

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers Conference Call/Meeting

October 16, 2019

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Denny Denniston, Vic Rich, Harris McKee, Maynard Wheeler, Dave Prewitt, Rog McArt, Oscar Arslanian, Joan Prewitt

Absent from Meeting: Gerry Kaminsky, Ron Wybranowski, Bill Collishaw, Pete Bleyler, Henry Eberhart, Tom Conger, Dave Armstrong, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich

Invited Guests: Vince Wilson (present)

Don O'Neill, Class President, called the meeting to order at noon EDT.

Don then called for the formal approval of the Minutes for both the August 14, 2019 and the September 11, 2019 class officers' conference calls/meetings. The approval of the Minutes for the August, 2019 conference call/meeting had been deferred until the October, 2019 conference call/meeting. The Minutes for both conference calls/meeting were approved unanimously as written and submitted.

Don advised the group that, sadly, Red Facher had just resigned as a class officer, effective immediately, for personal reasons. Don and other class officers thank Red for his many years of service to the Class of '61 and to the College and wished him well going forward.

Finally, Don mentioned that he had written and sent out/made available to all classmates a presidential update letter which discusses the Class' accomplishments for the year and certain areas where improvement was indicated.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class Secretary, reported that he had completed the Minutes for the September 11, 2019 class officers conference call/meeting.

Vic stated that he received and analyzed the Class Annual Reports (CAR) statistics of all of the other classes out for more than 25 years and vying for Class of the Year designation for the year ended June 30, 2019 and compared them to the equivalent stats for the Class of '61. The results of the 23 classes analyzed showed that in almost every area, we were at or near the top of the ranking. Vic noted that our small class, now out of Dartmouth and aging for 58+ years, had the third lowest class base of 478 (Class of '48 currently had the lowest class base), compared to the Class of '92, which had the highest class base (of 1066) for those classes out more than 25 years. It is a big disadvantage for the older and much smaller classes to compete for Class of the Year, and the Class should be very proud that it has been able to compete so effectively during the past decades, having won numerous College awards (including Class of the Year twice) and having initiated numerous original, creative and successful class projects and class mini-reunions. Vic will send a copy of his analysis to Don for his review and for distribution to other '61 class officers as appropriate in order to assist in planning for the management of the Class of 1961 for the current and near-future fiscal years.

Vic and six other class officers (maximum number allowed) attended the VOX ("Volunteer Officer eXperience") meeting in Hanover during the latter part of September, 2019. The VOX Weekend encompassed both the class Officers, the club officers, and also several other interest groups who previously had separate weekends and was intended to promote better interaction and communication among the numerous alumni interest groups currently invited to attend.

Finally, Vic stated that he was in the process of reviewing and, and where necessary or appropriate, re-writing several of the proposed revisions to the '61 Class Constitution.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Wybranowski, Class Treasurer, was not able to attend the conference call/meeting but submitted a report that the Class' current cash balances totaled approximately \$58,000, which he indicated might be excessive. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Class was shrinking so that fewer dues and fewer excess contributions would be coming in each year and that funds were needed for our upcoming 60th Reunion on campus, possibly for any deficits incurred for on-campus or off-campus mini-reunions, and for continuing or possible new class projects. Don also stated that the Class' first dues request letter to classmates for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 will be sent out by the College by mid-November.

On-Campus Mini-Reunion Report (Hanover, NH – October 2019)

Maynard Wheeler, chair of the Class' on-campus mini-reunions, reported that 23 classmates plus 23 spouses, significant others and grandchildren had attended all or at least a significant portion of the '61 mini held on campus from October 11-13, 2019. Everyone agreed that the weekend was an enormous success, from the Class' activities (including the dinner on Friday evening at the Hanover Inn, presentations to the class by four undergraduate student recipients of financial stipend awards from two separate '61 endowments (including the initial two recipients of grants from the Class 1961 Stephen W. Bosworth Award for International Affairs) on Saturday morning, a class meeting on Saturday with a box lunch, a Women's Committee gathering and discussion group on Saturday, a private dinner on Saturday evening at the Montshire Museum in Norwich, VT, the presentation of the D'61 Special Classmate Award to Denny Denniston and breakfast on Sunday morning at the Norwich Inn. In addition, the College sponsored activities during Homecoming Weekend (the annual Homecoming Weekend parade and annual bonfire on Friday evening and the [winning] Dartmouth/Yale football game on Saturday) blended in nicely. Also, perfect Fall weather was provided for the entire weekend. Finally, the "twins" Dave Prewitt and Vic Rich were able to celebrate their joint birthday on October 13th together. All of the '61 class officers who attended thanked Maynard and congratulated him for an outstanding weekend, especially the sessions encompassing the talks presented by the four students who received grants from the Class of '61 for diversified research projects.

Off-Campus Mini-Reunion Report (San Diego, CA – March 2019)

Dave and Joan Prewitt announced that the next off-campus mini-reunion would be held in San Diego during March 22-25, 2020 at the Hotel del Coronado. Thirty rooms have been reserved for classmates. The rates per day had been negotiated down to a very reasonable room rate of \$229/night plus tax, with a full waiver of the resort fee. Activities were currently being organized.

Class Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Report

Harris McKee and Rog McArt, co-chairs (along with Henry Eberhardt) of our Class DCF efforts, presented the projected goals for the Class of '61 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020:

- The financial goals for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 and 2021 have been established as follows:

The DCF dollar goal was established at \$310k for the year ending 6/30/2020 and \$610k for the year ending 6/30/2021, respectively.

The DCF class participation goal was established at 72% for the year ending 6/30/2020 and not yet resolved for the year ending 6/30/2021.

Regarding achievement of the DCF dollar goal, the Class DCF agents will first solicit leadership gifts, including “early bird special” and multi-year payment options.

- The College is offering two contribution “enhancements”: First, under the “early bird” option, any contribution of \$1,000 or more made during the fiscal year prior to the major reunion fiscal year (followed by a contribution of \$1,000 or more during the year of the major reunion) will also be counted as a reunion year contribution for recognition credit both by the class and the donor. Second, anyone pledging \$25,000 or more during the one or two fiscal years prior to a major reunion year can pay their pledge in full or in installments at any time over the fiscal three year period and get recognition credit each year for the amount paid during that fiscal year and, In addition, both the class and the donor will get recognition credit for the full amount pledged during the year of the major reunion.
- Volt system bio-data review – The DCF VOLT records have been reviewed for data not incorporated into Alumni records; updates for many ‘61s were forwarded to D’s alumni records. The Volt system will again be used by all DCF agents (rather than EverTrue) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.
- Class agent retention - ‘61 class agent performance was reviewed by Vince Wilson (our Class’ excellent DCF resource from the College) and shared with the ‘61 DCF co-head agents. The ‘61 co-head agents are now in the process of contacting each of the aforementioned Class DCF agents to make sure that they are willing to continue for the next two years and, where appropriate, to confirm that they are willing to step up their Class DCF efforts, with regard to both dollar goals and participation goals.

D’61 Class Constitution Update Report

Bill Collishaw, chair of the ad-hoc Class Constitution Update Committee, was not able to attend the conference call and did not submit a report. However, Don reported that he had recently compiled a rough revised draft (Articles III, V, VI, VII) of the proposed revised Class Constitution for the committee members (Bill, Don, Denny, Harris and Vic)

and submitted same to them for (hopefully) “final” review and approval. When the final draft is approved by the committee, hopefully by November 2019, it will then be submitted to the entire '61 class officers group for their review and approval, hopefully by the December, 2019 class officer's conference call/meeting. After that is achieved, a copy of the existing current Class Constitution, the proposed amendments and the proposed amended Class Constitution will be sent or be made available on-line to all '61 classmates and to the College's alumni administration, hopefully by January 2020. The end goal will be approval of the Amended '61 Constitution by the College at the beginning of calendar year 2020 and, hopefully, by the members of the Class of 1961 during the class mini-reunion scheduled for March, 2020 but no later than the end of the fiscal year June 30, 2020.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Dave Armstrong was unable to attend the conference call and did not submit a report. Don reported that he had sent out an email to all '61 class officers indicating the significance of all class officers and all classmates joining BTS, the ease of which it can now be accomplished and its tie-in to D's 250th anniversary “Call to Lead Campaign”. Don also stated that he was looking to add at least one other member of the Class to join with Dave on the BTS committee and to get the committee energized. Finally, Don stated that the BTS goal was established at 100 class member participants by our 60th Reunion in June 2021, which would require adding 35 new classmate members by that date.

Robert Frost Endowed Class Project

Pete Bleyler, chair of this project, was unable to attend the conference call and did not submit a report. However, Don reported that the two initial recipients of grants from the Class of 1961 Stephen W. Bosworth Award for International Affairs and the two arts students who were recipients of grants directly from the Class of 1961 Robert Frost Endowment Fund had spoken to classmates during the October 2019 Hanover mini about their very interesting research projects. All were excellent speakers .

Women's Initiative Committee (WIC)

Neither Nyla Arslanian nor Patti Rich, co-chairs of the WIC, were able to attend the conference call/meeting but Patti submitted a written report to the Class Secretary. Vic reported that the WIC held a ladies discussion group moderated by Patti on Saturday during the '61 Hanover mini-reunion in October. Twelve spouses/significant others

attended the discussion about “current issues in their lives”, which was lively and interesting. Patti also thanked Don for inviting the spouses and significant others to attend and participate in the Class meeting held during Saturday morning of the Hanover mini-reunion. In addition, Patti was considering whether to set up another luncheon in the New York Metro area for '61 spouses, significant others and widows, probably in May or June 2020. Finally, Nyla had previously stated that she was planning to expand and update the WIC contact list of '61 spouses, significant others and widows.

Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, Class Webmaster, reported that during the past month he had posted nearly a dozen updates to the website (including an update letter from the Class President, two classmate death notices and preliminary info on the '61 March, 2020 mini scheduled for San Diego) and sent four iModules emails to classmates.

Memorialist's Report

Harris McKee, Class Memorialist (a/k/a Necrologist) reported that two classmates (Howard “Chip” Serrell and David Lashar) passed away during the past month. Refer to the class obit write-ups on the '61 Class website for the names and full details about deceased classmates.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Tom Conger, Class Newsletter Editor, was unable to attend the conference call/meeting and did not submit a report. However, Harris indicated that the next edition of the '61 class newsletter currently is being put together and will be completed and published within the next few weeks.

D'61 Special Classmate Awards Committee Report

Dave Prewitt, chair of the Special Classmate Awards Committee, reported that Denny Denniston became the fifth class member selected to receive the '61 Special Classmate Award, which was presented during the recent '61 Hanover mini-reunion. In addition, there are several additional classmates being considered for this prestigious award at some future date.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Report

Denny Denniston, chair of this historical perspective of the Class as it has related to the College since 1961, stated that he has lost his on-line file of data which he had been accumulating. Since much of the earlier class and classmate award info had been accumulated and submitted to Denny by Vic Rich, Denny asked him to look through his files in order to try to recover at least some of the historical data so that Denny could reconstruct the earlier parts of his file. Vic responded that he had discovered some paper files on the topic and needed to look through this material.

Dartmouth/Princeton Football Game Events – November 9, 2019

The Class of '61 has a dedicated seating section for the football game at Yankee Stadium, where approximately 8-10 classmates along with spouses, significant others and other guests are expected to be sitting. Other Dartmouth sponsored pre-game events on Saturday, November 9th have recently been announced. After discussion in advance with several of the expected classmate attendees, it was determined by Gerry Kaminsky and Denny Denniston that a pre-game class event was no longer viable because of the conflict with pre-game College sponsored events and a post-game dinner or cocktail party anticipated for the Class may not be viable because of the late game time and the issue of transportation for many of the attendees, especially those retuning that evening to CT and NJ. Further review will be undertaken as the game date approaches.

Committee to Engage Other Classmates to Assist in the Leadership and Management of the Class of '61 Classmates

Don stated that this will be an important committee whose short-term goal will be to engage more classmates, spouses and/or widows of classmates to become involved in the leadership and management of the Class, either at at-large class officers or as members of a revived and enhanced class executive committee. The long-term goal will be the selection of class officers to lead the Class of 1961 from the 60th Reunion to the 65th Reunion. Don followed by stating that after discussion with several class officers, he has selected Dave Prewitt to chair the committee, which will also include Rog McArt, Oscar Arslanian and Art Kelton. Henceforth, this committee will be known as the "Nominating Committee". All of the aforementioned have agreed to serve on this committee, whose term shall end at the Class' 60th Reunion in June 2021.

New Business

- After discussion, it was agreed unanimously by those present on the conference call to increase our Class' annual contribution to the Dartmouth Athletic Sponsors from \$1,500/year to \$2,500/year.
- The newly issued 2020 Dartmouth Calendar has the Robert Frost statue as the Dartmouth related scene for the month of December and the new Hood Museum brochure showing all of the statues on the Dartmouth campus displays a photograph of the Robert Frost statue. The Robert Frost Statue and the Class of 1961 clearly have arrived!

The next class officers conference call/meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13 , 2019 at noon EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary