

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers /Executive Committee Virtual Teleconference

December 8, 2021

Attending the Meeting: Maynard Wheeler, Don O'Neill, Vic Rich, Ron Wybranowski, Harris McKee, Pete Bleyer, Oscar Arslanian, Tom Conger, Rog McArt, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich, Mort Lynn, Jim McElhinney, Gim Burton, Hop Holmberg, Glen Gemelli, Jon Sperling

Absent from Meeting: Denny Denniston, Gerry Kaminsky, Dave Prewitt, Henry Eberhardt, Bill Collishaw, David Armstrong, Al Rozycki, Art Kelton, Tim Grumbacher

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

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

Maynard asked for the approval of the Minutes for the October 13, 2021 class officers/executive committee teleconference meeting. These Minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

Maynard then stated that the Minutes for the November 10, 2021 class officers/executive committee teleconference were not yet finalized and that their approval would be deferred until the January 2022 teleconference.

Maynard then went on to congratulate the Class on its achievement in the recently completed *Forever Green Challenge*, and especially those agent/members of the '61 DCF Committee and the other '61 Class officers and members of the '61 executive committee who led the Class' efforts.

Finally, Maynard closed his comments by mentioning the request from the Alumni Council administration for a member from the Class of '61 to become an alumnus liaison representative to the current Alumni Council. After learning more about what this new position entails, Maynard will select or recommend a classmate to fill this position.

Maynard noted that Don O'Neill, our Class' current representative to the Alumni Council, supported this effort.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class Secretary, reported that he had prepared and submitted the Minutes for the October 13, 2021 class officers/executive committee Zoom teleconference. In addition, he was in the process of completing the Minutes for the November 10, 2021 Zoom telecon.

Furthermore, Vic was in the process of preparing the '61 class article for the *classnotes* section of the January/February 2022 issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine, due later in December.

In addition, Vic notified the '61 Class Officers and executive committee members that he personally (and not as a class officer or executive committee member) had prepared a "Letter to the Editor" in response to an article included in the November/December 2021 issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine. Vic's letter was in response to the article, "Framework for the Future", apparently submitted by the College for publication in that issue and which praised what the College has consistently referred to as Dartmouth's *Strategic Master Plan*, completed in 2020 and recently promoted to the alumni.

From the date of the November '61 telecon, Vic communicated with several classmates, members of other "D" classes, and members of the College's administration dealing with alumni matters in general and the Class of '61 in particular, including a farewell and good luck letter to Liz Nunez, who was leaving her current position as the Deputy Director of Alumni Relations for the College to become the head of Alumni Relations for the Tuck School.

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. The fully edited project should be completed by February or March 2022.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Wybranowski, Class Treasurer, reported that the Class' current cash balances as of December 8, 2021 totaled \$44,926, including \$39,807 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).

Class dues for the current fiscal year are beginning to arrive as a result of the excellent first dues notice sent out by Ron to classmates. Including 5 dues pre-payments of \$61 from last year and 13 dues payments for the current fiscal year, a total of \$1,098 in dues payments are applicable to the current fiscal year. The second dues mailing notice will be submitted by Ron in January for mailing to classmates in early March 2022. The dues participation goal will hopefully exceed the 60% achieved for the prior fiscal year.

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

1- Athletics dept.	\$2,500
2- Performing Arts Legacy	--
3- Frost Legacy	--
Total	<u>\$4,365</u> =====

Ron then presented an analysis of funds received from classmates and others during the past 3 years and expended on class projects during that period of time.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expensed</u>	<u>Unspent Funds</u>
2018-2019	\$2,058	\$1,500	\$ 558
2019-2020.	\$4,013.	\$1,500	\$2,513
2020-2021.	\$7,283	\$1,000	\$6,283
Totals.	<u>\$13,354.</u> =====	<u>\$4,000</u> =====	<u>\$9,354</u> =====

The aforementioned indicates that \$9,354 is still available for use on class projects, either currently existing or to be established. Furthermore, the unspent funds include \$4,000 received from classmate Jim Baum and \$1,000 received from Virginia Rice Kelsey, a long-term friend of the Class of '61.

One new class project recently proposed for fiscal 2022, improving and expanding the landscaping around the Frost statue, could be funded in whole or in part with the remaining unspent funds carried over to fiscal 2022 (\$9,354). Also, Ron projected that another \$2,000 +/- in voluntary project funds contributions could be anticipated from classmates during the current fiscal year.

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 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, the current '61 DCF Class Manager, has been actively working with the Class' DCF committee and class officers. A Zoom virtual meeting with her, class president Maynard Wheeler and several class DCF related classmates is scheduled to follow this meeting.

Finally, Harris reported on the preliminary results generated by the Class of 1961 during 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 was based on total dollars contributed (including pledges) and the number of donors (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.

