

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers /Executive Committee Teleconference

September 9, 2020

Attending the Meeting: Don O'Neill, Gerry Kaminsky, Vic Rich, Ron Wybranowski, Harris McKee, Dave Prewitt, Maynard Wheeler, Henry Eberhardt, Oscar Arslanian, Rog McArt, Dave Armstrong, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich

Absent from Meeting: Denny Denniston, Tom Conger, Pete Bleyler, Bill Collishaw, Joan Prewitt

Invited Guests: Vince Wilson (attended)

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

Don then stated that the approval of the Minutes of the August 12, 2020 class officers/executive committee meeting was being deferred because, due to personnel considerations, those Minutes could not be completed in time.

Don reminded those involved that there would be a '61 leadership giving teleconference for the 60th Reunion immediately following this teleconference.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class Secretary, reported that he had partially completed the Minutes for the August 12, 2020 class officers teleconference. In addition, he prepared and submitted the '61 class column for the *ClassNotes* section of the November/December issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine.

Vic communicated with several classmates and various members of the College's administration dealing with alumni matters in general and the Class of 1961 in particular. He received an updated class list from the College, which he then distributed to the class president, Don, and to four other class officers (Ron, Harris, Tom and Pete), based on their need to fulfill their respective specific class functions. He received a copy of the 10th installment from the author of classmate

Mike Kirst's biography (chapters 10 and 11 deal with Mike's college and post-college personal life experiences ---- entitled "From Fraternity to Paternity". Vic mentioned that the Class' Frost statue was specifically mentioned twice in one of the lead articles in the September/October issue of DAM (page 45).

Finally, Vic reviewed all of the 24 DCF related class awards and located four that our class potentially could achieve for the current fiscal year ending 6/30/2021, which is our 60th Reunion year. The requirements for each will follow. Note that the Class of 1961 has been awarded the John R. Mason 1915 Award several times during past years.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Wybranowski, Class Treasurer, presented his report for September 2020. The Class' current cash balances as of today totaled \$35,574 in the Class' checking account and \$11,418 in the Class' reunion/mini-reunion checking account. Since August 1, 2019, the Class collected dues of \$181 from 3 classmates and no voluntary contributions from classmates to various existing class projects. For the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, the Class has to date made a donation of \$2,500 (same as last year) to the Dartmouth Athletic Sponsors program.

In addition, following some question by a classmate and follow-up conversation among the class officers, it was confirmed that all '61 class reunions will be planned and priced to break even, with the possible exception of costs incurred for guests of the class, such as Dartmouth faculty, students and other College staff, and also for any active classmates who may need some financial assistance and are approved by the reunion/mini-reunion chairperson and by the then named Class officers.

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Class Report

Harris McKee, co-chair (along with Henry Eberhardt and Rog McArt) of our Class' DCF efforts, presented the Class' report of actual dollars contributed to date by classmates and number of classmates contributing to date versus projected goals for the Class of '61 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021:

- Our DCF dollar goal is \$610,000 for our 60th Reunion and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. [Subsequently, this goal was increased to \$725,000.] The Class has already received leadership pledges to date amounting to approximately \$470,000. Discussions to encourage more '61 donors to raise

their projected donations to \$5,000 or \$2,500 by providing for matching incentive gifts from classmates were being reviewed with Sylvia Racca, the DCF executive director, and with Vince Wilson, an assistant DCF director.

- Our DCF participation goal was established at 70% (323 donors out of our total current base of 461 eligible classmates) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. No actual contributions have been received to date.

Our Classes DCF participation rate success is primarily a result of our Class DCF “swat team”, begun several years ago and now perfected by our key classmate swat team leaders: co-chairs Harris McKee, Hank Eberhardt, Rog McKee; vice-presidents Denny Denniston and Gerry Kaminsky; former class officers Bob Conn; adopted classmate Zhuoman Gardner; all assisted by College DCF administrator Vince Wilson.

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

Maynard Wheeler, on-campus mini-reunion chair, reported that the Fall now-virtual on-campus mini-reunion, re-scheduled for two days, October 2-3, 2020, has been re-designed, re-planned and re-budgeted.

