he was having a challenging time finding speakers for the History club monthly meetings which receives a large turnout monthly from the AU members monthly. Joe requested that a stipend for History club speakers be included in the 2025 Budget. Since the 2025 Budget is currently being prepared the Board advised Joe that that the Board would take his request into consideration. Joe also led a special project team to try and analyze and determine why attendance is down at meetings and AU membership in general. His findings and recommendations were discussed.

- Distinguished Service Award – The Board discussed several candidates worthy of receiving the 2024 Distinguished Service Award. Jim Atieh recommended that the Board think about our discussion and be ready to make a final decision at the November Board meeting.
- 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.
- 2025 Budget – The Board had a preliminary 2025 Budget discussion. More follow-up is required. The Board did approve 2025 dues of \$60.00 per member effective January 1, 2025. Membership dues for 2025 are due to be paid by December 31, 2024.
- 2025 Board Nomination Committee – Doug Cooper advised that the Nomination committee has picked three new Board members that are both willing and qualified to serve on the 2025 AU Board. For 2025, the new AU Board members include 2nd VP Adolph Galluccio, Treasurer Doug Cooper, Assistant Treasurer Gabe Carifi, and Secretary Marty Valerio. The 2025 AU Executive Board is as follows:
 - **President: Tom Donch**
 - **1st Vice President: Gaspar Lesznik**
 - **2nd Vice President: Adolph Galluccio**
 - **Treasurer: Doug Cooper**
 - **Asst. Treasurer: Gabe Carifi**
 - **Secretary: Marty Valerio**
- 2025 Spring Luncheon – The Board has been actively reviewing locations to hold the 2025 spring luncheon. However, due to the high inflation of the past few years, the Board is having an extremely difficult time in finding a restaurant/caterer whose luncheon cost will be amenable to our members. The Board will continue to evaluate local restaurants and caterers.
- 2024 Audit of AU’s Books and Records – Mike Kelley informed us that Frank Nusspickel has generously volunteered to audit AU’s books and records. The Board will continue to find someone that will assist Frank in the audit.
- Speaker Program – At the November 2024 General meeting, Jeffery Bascelli, Esq. will lead a discussion on the legal needs of older adults. These promises to be a highly educational and informative presentation.
- The Board meeting concluded at 12:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Bernarde, Secretary