The preliminary results to date reported by the College indicate that the Class of '61 was in second place both in total dollars contributed and in total number of class donors involved. However, internal class records indicate that both our Class' dollar contributions and number of donors appear understated. Based on internal class information, Harris believed that our class could move up in the final standing within our designated group of 20 classes from 1950 through 1969. Final results are due from the College in approximately one week.

D'61 On-Campus/Off-Campus Quarterly Virtual Mini-Reunion Report (February 2022)

Pete Bleyler, quarterly Hanover/virtual mini-reunion chair, reported that the next virtual (via Zoom) mini-reunion will be held for one day on Thursday, February 10, 2022, from 11:30AM – 4:00PM. As in the recent past, the winter mini-reunion will concentrate primarily on panels of classmates, widows, and spouses, with the focus on their “roads travelled and less travelled”, and on undergraduate students who had been the beneficiary of grants or stipends received from our class to assist them in their fields of study and/or who have accomplished some unique accomplishment(s) while at Dartmouth. In addition, the Class will present a D'61 Special Classmate Award to a deserving classmate during the mini-reunion. Sign-up will begin by the end of December 2021 or in early January 2022.

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 per year with cash grants or awards.

The one issue which had arisen in November's Zoom meeting, concerning the determination of the dollar amount of grants going to students each year in connection with the endowed Dickey Center/'61 Stephen Bosworth Award, has not yet been resolved. Pete, Don and Denny are in the process of looking into the matter with the Dickey Center administration and possibly others if deemed appropriate.

Digital Content Manager/Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, Class Digital Content Manager/Webmaster, reported that he had generated approximately 10 class website updates and that 9 iModules emails were sent since the prior month's Zoom virtual meeting.

Memorialist's Report

Harris McKee, Class Memorialist, reported that during the past month two classmates and/or spouses had passed away or the Class had just learned of their passing, as follows: Red Facher (classmate), Ray Thompson (classmate). The Class' officers and Class

executive committee, upon behalf of the Class, has extended its written condolences to the families of the aforementioned. It should be noted that Red Facher had been an active and valuable member of the Class of '61 executive committee for many years before retiring several years ago for medical reasons. Detailed obituary notices have been emailed to all classmates and posted to the '61 class website.

In addition, Harris notifies the Class Treasurer of the passing of each classmate and classmate's 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 of each such deceased person.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Tom Conger, Newsletter Editor, reported that he had begun to prepare the second edition of the '61 Class newsletter, *Wide World*, for the current fiscal year. This second edition for the current fiscal year will likely be published in February 2022.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Neither Al Rozycki nor Dave Armstrong, Class BTS co-chairs, were able to attend the meeting but Dave submitted a report stating that one new BTS member/classmate was recently approved officially by the College. The Class apparently now has 72 or 73 BTS members. According to previous comments by Al and Dave, four additional classmates appear interested in joining and, hopefully, will join the BTS during the current fiscal year.

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 WIC's sub-committee of 10 classmate spouses and widows. The subcommittee is also involved in increasing the level and pace of communication with other classmate spouses, widows and significant others. In addition, Nyla was continuing to send personal notes to all widows of deceased classmates.

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, had voted to present one *'61 Special Classmate Awards* (plaque inscription to be written by Vic) during the Winter '61 mini-reunion to be held on February 10, 2022.

In addition, the committee has been reviewing other potential nominees and expects to present at least one award during our anticipated upcoming Spring 2022 mini-reunion.

Class and Classmate Alumni Awards Archive Report

Vic Rich, 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 during October 2021.

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.

Proposed Improvement of the Robert Frost Statue Visitation Area

As determined previously, the class officers/executive committee agreed that improvements are necessary to the area surrounding the Frost statue area, which had now become seedy and unsafe. Al Rozycki joined the project and wrote an email 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 some assistance in the funding required to complete the project. Ron Wybranowski offered to join Al at any meeting to be established with the College's administration. A response to

Al's letter was recently received from Cheryl Bascomb '82, V.P. for Alumni Affairs and a meeting is being discussed for January 2022.

- 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), a flatter ground area in front of the Frost statue, and a better-defined path leading to and from the statue area.
- 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.

New Business

- 1- 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 arises 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, a reconciliation, and a response.

- 2- Don O'Neill reported that a "celebration of life" event had been established in honor of Joan Prewitt on December 29, 2021 in Philadelphia. Don and Ellen would be attending on behalf of the Class. Joan had been a long-standing and valuable member of the Class' executive Committee for many years before she passed away, having set up and managed, along with her husband Dave Prewitt many off-campus mini-reunions around the country over a period of several decades. Unfortunately, due to continuing Covid conditions the event had to be postponed.

The next class officers/executive committee teleconference will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at Noon (EDT).

In closing, Maynard wished everyone a Happy Holiday and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Maynard adjourned the meeting at 12:35 PM (EDT).

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, '61 Class Secretary