

Activities



Unlimited

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday June 8, 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
Adolph Galluccio, 1st Vice President
Jack Warner, 2nd Vice President
Doug Cooper, Treasurer
Gabe Carifi, Assistant Treasurer
Winston Lau, Secretary
Tom Donch, 1st Past President
Jim Atieh, 2nd Past President
Jim Webb - Membership Chairman

Members Absent:

The Rev. Andy Kadzban, Chaplain
Jim Mallen, Liaison to WRC

Invited Committee Chairs in attendance:

Marty Valerio, Communications

Invited Committee Chairs Absent:

John Toth, Cares and Concerns
Harry Bennett, Webmasters

President Gaspar Lesznik requested a motion to approve the minutes for the May 11, 2026, Executive Board meeting. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

- a. No significant movement on the Balance Sheet for the month. Doug Cooper noted that the Trips and Tours surplus is approximately \$1,800. Other activities are increased balances related to upcoming events such as the BBQ and the Yankee game.
- b. Doug Cooper reported that the Budget Status report includes a favorable increase in dues, 10 members or \$600. He said we are expecting the TD Affinity payment within the next month or so. The main item for the month was that the May Luncheon recorded a negative budget variance of \$211. On a positive note, the 50/50 generated income of \$325, \$75 better than expected.
- c. Jim Webb said that he had purchased 40 Yankee tickets. He has sold 36 so far. If he is able to sell all 40 tickets, he would use \$500 of the T&T surplus. If there is a surge of attendance he could buy another 10 tickets, then he would use only \$250 of the surplus. The Yankee outing is in July.
- d. Jim Atieh wanted a confirmation that any deficit in the June BBQ should come out of the T&T surplus, and not from the Board. Doug Cooper confirmed that he had communicated that to Joe Pullaro.

Membership

- a. There were extensive discussions regarding the drop in attendance in the June BBQ. Gaspar Lesznik is going to talk to Tom Van Lenten about doing a postmortem on the BBQ. The Board has decided to do a survey among the attendees in the General Meeting on the next day asking from those who had decided to not attend the BBQ to indicate the reason behind their decision.
- b. Jim Webb reported that there are 5 new members in May:
 - Frank Manzi
 - Philip Binder
 - Chris Antone
 - Kevin Gaynor
 - Leo Donnelly

We have added 21 new members so far this year. Historically, we have added about 20 new members in a year.

Jim Webb also pointed out that many of these newcomers do not come to the General Meeting.

Jim Webb sold the last AU shirt to Adolph Galluccio.

Cares and Concerns

- a. Cares and Concerns sent out 3 Get Well cards, 1 Thank You card, and 1 Condolence card to the widow of a member.
- b. Jim Parascandola passed away on 7 June 2026. Gaspar Lesznik will be contacting his widow advising her that she will be invited to all future AU events if she so desire.
- c. The Board also discussed the need to maintain a roster of widows who wish to be informed of future events.

Speaker Program

- a. In the June General Meeting, our member Rick Pascal will present Broadway Blockbusters. Jack Warner has seen his presentation before and recommends it highly.
- b. Gaspar Lesznik reported that AARP will be sending a speaker for our July General Meeting. He will be talking about technology for aging in place.
- c. No General Meeting in August.
- d. Gaspar Lesznik has confirmed the arrangement with the Ridgewood Symphony for our General Meeting in September. They will be at our General Meeting the next day to check out the venue as they are concerned that our venue may not meet their high standards.
- e. In October, we have the Breakfast at The Brick House. Entertainment will be provided by the Barbershop Quartet, a part of the Blue Chip Chorus. Eight musicians will be there for our event. The cost of this appearance originally was \$150. Jack Warner requested that the fee be increased to \$200.
- f. For November and December, Jack Warner suggested having Jim McEwen put together a program about music throughout our history, in honor of America's 250th Birthday. Jack also suggested talking to Walt Widmer about having the Discussion Group put on a program in July sharing our thoughts and feelings on what makes America special in the world, and what makes it special to me? This can be an inspiring and uplifting discussion.
- g. Doug Cooper suggested having someone come and present in the General Meeting changes in taxes that may affect our savings and investments. What are the tax consequences when we sell our home? What are the financial consequences when one goes into a place like Vista, or some other community? In general, maybe a tax planning session for seniors. Gaspar Lesznik asked Adolph Galluccio to take the lead on possibly finding an attorney as a speaker.

Events

- a. The date for the June BBQ is June 12 to be held at the Red Barn at the Crestwood Park in Allendale, NJ. The cost is \$45 per person.
- b. Adolph Galluccio reported that he had 35 participants at the present time for the Meadowlands trip. He was hoping for 40. He will mention that at the General Meeting the next day.
- c. Gaspar Lesznik mentioned that Wyckoff is having a Centennial event on June 27 on Main Street. Wyckoff YMCA is not having a Wyckoff Day. Gaspar Lesznik will be asking for volunteers to help staff the AU tent. We have a pamphlet showcasing the various activities at AU and has a sign-up form on the reverse side. The membership dues at the Centennial event will be reduced to \$30.
- d. Jack Warner will put together a report memorializing everything we need to do to organize the Spring Luncheon: who to contact, how to set it up, budgets, etc. so that the person who takes this on next will have everything together. He also wanted to know what we could do better in the future. Winston Lau suggested that the tables could be placed further apart enabling ease of movement in socialization.
- e. Jack Warner raised the question on whether we should go ahead and book the date for next year's May Luncheon at the Indian Trail Club. Doug Cooper said that he had mentioned that to Debbie when he paid her for this year's event, and the tentative date for next year is May 12, which is a Wednesday.
- f. Adolph Galluccio reported that the raffle was very successful at the May Luncheon as a table was set up at the entrance and most people bought raffle tickets. Adolph also went around and sold more tickets. The raffle proceeds were \$325.
- g. Gaspar Lesznik will connect with John Murphy and Joe Pullaro regarding the Fall Social.
- h. Gaspar Lesznik mentioned that Greg Krieger approached him about moving the Book Club meetings to a larger venue since their attendance has grown. Various options were discussed. Gaspar Lesznik will talk to Greg Krieger regarding various options available.

By Laws, Policies, Practices and Procedures

- a. Marty Valerio confirmed that proxy voting was amended to the Policies, Practices and Procedures and was sent to John Abrahamsen for archive.

Open items

- a. Gaspar Lesznik and Jack Warner will summarize their findings from their meetings with Club Chairs.
- b. Winston Lau followed up on the development of an email survey by which we could get feedback on meeting attendance, speaker, and recommendation for future speakers. Tom Donch had volunteered for this assignment in the March Board meeting. After much discussion, the Board had decided that it was not necessary to do this. This matter is closed.
- c. Gaspar Lesznik reported continued development on the AU Dashboard.

- d. Gaspar Lesznik mentioned that we will work on getting various clubs to present their charter and activities during the General Meeting in order to increase awareness of the various club activities.
- e. Following up on the issue of survivor support, Marty Valerio has drafted a document outlining the various resources available in the area, i.e., St. Elizabeth's Bereavement Ministry, Valley Health Bereavement Services, and Christian Health Care. The Board felt that we should make our members aware of these resources by posting them on our website as well as mentioning them to the surviving spouse in the event of a death.
- f. Adolph Galluccio asked the Board's permission in the General Meeting on the next day to read a tribute to America he wrote 50 years ago which almost made it into the congressional record. Permission was granted.
- g. Gaspar Lesznik mentioned that he met with Joy Vottero and her assistant at the Wyckoff YMCA regarding some form of collaboration between our two organizations. Joy mentioned that they had discussions with AU in the past and that they were very open to collaborating with us in some ways. She mentioned that they are working on two programs: The Patterson Project and the Wisemen. These may be volunteerism opportunities as mentioned by Greg Krieger to Gaspar Lesznik earlier. Joy Vottero mentioned that as soon as these projects have developed further, she will be contacting Gaspar Lesznik to explore opportunities for collaboration between our organizations.
- h. Jack Warner asked about the Nominating Committee for new Board members for 2027. Jim Atieh will form a committee to do that.
- i. Doug Cooper mentioned that the new members seem to be younger and they seem to be interested in athletic activities, i.e., pickleball, bocce, etc. It might be a good idea to have a speaker that can talk about these activities available at AU, and other possibilities. Jack Warner further suggested that we may have a short video to showcase a particular activity, such as pickleball, so as to increase awareness and interest in various club activities. Gaspar Lesznik thought that that was a good idea and that we may start with the Short Hike Club.
- j. Jack Warner mentioned that he would like to work up a schedule for the General Meetings in 2027, instead of going from month to month. We will get the commitment from the Clubs to do the presentation. Jack Warner also mentioned that Jim McKeown would like to start a Music Appreciation Club. Gaspar Lesznik thought this was a good idea as he has come to realize how many AU members who are musicians who do not belong to the AU Guys Club but are playing with other organizations. There was also a discussion regarding new leadership at the AU Guys Club in order for the Club to be more relevant and up to date.

The Executive Board meeting concluded at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Winston Lau
Secretary