

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers Conference Call

July 11, 2018

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Denny Denniston, Vic Rich, Ivar Jozus, Harris McKee, Dave Prewitt, Rog McArt, Hank Eberhardt, Maynard Wheeler, Tom Conger, Bill Collishaw, Oscar Arslanian, Dave Armstrong, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich, Joan Prewitt

Absent from the Meeting: Gerry Kaminsky, Pete Bleyler, Red Facher

Invited Guests: Frank Stephens (unable to attend), Vince Wilson (attended)

Don O'Neill, class president, called the meeting to order at noon and welcomed all those attending.

Don then called for the approval of the Minutes for the class officers meeting/conference call of June 13, 2018, which Minutes were approved unanimously.

Before asking for report updates, Don congratulated the class officers and the entire Class for an excellent and highly productive year, as our various monthly reports and annual Class Activity Report (CAR) will bear out.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class secretary, sent an email in early July to the editor of the DAM requesting a stand-alone article on the Robert Frost statue at Dartmouth, including its history, its association to the Class of 1961 and its growth in popularity and importance to the College during its approximately 22 years on campus. [After receiving a response from the associate editor that the request will be considered seriously, Vic subsequently recently received a communication directly from Sean Plottner, the managing editor of the DAM, that unless he could

justify the article being of immediate broad interest to the DAM readership, he had too large a backlog of articles for the next several editions of DAM, but would certainly keep it in mind and in the future article list inventory.]

Vic has been involved with Don O'Neil and Bill Collishaw in negotiating with the Alumni Relations Office regarding the proposed adoption of approximately 400-425 '61 spouses and widows into the Class. The issue revolves around the "formal" versus the "informal" mass adoption of the important group of people to the Class of 1961.

Treasurer's Report

Ivar Jozus, Class treasurer, reported that the Class treasury had a current balance of \$31,442, which reflects the \$50,000 paid in June as the Class' approved contribution from the class treasury's excess funds for the new Class of 1961 Robert Frost Endowment for the Arts and International Relations project.

Ivar also reported that dues for the current fiscal year ended June 30th had been collected from 285 classmates, for a dues participation of 59.5%. This should be among the top classes for dues participation.

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Report

Harris McKee, co-class head agent, along with Denny Denniston, Rog McArt and Hank Eberhardt, reported that the final results were in for the fiscal year ended June 30th and the Class of '61 performed beyond expectations. The Class was first in participation for the second year in a row, it increased its dollars raised and it exceeded BOTH its dollar and participation goals for the current year and both its dollar and participation results for last year.

It should also noted that the Class of '61 has 45 classmates who have contributed to the DCF *every year* since graduation, which represents 8.3% of our living classmates (540) as of July 1st and 9.3% of our current DCF base (484). Both of these are very high statistics of which the Class should be very proud and possibly are unmatched by any class out more than 50 or even 40 years.

The participation rate for the Class (77.3%) was nearly twice the participation rate for the entire College alumni base (41.2%) and nearly 5 percentage points higher than the best of the normally very high reunion classes. Donations from 374 classmates made this possible. However, the efforts of the Class DCF agents and the '61 DCF leadership team who worked tirelessly to make the aforementioned happen cannot be overstated, especially Denny Denniston, Harris McKee, Hank Eberhardt, Rog McArt, Don O'Neill, Gerry Kaminsky, Hop Holmberg, Pete Stuart, Bob Conn, Zhuoman Gardner and Vince Wilson (our College DCF support person). The Class is deeply indebted to all of you.

Class Constitution Update Report

Bill Collishaw, head of the Class Constitution Update Committee, reported that he had completed his review of the '61 Class Constitution and has several recommendations, primarily to bring the Constitution up to date with current Class administrative and managerial practice. Once the new issue of adoption of the classmate wives and widows into the class structure is resolved with the College, Bill will be able to complete his proposed formal amendments to the Constitution.

Vic Rich presented the adoption issue in question that he and Don have been negotiating with the College's Office of Alumni Affairs (via Angela Stafford): "formal" versus "informal" adoption by the Class versus by the College. Bill is now involved in the "adoption" issue and process.

Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, Class webmaster, reported that the '61 website is updated on a current basis, with timely publishing of current info and obituary notices of both classmates and spouses. During the past month, there were a dozen updates to the Class' website, six all-class emails, four class agent update emails and the publication of one class newsletter.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Dave Armstrong, co-chair of the Class Gift Planning Committee along with Red Facher, reported that there were no new classmates that had named Dartmouth to their estate plans (thus becoming BTS members) during the past month, although 4 new classmates had been added during the fiscal year ended June 30th. Our Class ranks high for the percentage of class members belonging to BTS. Dave stated that he and Red had a list of potential BTS members from our class to contact, with the names divided up between them to contact, which is their next step.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Tom Conger, Class newsletter editor, reported that (with Harris' assistance) the latest edition of the Class newsletter had been completed and published in June.

Robert Frost Class Project Report

Pete Bleyler, chair of the '61 Robert Frost Endowment for the Arts and International Relations awards project, was unable to attend the conference call. However, Don reported that the project was well under way, with only a few administrative issues to be resolved with the College and within the Class. The Class' 50% portion (\$50,000) of the funds required has already been transferred to the College and approximately \$20,000 of the remaining 50% classmate portion has already been pledged by the 19 members of the Class Officers/ Executive Committee.

Mini-Reunion On-Campus Report

Maynard Wheeler, mini-reunion co-chair and the person involved in scripting and arranging our annual Hanover-based Fall mini-reunion has again set up a non-stop activity filled weekend for October 26-28, 2018, which coincides this year with Homecoming Weekend. Apart from other activities, there will be a Class dinner on Friday and Saturday evenings and a Class brunch on Sunday morning. As room reservations are each week becoming more difficult to get, classmates desiring to attend should make their hotel/motel reservations as soon as possible.

Mini-Reunion Off-Campus Report

Frank Stephens, a London resident, who has assumed responsibility for our next off-campus mini-reunion in London, England from Wednesday evening, May 15, 2019 through Saturday morning May 18, 2019, was unable to attend the conference call but submitted a detailed draft of the proposed itinerary, a budget estimate and a draft registration form.

The theme of this mini-reunion, the Class' first outside of the U.S., will be an 80th birthday celebration for most classmates in 2019. Those seriously interested in attending should complete as soon as reasonably possible the application sent out by Harris via email and placed on the Class' website. Hotel reservations at The May Fair, where Frank has reserved a block of rooms, or any other place should be made separately.

Women's Initiative Committee (WIC) Report

Nyla Arslanian and Patti Rich, co-chairs of WIC, reported that they continued to receive positive comments about the WIC meeting held in May at the Newport mini and that the widows of all current deceased classmates are communicated with to offer the Class' personal condolences along with an offer to stay involved with the Class of '61. In addition, Nyla stated that a second survey was being prepared for all of the Class' wives and widows, as a follow-up to the successful first survey sent out during the prior fiscal year.

Finally, Nyla and Patti expressed their gratitude to the Class for its efforts to adopt all of the '61 wives and widows into the Class, whether formally or informally as necessitated by the College's By-Laws.

'61 Classmate Special Awards Committee Report

Dave Prewitt, chair of the classmate awards committee, reported that the committee would be sending out (via Harris McKee email and class website) another notice requesting nominations for a '61 Classmate Special Award to be awarded during the Class' Fall mini-reunion. Several recommendations were already on file.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Report

Denny Denniston, chair of this important historical perspective of the Class of 1961 through the past nearly six decades, reported that the archive report was near completion, but that there was nothing current to report.

New Business

Don stated that Denny, along with Vic and Harris, would again be coordinating the completion of the annual Class Activity Report (CAR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 and submission of same by the July 30th deadline. All class officers were asked to complete their respective sections as soon as possible.

Don then asked the class officer group for class project suggestions for the current fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, to be proposed and discussed at the next class officer conference call/meeting.

Finally, Don thanked all of the '61 class officers for their hard work on behalf of the Class and their positive contribution to the Class during the past fiscal year.

The next conference call/meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at noon (EDT). [NOTE: This conference call was cancelled subsequently, on Aug. 5th.]

Don adjourned the meeting at 1 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich '61 Class Secretary