

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers /Executive Committee Virtual Teleconference

November 10, 2021

Attending the Meeting: Maynard Wheeler, Denny Denniston, Gerry Kaminsky, Don O'Neill, Vic Rich, Ron Wybranowski, Harris McKee, Pete Bleyer, Henry Eberhardt, Oscar Arslanian, Rog McArt, Dave Armstrong, Nyla Arslanian, Al Rozycki, Mort Lynn, Gim Burton, Hop Holmberg, Glen Gemelli

Absent from Meeting: Dave Prewitt, Tom Conger, Bill Collishaw, Patti Rich, Art Kelton, Jim McElhinney, Jon Sperling, Tim Grumbacher

Invited Guests: Amanda Addington (attended); Vince Wilson (unable to attend)

Maynard Wheeler, Class President, called the meeting to order at noon (EST).

For those class officers and executive committee members who were unable to attend the October telecom, Maynard again welcomed Amanda Addington, who had been appointed as the College's DCF team member working with the Class of 1961 going forward.

Maynard asked for the approval of the Minutes for the September 8, 2021 class officers/executive committee teleconference meeting. These Minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

Maynard then stated that the Minutes for the October 13, 2021 class officers/executive committee teleconference were not yet finalized and that their approval would be deferred until the December teleconference.

Finally, Maynard briefly mentioned the probable two alternative dates for the Fall 2022 Class mini-reunion: October 1st or October 29th, and requested an email response from the class officers and executive committee members to the following two questions concerning the likelihood of attending (presuming that Covid-19 does not hinder or eliminate live attendance) and which date would be more preferable (which would

depend in part on whether live attendance in whole or in part would even be an option or whether a virtual min-reunion would be the only option available).

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class Secretary, reported that he had prepared and submitted the Minutes for the September 8, 2021 class officers/executive committee teleconference. In addition, he was in the process of completing the Minutes for the October 13, 2021 telecom.

Furthermore, Vic had prepared and submitted in late October the '61 class article for the **classnotes** section of the January/February 2022 issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine.

In addition, Vic prepared the plaque inscription write-ups for the two recipients of the *D'61 Special Classmate Awards* presented at the D'61 mini-reunion held on November 6, 2021.

Furthermore, Vic prepared several informal emails concerning recent Dartmouth issues and problem areas and submitted same to various '61 class officers and members of the class executive committee in response to various submissions by the College's administration, and various comments and questions. These issues have had or could have an impact upon the Class of '61, other alumni classes, current and future "D" students, the faculty and/or "D" as an institution (directly or indirectly).

- 1- D's recent promotion of its alleged "Strategic Master Plan". Who was involved and what was the end result?
- 2- The DAM full page interview with classmate John White included on the prestigious inside back page of the November/December 2021 issue of the DAM, which related to John's lifelong involvement with the pursuit of knowledge in the area of UFOs and paranormal incidents which are alleged to have occurred in this country and elsewhere around the world.
- 3- A brief review of what transpired during the College's virtual VOX Weekend in November 2021, which now combines Class Officers Weekend, Club Officers Weekend, and other Special Interest alumni organization groups into one reduced-in-time and scope celebration of outstanding efforts by alumni classes, alumni clubs, other alumni groups, and individual alumni. The sessions also were planned for interaction between the leaders of the aforementioned groups to learn from each other in smaller and more focused face-to-face or virtual groups.

4- For the College fiscal year ended on June 30, 2021, the Class (during the recent VOX Weekend) was awarded one of only 13 prestigious alumni class awards for outstanding service to their Class and to the College.

Finally, Vic continues to further update, correct and revise the draft version for new '61 *Class and Classmate Awards and Recognitions Archive* booklet through six and a half decades ending on December 31, 2021.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Wybranowski, Class Treasurer, reported that the Class' current cash balances as of November 9, 2021 totaled \$44,566, including \$39,447 in the Class' general checking account and \$5,119 in the Class' 60th Reunion checking account, where invoices are still outstanding (primarily from the College).

Ron then stated no additional class dues had been received for the current fiscal year since the October class officers/executive committee telecom, so that the total of 5 dues pre-payments of \$61 each for the current fiscal year, totaling \$305, remained unchanged. The first annual '61 dues letter, written by Ron (an excellent letter to classmates), should be received by classmates within the next few days. The second dues mailing notice will be submitted by Ron in January for mailing to classmates in early March 2022.

Ron then reported that donations from the Class during the current fiscal year to date have been or will be as follows:

1- Athletics dept.	\$2.500
2- Performing Arts Legacy	602 (pending)
3- Frost Legacy	1,263 (pending)
4- Legacy in Memoriam	<u>-0-</u>
Total	<u>\$4,365</u>

Finally, Ron brought up for discussion a proposed new class project for fiscal 2022 that he and Vic thought was both appropriate, long overdue and reasonable in cost: improving and expanding modestly the landscaping around the Frost statue (see details under "New Business").

Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) Class Report

Harris McKee, co-head agent (along with Henry Eberhardt and Rog McArt) of our Class' DCF efforts, presented the Class' DCF report for the five months of minimal DCF activity for the current fiscal year which began July 1, 2021:

- 1- A dollar goal of \$261,961 and a participation goal of 72% have been finalized for the Class' fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
- 2- The Class' donation base at the beginning of the fiscal year was 431 classmates.
- 3- Amanda Addington, recently appointed as the '61 DCF Class Manager, replacing the excellent Vince Wilson, has been actively working with the Class' DCF committee and class officers. A telecom with her, class president Maynard Wheeler and several DCF related classmates will follow this meeting.

Harris then presented the Class' final DCF results for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. The Class of 1961 raised a total of \$883,590, breaking both our original and our stretch goals, and at 75.6% had the highest participation of any class, reunion or non-reunion, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. As a result, the Class achieved an annual College related DCF participation award as well as being a significant factor justifying the special citation awarded (one of only 13 presented by the College to the classes) during the VOX (Volunteer Officer Experience) weekend in October.

Finally, Harris noted the College's special November fundraising challenge ("Forever Green Challenge") between pre-designated brackets of classes (our group included the classes from 1950 through 1969, which at 20 classes was the largest group). The competition within each group will be based on dollars contributed (including pledges) and the number of gifts (i.e. "participation") generated by each class from November 9th through November 30th. The leaders within each bracket of classes will have \$50,000 scholarships named after those classes. Thanks to the Class of 1977 for their 45th reunion gift of \$250,000, which provided the matching funds necessary for this fundraising challenge to take place.

D'61 On-Campus/Off-Campus Quarterly Virtual Mini-Reunion Report (November 2021)

Pete Bleyler, quarterly Hanover/virtual mini-reunion chair, reported that the entirely virtual (via Zoom) mini-reunion held for one day on Saturday, November 6th, was an outstanding success. As in the recent past, the Fall mini-reunion concentrated on panels

of classmates, widows, and spouses, with the focus on their “roads travelled and less travelled” ----- their careers, career changes, avocations, adventures and mis-steps.

The panelists included classmate Doug Zipes, an accomplished and well known cardiologist as well as an accomplished novelist of five books containing a mixture of both historical reality and fiction; Christine Bosworth, the widow of deceased classmate Steve Bosworth, who spoke of her role as the spouse of and informal assistant to a significant US ambassador; classmate Bob Tunnel, a lawyer who had an illustrious career before becoming involved in a fraudulent investment program which led to his arrest, conviction and incarceration (he has since paid his debt to society and now leads a quiet life in retirement); and classmate Jerry Greenfield, a now retired lawyer with three degrees who worked in the aerospace industry, the banking industry and in local government as an elected official. Also included in the one-day program was classmate Ron Wybranowski, who moderated an art exhibit program about the photographic artwork of Sandy Wheeler, spouse of Maynard Wheeler, the current president of the Class of 1961. The final segment of the program had current '61 class President Maynard Wheeler moderating a panel of two students who had received financial stipends from the Class of 1961 for developing their artwork concepts. To close the program, two '61 Special Classmate Awards were presented to Oscar Arslanian and to Henry Eberhardt, both worthy of the award for their long-term service to the class of '61, the College, and their community.

Pete ended his report by stating that more than 100 classmates, spouses, and widows had registered for the mini-reunion and every segment had at least 70 people attending.

Robert Frost Endowed Class Project

Pete Bleyler, committee chair, reported that there was nothing significant to report. The dual project, consisting of financial awards provided to undergraduate students in accordance with the John Sloane Dickey Center/'61 Stephen Bosworth Award and the '61 Arts Legacy, appeared to be running relatively smoothly. Each program is currently funding two students with cash awards.

One issue which has arisen is that the funds received by the Dickey Center each year from the funds originally contributed by the Class of '61 to the College for the endowed '61 Stephen Bosworth Award, along with subsequent contributions by the Class of '61 and annual earnings on the endowed balance, go directly from the College to the students selected to receive the grants each year, rather than going first to the Dickey

Center, where the amount of the stipends going to the students each year are apparently being determined by the Dickey Center. Pete, Don and Denny will look into the matter and speak to the head of the Dickey Center and/or others if appropriate.

Digital Content Manager/Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, Class Digital Content Manager/Webmaster, reported that he had generated 25 class website updates and 28 iModules emails were sent since the prior month's telecom. Also, a special ZOOM meeting had been created earlier for the processing of the well-attended '61 Fall 2021 mini-reunion. Finally, Harris created a "Reflections" webpage for our class' website and also posted a recording of almost all of the earlier November mini-reunion proceedings. Finally, Harris updated the Class' home page to add a link to the most recent issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine.

Memorialist's Report

Harris McKee, Class Memorialist, reported that during the past month three classmates and/or spouses had passed away or the Class had just learned of their passing, as follows: Phil Spitzer (classmate), Ron Picket (classmate), Jake Gillespie (classmate). Condolences from the class to the families of the aforementioned. Extensive obituaries of each have been posted to the '61 class website. No other classmates or spouses are known to have passed away since our last teleconference.

Going forward, due to obit reporting changes by the College, Harris will post our classmate and spouse obits on our class website both alphabetically and (as created by Harris) in reverse chronological order.

In addition, Harris notifies the Class Treasurer of the passing of each classmate and classmate spouse so that \$100 can be contributed to the '61 *Performing Arts Legacy* or to the John Sloane Dickey Center/'61 *Stephen Bosworth Award* in honor each such deceased person.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Tom Conger, Newsletter Editor, was not able to attend the meeting and did not submit a report, but Harris reported that the initial edition of the '61 Class newsletter, *Wide World*, for the current fiscal year was published on-line in early November. The second edition for the current fiscal year will likely be published in February 2022.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Al Rozycki, Class BTS co-chair with Dave Armstrong, reported that the Class now has “72 or 73” BTS members after one classmate recently has completed the paperwork and joined during the current fiscal year. According to Al and Dave, another four classmates appear interested in joining and, hopefully, close to beginning the process of joining.

Al wants to get 100% participation from all members of the current class officer and executive committee, but is still not quite there yet.

Women’s Initiative Committee (WIC) Report

Nyla Arslanian, WIC co-chair along with Patti Rich, reported that they were continuing to communicate with the spouses, widows and significant others of all classmates and with the ’61 women’s sub-committee of 10 classmate spouses and widows, who are also involved in increasing the level and pace of communication with other classmate spouses, widows and significant others.

D’61 Special Classmate Awards Committee Report

Dave Prewitt, chair, was unable to attend the meeting but Vic reported that the committee, consisting of Dave, Harris McKee, Denny Denniston, and Vic Rich, presented two *’61 Special Classmate Awards* (both drafted by Vic) during the Fall ’61 mini-reunion last week, to Oscar Arslanian and to Henry Eberhardt

In addition, the committee has been reviewing other potential nominees and expects to present at least one or possibly two awards during our upcoming Winter mini-reunion in February 2022.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Report

Vic Rich, committee co-chair of this committee with Denny Denniston, reported that this multi-year project was revised to include significant updated information arising subsequent to June 30, 2021 and through December 31, 2021. The updated and substantially more complete *’61 Class & Classmate Awards and Recognition Archive* will be included in a booklet of about 12 pages to be published and distributed to classmates during the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

Alumni Council D'61 Representative Report

Don O'Neill, our class' current representative to the Alumni Council, reported that his term began on July 1, 2021 and he attended his first Council meeting presented virtually in small segments over several days during October 2021.

Don's committee assignment is the Admissions and Enrollment Committee. Don reported that he learned a lot during his first committee meeting, which focused on Dartmouth achievements during the past year. However, one issue that was brought up was the recent demand from several "outside groups" that all of the Ivy League schools, including Dartmouth, and other prestigious colleges and universities abolish immediately any preference given to legacies within the admission process, or face a "boycott" of the school going forward. Based on information presented, although Dartmouth does still give some preference to legacies, it goes only to qualified students, its influence on admission is less than it used to be, and the number of legacies that are admitted each year recently has been less, sometimes significantly so, than all or most of the seven other Ivy League colleges/ universities. (See New Business.)

Don mentioned that because of some scheduling conflicts, he was unable to attend some of the other Fall Alumni Council sessions.

The Alumni Council, in general, holds two meetings per year, one in April or May and the other in October or November. As of now, the upcoming Council meetings will continue to be entirely virtual.

New Business

- 1- Vic Rich, Ron Wybranowski, and other classmates have recently come to believe that improvements are necessary to the area surrounding the Frost statue, which have now become seedy and unsafe. Others joined in support of this effort and Al Rozycki offered also to join in the project and write a letter to the College's administration requesting a face-to-face meeting to present the Class' proposal, request the College's approval of the proposed renovation, and ask for assistance in the funding required to complete the project.

Some of the improvements recommended include one or two sitting benches, a "mending wall" (tie-in to the Frost poem being addressed by Frost on his bronze writing tablet), and a flatter ground area in front of the Frost statue.

Vic suggested that we approach George Lundeen, the sculptor of the now famous Frost statue at Dartmouth, both for his expertise and personal thoughts on the proposed improvements and the layout of the proposed improvements.

- 2- With respect to the issue of any continued preference given to “legacies” when applying to Dartmouth College, as well as to the other Ivy League and other highly rated undergraduate schools, versus the proposed “boycott” of those schools who are unwilling to comply with the demand to eliminate such legacy preferences, the Class via Don as our Class’ Alumni Council representative and/or separately should respond to this proposed boycott of the College if it does not agree to comply. Dartmouth is currently in the process of reviewing the demand.

One question which immediately arose is how do the preferred colleges and/or universities involved, including Dartmouth, justify giving preference to any group or sub-group of applicants for admission, while at the same time being told to eliminate any such preference for legacies? This question needs discussion and a reconciliation.

The next class officers/executive committee teleconference will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at Noon (EDT).

Maynard adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM (EDT).

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary