

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers Conference Call

July 12, 2017

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Denny Denniston, Gerry Kaminsky, Vic Rich, Harris McKee, Roger McArt, Pete Bleyler, Hank Eberhardt, Dave Prewitt, Patti Rich

Absent from the Meeting: Ivar Jozus, Red Facher, Maynard Wheeler, Dave Armstrong, Tom Conger, Oscar Arslanian, Nyla Arslanian, Joan Prewitt

Invited Guests: Vince Wilson

Denny Denniston, class vice-president, called the meeting to order at noon EDT.

He then called for approval of the Minutes for the June 14, 2017 conference call/meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve such Minutes and they were approved unanimously.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, class secretary, in the absence of Maynard Wheeler (chair of Hanover located class mini-reunions) reported that our Fall class mini-reunion is scheduled for October 6-8, 2017. Those classmates who are planning to attend should obtain rooms as soon as possible, complete the registration form sent out by Harris and return it to Maynard so that he can plan class events accordingly.

The class column for the September/October 2017 issue of DAM was completed and submitted at the end of June, with a copy sent to Harris and Tom for publication on our class website and class newsletter, accordingly.

The Tanzi License Plate Plaque was transferred in June from Larry Levy to Gerry Kaminsky, the next recipient for the year from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Treasurer's Report

Ivar Jozus, class treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting and no report was available.

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Report

Harris McKee, co-DCF chair for our class along with Rog McArt and Hank Eberhardt, reported that through June 30, 2017 the class to date had received \$224,446 in cash versus a class dollar goal of \$261,000, or 86%. The contributions came from 380 classmates versus an adjusted class participation goal of 376 classmates, or 101% of its goal. Based on the contributions from 380 classmates from our adjusted base of 493 classmates, it means that our class has achieved a very high participation goal in excess of 77% of all eligible classmates for the current year. Only three other classes appear to have reached or exceeded 70% participation and the Class of 1961 has achieved first place in DCF participation percentage compared to all other Dartmouth alumni classes. Unfortunately, we missed our class dollar by \$36,554. Overall, however, our class did better than the College as a whole, which fell short by approximately \$8 million (\$47.5 million goal versus approximately \$39.2 million collected) and approximately 8% participation (44% goal versus approximately 36% actual). Note that our class participation achieved was more than twice the participation rate achieved by the College as a whole for the fiscal year just ended.

Apart from the classmates who contributed to this year's DCF, several class officers (Harris, Roger, Hank, Denny, Gerry and Don), Hop Holmberg and the designated class "swat team" members are to be thanked and complemented for their outstanding efforts in contacting classmates and encouraging them to contribute to DCF. Also, Vince Wilson and Janet Rosa from the College's DCF team, deserve to be complimented for their ongoing assistance and encouragement to our class throughout the DCF campaign.

Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, class webmaster, stated that he had nothing of significance to report as webmaster, except that he was heavily involved with our class' DCF efforts.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS)

Neither Red Facher nor Dave Armstrong, co-BTS chairs, were able to attend the conference call and no BTS report update was submitted. Don will follow up with both to discuss the extent of their medical and personal issues.

Class Project

Pete Bleyler, co-chair of the Class Project Selection Committee along with Vic Rich and Oscar Arslanian, reported on the two-part class project(s) agreed to by the committee.

As previously reported, one project will be called the *Class of 1961 Robert Frost Literature Award*, which will be awarded annually to an undergraduate D student who comes up with the best proposed literature project on any subject related to Robert Frost and/or the Robert Frost statue on campus. Pete spoke with the chair of the English Department, who preferred that the project not be concentrated on Robert Frost, but be more general to include all 20th Century poets and possibly the Dartmouth Poet in Residency program. Based on various class officer comments, this proposed revision appears to be unacceptable to our class and Pete will relay our feelings about this project to the chair of the English Department.

If problems persist, as a possible alternative to the proposed *Class of 1961 Robert Frost Literature Award*, Pete mentioned that he had heard about a museum called the Frost Place in Franconia, NH, which had at one time been a home of Robert Frost. Evidently, this museum had a Dartmouth student intern program which perhaps could be reinstated and continued with the grant established by our class.

The other project will be called the *Class of 1961 Arts Initiative Award*, which will be awarded annually to an undergraduate D student who comes up with the best proposed project in any form of studio arts or visual arts. Pete has been in touch with the head of the Hop and discussions are proceeding smoothly with no apparent obstacles.

Required funding for the two projects and the allocation between excess funds provided from our class treasury and the funds provided from classmate contributions may need to be restructured.

Although the class officers unanimously approved the project as originally presented, once all of the issues are resolved and any material revisions approved by the class officers, Don will request approval for the projects from classmates at our next regularly scheduled class meeting during our class mini-reunion on October 6-8, 2017.

Mini-Reunions (Off-Campus)

Dave Prewitt, co-chair of off-campus mini-reunions with his wife, Joan, repeated that our next off-campus mini-reunion will be held in Newport, RI from May 20-23, 2018 at Gurney's Inn, previously called Gurney's Newport Resort. He noted their new telephone number: 401/849-2600. Dave recommended that classmates desiring to attend call the Inn to make reservations as soon as possible since only a fixed number of rooms have been reserved at the highly favorable discounted price.

Class Annual Report (CAR)

Denny and Don reported that the Class' annual report, which is complex and lengthy, must be completed and submitted to the Alumni Office by July 30, 2017 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. According to Vic, the CAR format has been revised for the current year, with some sections being simplified and other sections becoming more complex. Each class officer is to complete a draft of their specific area of responsibility, with Denny and Harris coordinating and controlling the class' efforts in completing the sections, with Vic, Denny and Harris proof-reading and editing (where necessary or desirable) the final copy.

The CAR is the report upon which all classes are evaluated in order to select the Class of the Year and runner-up in three different categories (over 25 years out, under 25 years out, reunion classes) and also classes earning special recognition for one or two special areas.

Women's Initiative Committee (WIC)

Patti Rich, co-chair of this committee with Nyla Arslanian and Joan Prewitt, reiterated that the primary purpose of this group was to act as a support group to share life issues, develop/strengthen relationships among classmates and among their spouses/significant others/widows, especially during class reunions and mini-reunions. As a result, Patti has been making telephone calls to all recent widows and significant others of deceased classmates. In addition, she soon will attempt to set up a regional luncheon and or dinner for D'61 wives/significant others/widows in the New York Metropolitan area (comprising New York City, Long Island, Westchester County and Northern New Jersey).

The proposed conference call to include spouses and significant others of former '61 class presidents, current class officers and selected others who have expressed an interest in supporting and enhancing the class, which Nyla had referred to during last month's officer conference call, has not yet taken place. Rog McArt suggested that the class also call or otherwise communicate with classmates whose spouses/significant others have passed away.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive

There was no time for Denny Denniston, in charge of the class and classmate alumni awards archive project to create a permanent written record of all alumni awards achieved by our class and classmates since graduation, to present an update. The project, apparently, is nearly completed.

Special Recognition Awards Committee

Dave Prewitt, chair of this committee (consisting of Dave, Vic, Denny and Harris), reported that the committee had developed criteria to evaluate classmate nominees and that several nomination letters/emails already had been received for a few different classmates. Harris will send out an additional request for classmate recommendations. The committee agreed that the initial award presentation would be made during the class' Fall mini-reunion dinner in Hanover on October 7th. A conference call among the committee members is scheduled for July 26th at 11AM to discuss the classmates recommended and how many classmates to select for the initial presentation.

Don announced that the next class officers conference call/meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at noon EDT.

Denny adjourned the meeting at 12:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich '61 Class Secretary