Minutes

D’61 Class Officers Conference Call

November 9, 2016

Attending the Meeting: Don O’Neill, Gerry Kaminsky, Vic Rich, Ivar Jozus, Harris McKee, Dave Prewitt, Roger McArt, Red Facher, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich, Joan Prewitt

Absent from the Meeting: Denny Denniston, Hank Eberhardt, Maynard Wheeler, Pete Bleyler, Dave Armstrong, Tom Conger, David Birney

Invited Guests: Janet Rosa, Vince Wilson

Class president, Don O’Neill, called the meeting to order at 1:05PM EST.

Don started the meeting by introducing invited guests Janet Rosa, Regional Director of DCF, and Vince Wilson, a newly hired DCF manager who has been assigned to work with our class and selected other classes with respect to annual DCF efforts, among his other responsibilities.

Don then reviewed some of the areas/projects that he hoped to cover during the current conference call or by the next conference call in December:

- Class Communications Plan - Vic Rich & Harris McKee
- Class Annual Report (CAR) - Denny Denniston
- Class project for 60th reunion
- Cataloguing of alumni awards/citations won by the Class of ’61 since inception
- Class of ’61 focus going forward on the arts at Dartmouth - Oscar Arslanian, Vic Rich, Pete Bleyler & David Birney
- Off-campus mini-reunions - Dave & Joan Prewitt
- Implementation of the Class’ first virtual reunion scheduled for the 61st day of the year 2017 (March 2, 2017) - needs an immediate chairperson(s)
- Barlett Tower Society goals and implementation for the current year and for the 5 years leading up to our 60th reunion - Red Facher & Dave Armstrong
Don then stated that for the next few months, ’61 class officers conference calls will be held on the second Wednesday of every month at noon EST.

Performing Arts Legacy:

Oscar Arslanian, co-chair, in response to a query at our October conference call reported that the ’61 Arts Legacy fund currently contained approximately $1.2 million - $1.3 million in classmate contributions and appreciated value of investments and net of outlays of approximately $50,000 per year since inception to fund specific performing arts programs at Dartmouth. Contributions from classmates to the fund continue each year via specific optional addition to annual class dues, testamentary contributions of $100 by the Class for each deceased classmate after our 50th reunion, additional optional intervivos contributions of varying amounts by classmates and optional testamentary contributions by classmates through their estates via Barlett Tower Society, etc.

Secretary’s Report:

Vic Rich, class secretary, reported that five classmates (and three spouses) had attended the funeral of popular and well-respected classmate Len DiSavino on November 3rd in upper Westchester, NY — Denny Denniston, Vic Rich, Bill Kandel, Paul Gartner and Roy Singer. Roy was one of only two non-family members who were selected to present a eulogy, and it was excellent.

Vic also reported that as continuing president of the Class Secretaries Association he was once again a member of the Class Officers Association Executive Board, which was scheduled to hold its first conference call meeting later in November. This should provide us with insight going forward as to key areas of interest and concern.

Treasurer’s Report:

Ivar Jozus, class treasurer, reported that the first dues notice had gone out only recently by regular mail to all classmates and that there has already been a 44% positive response. A second dues notice is scheduled to go out within the next few weeks. Ivar stated that currently there was approximately $72,000 in the class treasury, with all reunion bills now having been paid.

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF):
Harris McKee, co-class DCF chair, reported that cash and pledges to date have totaled 8% of our dollar goal of $261k for the current fiscal year and that we have achieved 10% of our stated participation goal of 76%. Don is hopeful that all class officers and all members of the class executive committee will make their DCF contribution or pledge for the current fiscal year prior to December 31st.

Webmaster’s Report:

Harris McKee, class webmaster and head of class communications, reported that he was moving to Chicago in the near future so that certain communications may slow down in the interim. Also, in response to a request by Vic Rich, and as agreed to by the class officer group, Harris henceforth will state in each obit message to classmates that they may make a personal memorial donation at any time and in any amount to the ’61 Arts Legacy fund, or to any other Dartmouth related organization, in memory of a deceased classmate.

Off-Campus Mini-Reunion:

Dave and Joan Prewitt, off-campus mini-reunion co-chairs, reported that it was now confirmed that the next class mini-reunion will be held in Newport, Rhode Island from May 20, 2018 - May 23, 2018 (Sunday - Wednesday). Based on current projections of revenues and costs, the budget is projected to be approximately $450 per person.

Arts at Dartmouth and the Class of 1961:

In discussing future class projects, Don suggested that the class try to remain in the arena of the “arts at Dartmouth”, where our class has been so successful during the past 55 years (eg. the Robert Frost statue at Dartmouth, the ’61 [Performing] Arts Legacy, the ’61 Robert Frost Statue [Studio] Art Contest). Someone suggested that the Class consider a project which includes the area of visual arts, especially now that the Black Family Visual Arts Center has recently become a reality at Dartmouth. Vic suggested that the next class project selected should again be interactive and include or involve the undergraduate and graduate students at Dartmouth as a primary objective. Don recommended that Oscar, Vic and Pete Bleyler comprise the committee to come up with a significant viable class project going forward.

Women’s Initiative Committee:

Nyla Arslanian and Patti Rich reported that they believed that their committee’s emphasis for the next two years should center around communicating with the women
from the Class of 1961 to obtain more involvement from ’61 wives and widows in woman-related activities (eg. regional/local luncheons, etc.), class projects, the upcoming ’61 virtual reunion scheduled for March of 2017 and promotion of class mini-reunions, both on-campus and off-compass. Nyla and Patti are planning a conference call for all interested class wives and widows, hopefully in December.

Don stated that the next class officers conference call will be held on Wednesday, December 14th at noon EST.

Don ended the meeting at 1:55PM EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich ’61 Class Secretary