Because of the continuing COVID-19 ramifications, the Fall mini will be virtual and now will be cost-free for all attendees. Revised email registration invitations have been sent out and more P/R material will be released to increase the attendance from the twelve current registrants.

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

Pete Bleyler, 60th Reunion chair, was not available for the meeting but Vic, a member of Pete’s committee, was able to fill in for him. Because of continuing COVID-19 issues, much of the actual events and housing for the reunion from June 14-17 cannot be completed or committed to at this time. However, work towards those goals are progressing.

The 60th Reunion is usually the last large-scale in-person assembly of classmates and their spouses/significant others. However, it is becoming increasingly likely that the ‘61 Class’ 60th reunion will be virtual in whole or in part. Apparently, no person from the Alumni Relations office has as yet been assigned to our class for the 60th Reunion. Until further notice, Pete has delayed any formal communications by the Class to ‘61 classmates regarding the 60th Reunion.

Robert Frost Endowed Class Project

Pete Bleyler, chair of this project, was not able to attend the meeting and did not submit a report. However, two students have been selected for grants under the John Sloane Dickey Center/'61 Stephen Bosworth Award and one student for a grant under the '61 Arts Legacy. Pete was hopeful that all three of those aforementioned students currently involved would be able to attend and participate in our upcoming virtual mini-reunion.

Webmaster's (Digital Content Manager) Report

Harris McKee, Class webmaster/digital content manager, reported that during the past month he had posted approximately 12 website updates and 3 iModules emails to classmates. In addition, he worked with Oscar and Nyla Arslanian to improve the aesthetics of our class website to make it more welcoming and inviting to use. Finally, Harris was working with Maynard on the technical structure for the Class' upcoming October mini-reunion.

Memorialist's Report

Harris McKee, Class Memorialist, reported that during the past month two classmates had passed away (Dr. Tony Horan and George Abbott Davis). Obit notices for each have been posted on the Class' website.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Tom Conger, Class Newsletter Editor, reported that he was planning to issue at least three newsletters during the current fiscal year, and possibly a fourth because of our upcoming 60th Reunion, during the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. The cost of only the first three class newsletters are subsidized by the College. The next issue of the *Wide Wide World* should be completed and sent out shortly after the completion of the virtual mini-reunion in October.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Dave Armstrong, Class BTS chair, reported that he had prepared a "solicitation to join BTS and why" letter which went out to selected classmates based on a pre-established list of criteria. A copy of that letter has been posted on the Class' website. Don has been working with David to get this done. The goal for our 60th reunion has not yet been finalized; our current list includes 67 members.

Women's Initiative Committee (WIC) Report

Nyla Arslanian and Patti Rich, WIC co-chairs, reported that they were continuing to communicate, orally and/or in writing, with the recent widows of deceased classmates. In addition, Nyla, with assistance from Patti, will complete an article about WIC for the upcoming class newsletter.

D'61 Special Classmate Awards Committee

Dave Prewitt, Awards Committee chair, stated that because of the cancellation of a live Fall mini-reunion in 2020, the committee agreed to by-pass any presentation during the Fall virtual mini-reunion and would concentrate on selecting one or more award recipients for our 60th Reunion. Since 2016, when the '61 Special Classmate Awards Committee was first established, the Class has made this award to only seven classmates to date.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Report

Denny Denniston, chair of this historical perspective of the Class, was not present for the teleconference and did not submit a report.

Nominating Committee Report

Dave Prewitt, chair, and his committee (consisting of Rog McArt, Oscar Arslanian and Art Kelton) reported that they are working to develop a new slate of key class officers and executive committee members to lead the Class from June 2021 through June 2026. Several classmates are being discussed for various key officer positions. Dave did state, however, that Glenn Gemelli, had been approved to be an at-large member of the Class' executive committee; others will follow.

New Business (None)

The next class officers/executive committee telecon will be on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at noon DST.

Don adjourned the meeting at 1:05PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary

