

Activities



Unlimited

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES **Monday February 9, 2026**

The Executive Board meeting, held in the Memorial Room at the Wyckoff Reformed Church, Wyckoff, New Jersey, was called to order by President Gaspar Lesznik at 10:00 AM.

Members in attendance:

Gaspar Lesznik, President
Jack Warner, 2nd Vice President
Gabe Carifi, Assistant Treasurer
Winston Lau, Secretary
Tom Donch, 1st Past President
Jim Atieh, 2nd Past President

Members Absent:

Adolph Galluccio, 1st Vice President
Doug Cooper, Treasurer
Jim Webb - Membership Chairman
Jim Mallen, Liaison to WRC
The Rev. Andy Kadzban, Chaplain

Invited Committee Chairs in attendance:

Marty Valerio, Communications

Invited Committee Chairs Absent:

Harry Bennett, Webmasters
John Toth, Cares and Concerns

President Gaspar Lesznik requested a motion to approve the minutes for the January 7, 2026, Executive Board meeting. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

In Treasurer Doug Cooper's absence, Assistant Treasurer Gabe Carifi gave the Treasurer's report.

- a. The TD Bank CD was renewed and the signatures at both the TD Bank and Columbia Bank were updated by deleting Tom Donch and adding Gaspar Lesznik.
- b. In accordance with the By Laws, an independent AU member conducted an audit of the books and records for 2025. Other than a minor change from the statements we discussed on January 7 resulting in a reclassification in the reserve account of \$202, no substantive changes were made. The surplus at the end of 2025 is higher at \$2,003 which will be paid out at the end of 2026. The insurance reserves were reduced by \$1,000, not the original approved at \$797. This amount was changed to reflect the fact that we do not have any deductible on our policies. The reserve reduction was booked to the insurance expense for the year, thereby reducing the expense for 2025. Everything was approved and signed off by Frank Nusspickel. No formal recommendation for changes was made. Gabe Carifi will email a copy of the letter of approval to each Board member.
- c. The January 2026 financial statements were reviewed. Jack Warner raised the issue regarding the classification of a deposit on the Balance Sheet. He pointed out that the \$100 deposit for the musician against the Christmas Party probably should have been recorded against the May Luncheon. Gabe Carifi will clarify this with Doug Cooper.
- d. Beefsteak dinner was a success. Around 50 members attended and there was a small surplus of receipts over cost. The surplus was distributed to 5 Door Prize winners. Jack Warner raised the issue that any surplus from an event should be redistributed to events that may have deficits. An extensive discussion regarding the autonomy of the clubs to manage their finances versus some guidelines to handle the surplus and deficit in club activities with AU. Tom Donch pointed out that in AU's Policies, Practices and Procedures, Paragraph 6a, 'All funds held by AU activities, clubs, and committees exceeding \$50 shall be deposited with the AU Treasurer and held for future use by that committee.' Also, in Paragraph 6d, 'If T&T has a surplus, it shall be used to fund or subsidize special events as proposed by T&T and submitted to the Executive Board for review and comments...If there should be a deficit in the general budget, surplus will be used to offset.' Gaspar Lesznik suggested that we need to communicate our policy to the club chairs so that it is properly and uniformly applied.
- e. Gabe Carifi reported that the number of dues collected for this year was ahead of this time last year – 225 to 207 respectively. He attributed the improvement to the extra email blast sent to members and personal emails to unpaid members. However, there were still 36 unpaid members. The decision was made that Gabe Carifi would make another attempt to collect the dues. After two weeks, the remaining unpaid members will be assigned to Board members to make personal phone contacts.

Membership

- a. Jim Webb was absent. However, Gaspar Lesznik reported that we added seven new members in 2026, four of them since the January Board meeting. The four new members are:
 - Frank Zambrano
 - Drew Churchson
 - Raymond DiBella
 - Gerard (Gerry) Farley
- b. Doug Cooper was absent but sent in this information before his departure on vacation. AU hat and shirt sale almost concluded with one hat and one shirt still to be paid for.

Cares and Concerns

- a. John Toth was absent. Gaspar Lesznik reported that some members preferred that their status be disseminated with greater discretion. He would talk to John Toth to be a little more sensitive and to contact people before making a broadcast announcement.

Speaker Program

- a. February – Rita Saltiel-Berzin, who was the Associate Medical Director for Becton Dickinson, a Diabetes Educator, and is currently associated with the Diabetes Foundation, will be talking about diabetes during the General Meeting.
- b. Gaspar Lesznik mentioned that he has some information on future speakers. He has made contact with Mac McParland who was recommended by Doug Cooper. Mac speaks on a number of interesting topics and is also a magician. Gaspar Lesznik will decide on a topic for March and possibly use Mac as a magician for the Beefsteak Dinner. In April, George Rosazza is talking about having a prosecutor from Newark to speak to us.

Webmasters Committee

- a. Harry Bennett was absent and there was no report from the Webmasters Committee.

Events

- a. Jack Warner reported that the May Luncheon at the Indian Trail Club was booked with a \$500 deposit to the Club and a \$100 deposit to Peter Lieberman for music for three hours at \$300. Promotion historically starts in mid-March. In 2024, we had 125 attendees with 13 free and 112 paying. The cost per person was \$50. We charged \$40 per person resulting in a \$1,250 subsidy. In 2025, the pay attendees dropped from 112 to 86. The cost per person was \$69. We charged \$55 per person resulting in a \$1,230 subsidy because of fewer people. With strong promotion in 2026, we shoot for 125 attendees. The cost per person will be \$69. Jack Warner suggests we charge \$59 per person resulting in a projected subsidy of \$1,250, against a budget of \$900. We may be

able to offset the subsidy with a bigger 50/50 raffle with more people. The Board approved a budget of \$1,250. Gaspar Lesznik also mentioned the need to obtain a gaming license from Franklin Lakes for the raffle. Gabe Carifi said that he and Doug Cooper had done this before. It will cost \$20 to the borough and \$20 to the state. This process is detailed in Paragraph 18 of the Policies, Practices and Procedures.

- b. No one was aware of whether a date has been chosen for the June BBQ. We will need to reach out to John Murphy.
- c. Gaspar Lesznik mentioned that we need to make a reservation at The Brick House for the October Breakfast, to be held on the second Tuesday of the month in lieu of the General Meeting. No one seems to have last year's contract. Tim, the manager in charge at the event, indicated at the end of the event last year that they would be looking at a charge for the maître d'. Jack Warner will be looking into that. The attendance last year was 82.
- d. Doug Cooper had communicated this to the Board before his departure for vacation. Bill Mastellon will continue to work on the Christmas Dinner Dance with John Murphy.

Communication Policies and Procedures

- a. The communication of information to the AU membership was discussed extensively as a result of a recent incident in which communication policies were bypassed. Communications like the recent pickleball flyer should have gone from the Club Chair to Marty Valerio for screening and editing in conformance to AU policies before forwarding it to Harry Bennett for broadcasting. (Note: The AU By Laws 3.3.3.2 states that the Communications Committee Chair 'should screen and edit all member requests for notices and messages for format and conformance to policies before forwarding to the Database Manager and Newsletter for publication.') Gaspar Lesznik asked Jack Warner to organize meetings of small groups of Club Chairs to refresh their understanding of the AU communications policies.

General Meeting Plan

- a. At the request of Howard Vogel, Gaspar Lesznik has talked to the Midland Park Christian Reformed Church to gain access to the building at 8:30am for our General Meeting so that we have enough time to make the coffee. He has also told Adolph Galluccio to buy more bagels so that we don't run out.
- b. The suggestion regarding color-coded name tags and disposable adhesive name tags for members who do not bring their name tags to meetings were briefly discussed. Since Jim Webb was absent, this issue will be discussed in a future Board meeting.

New Business

- a. Because of the low attendance at this Board meeting, Gaspar Lesznik suggested that there should be a policy for proxy voting. After much discussion, Gaspar Lesznik asked Marty Valerio to draft an amendment to the By Laws for proxy voting. This issue will be further discussed in the March Board meeting on March 9.

The Executive Board meeting concluded at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Winston Lau", with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Winston Lau
Secretary