

MINUTES (Final)

D'61 Class Officers Meeting (Conference Call)

March 4, 2015

Attending the Call: Denny Denniston, Ken DeHaven, Vic Rich, Ivar Jozus, Harris McKee, Bob Conn, Pete Palin, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian (portion of meeting), John Damon

Absent from the Call: Hank Eberhardt, Maynard Wheeler, Dave Prewitt, Pete Bleyler, Tom Conger, George Bland, Mike Murphy, Rog McArt, Jim Baum

Invited Guests: None

Denny Denniston, class president, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM EST.

Vic reported that Pete Bleyler most likely would not be attending the conference call since his older daughter, Tracy, had to be admitted to the intensive care unit at the hospital. Since Vic was now in regular contact with Pete, he was asked to send the best wishes for a speedy recovery from the class officer group and act as the point person for keeping everyone up to date on her condition. [Subsequent to the meeting, on or about 3/12, Tracy improved greatly and was being moved to a regular hospital room with the expectation of being dismissed within the next few days.]

Re: D'61 Mini-Reunion (Williamsburg, VA):

The Williamsburg, VA mini-reunion for the period from Sunday, April 19, 2015 – Wednesday, April 22, 2015, is now fully scheduled and ready to go, with 30 classmates and 29 spouses and/or significant others signed up to attend. Oscar Arslanian agreed to contact those classmates on a short hit list provided to him consisting of those who had indicated an interest in attending but who had not yet signed up. Harris McKee will continue to assist in the dissemination of pertinent mini-reunion info via the class website and the class newsletter, including a periodically up-dated list of classmates and spouses/significant others attending. Those class officers who had been in a fraternity or other social group were asked to contact members from those groups and invite them to attend. Nyla Arslanian will contact the spouses and widows who had indicated an interest in becoming involved and invite them to attend (several are already signed up to attend). Finally, Denny and Harris McKee agreed to contact those classmates living within Virginia and the surrounding states.

Re: Women's Initiative Committee:

Nyla Arslanian, chairperson, as notated above, will hold the first official meeting of her committee at Williamsburg, VA in April, 2015 and will send out a separate email announcement and invitation to all '61 wives and widows who already have indicated an interest in becoming

involved with the committee. Nyla stated that approximately 35 women, primarily wives but also some widows, to date have indicated a desire to become involved and she had scheduled a conference call among the group for March 12th. Nyla requested that as part of the updated class directory being prepared, the class attempt to obtain the separate telephone numbers and email address for all of the spouses and widows. The request was approved. Finally, it was agreed that the Women's Initiative Committee would henceforth send a separate sympathy note to all new class widows.

Re: Robert Frost Statue Proposed Improvements:

Mike Murphy, chairman of the Robert Frost statue and surrounding area improvement project, was in the middle of moving and not available for the conference call so that there is no current update on the scheduling of the anticipated improvements or his planned follow up with Lisa Hogarty, V.P., to nail down the details of the work to be done by the College and a specific timetable for the work to be completed. Mike promised Denny a full up-dated report by the next class officer conference call.

Re: The Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Program:

Pete Palin, co-chair of our class' planned giving and BTS program along with John Damon, reported that no additional classmate had joined the BTS in January or February, so that the class remains at 46 members versus the class goal of 55 by our 55th Reunion in June of 2015. The current emphasis was reported to be a follow-up communication directed at approximately 12-15 classmates on a specific list.

Again, it was emphasized that classmates could become a member of The Bartlett Tower Society by agreeing to donate some portion of their estate to Dartmouth College directly or indirectly by donation to the '61 Legacy Fund for the Performing Arts at Dartmouth or some other specific Dartmouth project, or by designating "D" to be a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or trust.

Re: Class Directory Update:

Bob Conn, chair of the class directory update, reported on various costs to collect/compile/sort the data and to publish/print and mail the directory. After discussion, it was agreed that our class directory should be updated, with the project hopefully completed by the end of the current year. Some of the factors still to be considered were the size of the directory, the print size, the information to be included/excluded, who should be included/excluded, alumni staff prepare versus class prepare versus some combination of the two, and the final cost budget.

Re: Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Class Drive:

Hank Eberhardt was unexpectedly not available for the conference call, so that no update report was available. Denny did report that our class was continuing on its way to achieving the two goals set by our class officers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, including a total dollar goal of \$260,000 and a total participation goal of 401 (75%) classmates and widows of

classmates. However, he emphasized that we still had a lot of work to do in order to achieve, and hopefully exceed, both of our class goals.

Re: Future Goals and Objectives for the Class of '61:

Vic Rich reported that he had refined and finalized the proposal for a 55th Class Reunion project, stating that it provided the creative “hook” to achieve the external recognition that our class needs in order to place ourselves as serious contenders for the annual Outstanding Class of the Year Award or Outstanding Reunion Class of the Year Award for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, neither of which has been won by our class during its now 53 years in existence.

Our class has proved on three occasions that we are capable of being original in thought and outstanding in follow-through when

- 1) we held the very first Dartmouth (and possibly for any Ivy League College) off-campus multi-day mini-reunion in Washington, DC in April of 1989,
- 2) we conceived, developed and funded the Robert Frost statue donation to the College and
- 3) we conceived and developed the Class of '61 Legacy for the Performing Arts at Dartmouth.

Every class now has multi-day mini-reunions off campus. We have pushed the Performing Arts Legacy above and beyond its projected peak. With respect to the donation of the Robert Frost statue, however, there is still an opportunity in conjunction with the anticipated beautification project to bring it back with an additional new add-on twist, in part to gain the recognition and accolades from the College which passed us by during the time of the original dedication nearly 19 years ago.

This could be accomplished by having the improvements to the area completed prior to our 55th Reunion, having a formal re-dedication during our 55th Reunion (hopefully with the original sculptor of the RF statue, George W. Lundeen, as our special guest) and involving the College's undergraduate and graduate students in a contest designed to achieve the best and most original artistic renditions of the Robert Frost statue in the four mediums of studio art. The proposed panel of judges would be comprised of a diverse but representative group of people, including members from the “D” Department of Studio Arts, members from our class (including professional artists) and, hopefully, the original sculptor (George W. Lundeen).

The winner of each of the projected four divisions would be awarded a monetary stipend from our class plus a inscribed certificate with the overall winner receiving an additional cash stipend of plus a framed inscribed certificate. Thus, the total stipends being awarded, including inscribed certificates, would cost approximately \$5,500. Add to this approximately \$2,000 and \$2,500 in travel and other related costs and another \$2,500-\$3,000 for a re-dedication ceremony related costs. Thus, the grand total of projected costs to our class would be approximately \$10,000-\$11,000, say \$11,000 max, which would be manageable for our class to handle financially for a class project of this scope.

In conjunction with the aforementioned, Vic is awaiting a response from Mike Murphy to set up a conference call or even a face-to-face meeting with George Lundeen. In addition, Vic has contacted Pete Bleyler about the project he is definitely on board in a significant role. Pete has

already met personally with the appropriate D faculty personnel, who very much like the project, for their approval and assistance. It is also intended that a handful of other classmates will be contacted to assist with this project.

The current objective is to begin the art contest in the spring or summer of 2015 and complete the contest and announce the winners in approximately March of 2016. Hopefully this class project will add to our class' legacy as we move forward in the Alumni History Book at Dartmouth.

The project was approved unanimously with a budget cap of \$11,000.

Re: Other Announcements:

Denny repeated that Class Officers Weekend (COW) was scheduled for September 18-19, 2015 and that it was important for all class officers to attend.

Harris repeated that our on-campus 55th Reunion was scheduled for June 13-16, 2016.

Harris reported that he recently was informed that Ed Pearson passed away in December, 2014.

The next class officers meeting/conference call for 2015 is rescheduled for Wednesday, March 25th from 1PM - 2PM EDT/EST.

Denny adjourned the meeting at 2:05PM EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary