

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers Teleconference/Meeting

May 13, 2020

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Gerry Kaminsky, Denny Denniston, Vic Rich, Ron Wybranowski, Harris McKee, Maynard Wheeler, Tom Conger, Henry Eberhardt, Oscar Arslanian, Rog McArt, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich

Absent from Meeting: Bill Collishaw, Pete Bleyler, Dave Prewitt, Dave Armstrong, Joan Prewitt

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 the April 8, 2020 class officers teleconference/meeting. The Minutes for the teleconference/meeting were approved as written and submitted.

Don stated that the COVID-19 virus was continuing to take its toll on many people, directly and indirectly, including "family members" of the College (students, alumni, faculty, administration). To the best of his knowledge (and that of the other '61 class officers), Don stated that two members of the Class have passed away directly or indirectly from this virus. Hopefully, this will be it for our Class. Don closed his remarks with a plea that now more than ever it was important for '61 classmates, and especially the class officers, to communicate with each other and with the spouses and widows of our classmates, to let them know that the Class of '61 is there for them as a '61 family member and that the College would be there for them as a member of a larger family. Now more than ever was it important for each and every living classmate to assist in this effort by

making a contribution of any comfortable amount to this year's DCF effort and, for those who are able, to make an additional contribution or a larger contribution than they would otherwise have made.

Several other class officers then spoke, adding affirmative comments, with the general consensus being that, in general, the members of the Class of '61 have been lucky to date and should continue to be careful until this pandemic has passed.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class Secretary, reported that he had completed and submitted the Minutes for the April 8, 2020 class officers teleconference. In addition, he prepared and submitted the '61 class column for the *Classnotes* section of the July/August issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine.

Finally, during this month he also corresponded orally and/or in writing with several classmates, including communications with Bill Collishaw, a significant class officer who was unable to participate in this month's class officers telecon because he was currently at a rehab facility recovering from the aftereffects of a serious blood infection received from a leg accident occurring in his backyard. Everyone wished Bill a speedy and complete recovery.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Wybranowski, Class Treasurer, reported that the Class' current cash balances totaled approximately \$39,100 in the Class' primary checking account and approximately \$7,300 in the Class' reunion/mini-reunion checking account. Since July 1, 2019, the Class collected dues of approximately \$15,100 (\$61 from 247 classmates) and voluntary contributions from many classmates of approximately \$7,600 for various ongoing class projects, totaling approximately \$22,700 through approximately May 12, 2020. During the prior fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, the Class collected dues of \$16,717 (\$61 from 274 classmates) and voluntary contributions from classmates to various existing class projects of \$6,211, for a total of \$22,928. The third and final dues mailing for the current fiscal year has been mailed out by the College. During the current fiscal year, the Class thus far

has made \$5,500 in donations to the College, as follows: \$1,500 to the '61 Legacy, \$2,500 to the Dartmouth athletics program, \$1,500 to a student in the College's Anthropology Department and an additional \$3,719 from voluntary add-ons to the '61 Legacy and Robert Frost existing class projects, for a total of \$7,219. Finally, \$1,247 was paid out during the month primarily for mailings by the College related to the '61 class newsletter, the proposed Amended '61 Class Constitution and the '61 Class dues and Class DCF notices.

Class Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Report

Harris McKee, co-chair of our Class DCF efforts (along with Henry Eberhardt and Roger McArt), presented the Class' actual dollars contributed by classmates and by the number of classmates contributing through May 12, 2020 versus projected goals for the Class of '61 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020:

- The DCF dollar goal is \$310,000 for the year ending 6/30/2020; as of May 12, 2020, the Class has raised \$280,671 in actual contributions and pledges (\$238,097 in actual paid-in contributions), or 90.5% of its dollar goal. As of May 12, 2020, the average amount of gift per classmate amounted to \$1,220, which was among the highest among all classes.
- The DCF class participation goal was established at 72% (338 donors out of a total of 468 eligible classmates) for the year ending 6/30/2020; as of May 12, 2020, 230 classmates (out of a now eligible total of 466) have made actual or pledged contributions. At 49.4% participation, the Class ranked first among all non-reunion classes in class participation and first among all classes, including reunion classes. Noted that the College's participation goal is 40% for the current fiscal year.

Don noted that our class DCF efforts were beginning to step up its pace. Don again stated that in this pandemic year of the coronavirus, our Class participation goal ideally should be stepped up to 100% of all living and reachable classmates. At the very least, he was hopeful that the Class of '61 would exceed significantly its goal of 72%. Harris noted that all class officers had made a contribution to the year's DCF. However, we still had 125 donors from last year who have not yet contributed anything for the current year. The Class DCF "swat team" is to begin

its efforts on May 15th to obtain donations from all remaining classmates who have not yet made a contribution.

Harris also noted that DCF leadership efforts by Don, Gerry and Denny with respect to the multi-year contribution commitments covering the years including and surrounding our 60th Reunion have been going well.

Vince Wilson provided a brief update as to what was happening at the College with respect to its dealing with this pandemic at all levels. A conference call with Vince and several key class officers involved in the Class DCF efforts is scheduled to follow this teleconference.

D'61 On-Campus Mini-Reunion Report (Hanover, NH – October 2020)

Maynard Wheeler, on-campus mini-reunion chair, reported that the next Fall mini-reunion on campus, still scheduled to be held October 2-4, 2020, has been planned, scheduled and budgeted, with sign-up sheets having been emailed/sent to all classmates and also located on the class website. Tom Conger mentioned that he had heard that all Fall mini-reunions were going to be cancelled. However, neither Don nor Maynard had heard of this; Vince stated that he would look into the matter and get back to Maynard and Don.

D'61 On-Campus 60th Reunion (Hanover, NH – June 2021)

Pete Bleyler, 60th Reunion chair, was not available for the meeting, but did submit a detailed report which was summarized to everyone by Vic, as follows: 1) the class slogan for our '60 is to be "The road to our 60th", based on the photo by Ron Wybranowski of a stone road marker somewhere in New England which read "The Dartmouth College Road", 2) the photo of the stone road marker and the slogan for our 60th Reunion will become the basis for a personalized birthday card to go out by email or regular mail to each classmate on the date of his birthday, and 3) because of the COVID-19 virus, changes may have to be made to the agenda and/or timing of certain reunion events.

Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, Class Webmaster, reported that during the past month he had posted approximately 20 website updates and 12 iModules emails to classmates.

Memorialist's Report

Harris McKee, Class Memorialist, reported about four classmates whose passing notices were received during the past month (Hal Knott, Ira Gorman, Bill Harris and Benj Fauver) and whose obit notices were posted on the Class' website. In addition, Harris posted an obit for Doc Dey '52, who served as an associate dean when we were Dartmouth undergraduates.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Tom Conger, Class Newsletter Editor, reported that the April 2020 edition of the Class newsletter, *Wide Wide World*, was completed and published by the end of April. This was our last newsletter for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. The next class newsletter is scheduled for October 2020. In response to a question, Tom noted that the Class issued three newsletters during each fiscal year, the maximum number that the College would subsidize per year.

Bartlett Tower Society Report

Dave Armstrong, BTS chairman for the Class, did not submit a report. Don mentioned that he had reached out to Dave to discuss certain matters relating to the Bartlett Tower Society and the Class.

Women's Initiative Committee (WIC)

Nyla Arslanian and Patti Rich, co-chairs of the WIC, reported that they would assist with the promotion of our upcoming 60th Reunion in Hanover in June 2021, with primary emphasis on encouraging the spouses, significant others and widows of '61 classmates to attend. Nyla stated that she wrote an article on behalf of WIC for the recent class newsletter. Patti commented that she has been calling the widows of recently deceased classmates, where such widows existed and were reachable, noting that several contribute annually or periodically to the DCF.

Finally, in response to a question regarding other classes, Patti noted that several classes had compassion committees, which engaged and assisted classmates and their families during a time of need. Patti stated that she learned about these class compassion committees during one of the breakout sessions at the VOX Conference of alumni class and club leaders held during September 2019. Vic mentioned that several years ago, as a then member of the Class Officers Association Executive Board (COAEB), he had seen a copy of compassion committee “bible” for one of the classes who originated such program and would try to locate a copy from his computer storage file (if not, a copy probably could be obtained from Beth at Alumni Activities).

Because of limited remaining time, Don decided to end the meeting before several other committee reports could be presented, unless any committee chair or any other class officer had something else significant to contribute. Although no one spoke up, some committee chairs had submitted reports or comments prior to the teleconference, so these will be summarized below.

D’61 Special Classmate Award Committee

Dave Prewitt, committee chair, wrote that other classmate names have been submitted and were being considered for the *D’61 Special Classmate Award* at a future date.

Robert Frost Endowed Class Project

Pete Bleyler, chair of this project, did not submit a report, but commented previously that the program was moving along as planned and that there was nothing new to report at this time.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Report

Denny Denniston, chair of this historical perspective of the Class, did not submit a report.

Nominating Committee Report

Dave Prewitt, chair, and his committee (including Rog McArt, Oscar Arslanian and Art Kelton) are working on the development of a new slate of class officers and executive committee members to lead the Class from June 2021 through June 2026. There was nothing new to report at this time.

New Business

Oscar Arslanian suggested that the class website be updated and improved. Although still viable and functional, the website could be spruced up to be cleaner looking and easier to read, especially since more and more classmates were using it. Harris said that he would review the website and report back.

The next class officers telecon will be on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at noon DST.

Don adjourned the meeting at 1:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary