Activities  Unlimited

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday October 5, 2026

The Executive Board meeting for the month of October, 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

Members Absent:

Jim Mallen, Liaison to WRC
Jim Webb - Membership Chairman
The Rev. Andy Kadzban, Chaplain

Invited Committee Chairs in attendance:

Marty Valerio, Communications
Harry Bennett, Webmasters

Invited Committee Chair Absent:

John Toth, Cares and Concerns

Invited Guests in Attendance:

Marc Bernhardt, Board Nominee

Mike Conte, Board Nominee

Invited Guest Absent:

Dave Altana, Board Nominee

President Gaspar Lesznik requested a motion to approve the minutes for the August 31, 2026**,** Executive Board meeting. Motion was approved.

Introduction of 2027 Board Nominees:

a. Harry Bennett, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, introduced the following nominees: Marc Bernhardt as the 2nd Vice President, Mike Conte as the Secretary, and Dave Altana as the Assistant Treasurer.
b. Harry Bennett announced that Adolph Galluccio expressed a desire to remain on the Board in the capacity of Parliamentarian, a newly created role of Director.
c. Doug Cooper will move into the newly created role of Compliance Officer.
d. Jack Warner will be the President, Winston Lau the 1st Vice President, Gaspar Lesznik the Immediate Past President, Tom Donch the Outgoing Past President, Gabe Carifi the Treasurer. The WRC Liaison and Chaplain roles will be eliminated.
e. Jack Warner, President of AU Inc. in 2027, will appoint the Chairman of the Membership Committee to serve on the Board. This role is currently held by Jim Webb.
f. The candidates for the AU Inc. Executive Board in 2027 will be introduced during the October General Meeting. AU Inc. Bylaws will be posted on the AU website. Voting by the membership will take place during the Annual Meeting in November.
g. Harry Bennett will be writing to those who have expressed an interest in serving on the Board but were not selected this time, thanking them for their interest and encouraging them to stay active in AU.
h. The Board had approved a motion to accept the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. Doug Cooper voted as proxy for Jim Webb.

AU Restructuring

a. Much discussion surrounds the transition from AU to AU Inc. on January 1, 2027.
b. Adolph Galluccio clarified that there is no link between AU and AU Inc. AU Inc. is a new organization effective January 1, 2027. The initial Directors are Gaspar Lesznik, Douglas Cooper, and Winston Lau. AU Inc. has no Constitution. It has a Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Policies, Practices, and Procedures.
c. Gaspar Lesznik will prepare a presentation informing the membership of the restructuring during the General Meeting on October 13. The Bylaws for AU Inc. will be posted on the AU website. The membership will vote on the adoption of the Bylaws and the Board of Directors for AU Inc. during the Annual Meeting in November. Prior to the voting in November, the membership is requested to direct any questions regarding the AU restructuring to Gaspar Lesznik.
d. Harry Bennett suggested changing the wording of Article III in the Certificate of Incorporation from ‘senior citizens’ to ‘retired and semi-retired men’.

e. Gaspar Lesznik will present the Memorandum of Understanding to representatives of the WRC.
f. The Board discussed paragraph 10 in the Facilities Usage Agreement in which no specific dollar amount was included. The Board decided to leave the existing language of 'AU Inc. will make a donation to WRC in December' as is, subject to review and negotiation on a yearly basis going forward as facilities usage may change over time.
g. Harry Bennett will send out an email to the membership with a link to the Bulletin Board where the AU Inc. Bylaws will be posted.

Treasurer's Report

a. Doug Cooper presented the financials for September 2026.
b. Balance Sheet - The Fall Social was a success, and it generated a favorable gain of $86. That gain, coupled with the proceeds of the 50/50 at $180, was sufficient to offset most of the combined deficit of T&T to a net of $91 for the two-year period.
c. Band Funds - The source and substance of these funds were discussed. It was clarified that the AU Treasury acts as a bank for the Band. The question of the Band's usage of the VFW more than any other Clubs was raised and it was suggested that the Band makes a separate donation to the VFW as a gesture of their gratitude.
d. Budget Status - No material variances have occurred thus far in 2026. It was discussed that the Larkin House is used only by the Bridge Club and they pay for its use.
e. Estimated Actuals for 2026 - The projected budget status for the rest of the year was discussed and no significant changes were noted versus prior month.

Membership

a. Jim Webb was absent. There were no reports on membership.

Cares and Concerns

a. Cares and Concerns sent out 2 Get Well cards, 1 Concern card, and 1 Condolence card to the family of our past President Herb Umland.

Communication

a. Jack Warner introduced a motion to adopt Constant Contact (CC) as AU Inc.'s communications platform for the following reasons:
    1. Our current practice of issuing a monthly Calendar and Newsletter is often overlooked or forgotten by our members. Proposed initiative is to use CC to issue a weekly update of Club activities every Sunday. Hopefully, this will increase awareness of and participation by our members.
    2. In order to increase participation in our Clubs, each General Meeting will dedicate 5-10 minutes to showcase the activities and benefits of a Club.

3. By maintaining a central database for CC, Club Chairs can create and send messages to their own Club membership, as well as to the membership of other prospective groups.
4. Periodic meetings of the Club Chairs to be organized by the President to promote sharing of best practices and collaboration as a community.
5. Member feedback in the current system is spotty and with much delay, making event planning difficult and key-decision making slow. Develop a two-way communication system where members can simply 'click' and send their responses online in real time.
6. This system will enable membership to easily self-identify their interests in various Clubs and activities.
7. This system will also enable timely surveys to solicit feedback from membership for continuous improvement.
8. Jack Warner indicated that Hobbyists Unlimited uses CC as their communications platform. Each of their Club Chairman is issued his own password, creates his own content, and is empowered to directly send his emails to whichever list segments he so wishes.
9. A full version of CC, with the 30% discount for non-profit organizations, costs $24.50 per month.
10. Jack Warner will arrange a meeting with Ed Daly, the custodian of CC at Hobbyists Unlimited, to learn more about how they are using the CC Platform for communications.
11. The Board has approved a motion to adopt CC as the communications platform for AU Inc. Jack Warner will convene a Task Force to lead the implementation of CC.

Events

a. Next week, we have the Breakfast at The Brick House on October 13. Entertainment will be provided by the Barbershop Quartet, a part of The Blue Chip Chorus. Twelve musicians will be there for our event. The cost of this appearance is $200. Jack Warner has confirmed with the Quartet to arrive at 10AM on the day of the event. The price is $25 per person. The projected deficit for this event is $425, against a budgeted cost of $530. Adolph Galluccio and Marty Valerio will be doing the 50/50. Jack Warner has to give The Brick House a preliminary count tomorrow. He currently has 78 paid participants. We traditionally have about 20 walk-ins on the day of the event. Jack Warner will give a preliminary count of 85 to The Brick House. The schedule for the day is as follows:
    1. Coffee, juice and tea by 8:30AM
    2. Breakfast buffet from 9:15AM to 10AM
    3. General Meeting from 10AM to 10:30AM

4. The Barbershop Quartet from 10:30AM to 11:15AM
5. Meeting adjourns at about 11:15AM

b. Jim Atieh commented on the Christmas Dinner/Dance at The Seasons. Hobbyists Unlimited has the same menu as we do and their price is the same as last year's, while ours was increased. Gaspar Lesznik will talk to John Murphy and Bill Mastellon upon his return from Cape Cod.

c. The October Luncheon is at Fino Ristorante in Allendale on October 21, 2026 at 12:30PM. The cost is $39 per person. Spouses and significant others are invited.

d. The annual Christmas Dinner/Dance will be held at The Seasons at Washington Township on December 7, 2026. The cost is $125 per person.

e. The Club Chair Luncheon will be at Fino Ristorante in Allendale on December 17, 2026. Gaspar Lesznik will make the reservation.

f. In order to minimize cost and improve quality, a decision has been made to do the Beefsteak Dinner on January 14 in-house at the VFW. Gaspar Lesznik is the Executive Chef. Entertainment will have to be finalized. Details will be developed.

The next Board Meeting will be on November 9 at 10AM at the WRC.

The Executive Board meeting concluded at 11:30AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Winston Lau
Secretary