

Minutes

D'61 Class Officers /Executive Committee Virtual Teleconference

January 12, 2022

Attending the Meeting: Maynard Wheeler, Denny Denniston, Gerry Kaminsky, Vic Rich, Ron Wybranowski, Harris McKee, Pete Bleyer, Dave Prewitt, Oscar Arslanian, Henry Eberhardt, Tom Conger, Rog McArt, Dave Armstrong, Nyla Arslanian, Patti Rich, Al Rozycki, Art Kelton, Gim Burton, Hop Holmberg, Glen Gemelli, Jon Sperling

Absent from Meeting: Don O'Neill, Bill Collishaw, Mort Lynn, Jim McElhinney, Tim Grumbacher

Invited Guests: Vince Wilson (attended); Amanda Addington (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 November 10, 2021 class officers/ executive committee teleconference meeting. These Minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

Maynard then stated that the Minutes for the December 8, 2021 class officers/ executive committee teleconference were not yet finalized and that their approval would be deferred until the January 2022 Zoom teleconference.

Secretary's Report

Vic Rich, Class Secretary, reported that he had prepared and submitted the Minutes for the November 10, 2021 class officers/executive committee Zoom teleconference. In addition, he was in the process of completing the Minutes for the December 8, 2021 Zoom telecom.

Furthermore, Vic prepared and submitted the '61 class article for the **classnotes** section of the March/April 2022 issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine.

In addition, Vic is in the process of writing the inscription for the plaque to be presented to the classmate selected to receive the *1961 Special Classmate Award* during the '61 mini-reunion in February 2022.

Finally, Vic communicated with several classmates, members of other "D" classes, and the College's administration dealing with alumni matters in general and the class of 1961 in particular.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Wybranowski, Class Treasurer, reported that the Class' current cash balances as of January 12, 2021 totaled \$57,038 including \$51,919 in the Class' general checking account and \$5,119 in the Class' 60th Reunion checking account, where some invoices are still to be received.

Class dues for the current fiscal year (unchanged at \$61) are arriving as a result of the first dues notice sent out by Ron to classmates. Including 5 dues pre-payments of \$61 each carried over from the prior fiscal year and 69 dues payments applicable to the current fiscal year, a total of \$4,483 in dues payments applicable to the current fiscal year are in the house. The second dues mailing notice will be submitted by Ron in January for mailing to classmates in early March 2022. Hopefully, the dues participation for the current fiscal year will exceed the 60% participation rate achieved for the prior fiscal year.

In addition to the dues collected for the current fiscal year-to-date, many classmates have made additional contributions designated to support various class projects:

- '61 Performing Arts Legacy	\$353
- Frost Legacy Project.	718
- Other class projects (as yet undetermined)	761

Total	\$1,832
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Ron then reported that donations from the Class during the current fiscal year-to-date have been as follows:

- "D" Athletics Dept.	\$2,500
- '61 Performing Arts Legacy	--
- Frost Legacy	--

Total	\$2,500
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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
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Totals.	\$13,354	\$4,000	\$9,354
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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). Added to this balance of unspent funds carried over to the current year is \$1,832 collected during the current fiscal year-to-date. This amount has almost reached the amount of such funds projected by Ron for the entire current fiscal year (\$2,000).

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; it is now 415, due primarily to the passing of members of the Class during the current fiscal year.

Harris then reported the final 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 by far the largest group). The competition within each group was based on total dollars contributed (including pledges) and the number of donors generated (i.e. "participation") by each class from November 9th through November 30th. The leading classes within each bracket will each have a \$50,000 scholarship named after those classes.

The final results reported by the College (via Amanda Addington) stated that the Class of '61 ended up in first place within its group (classes from 1950-1969), both in total dollars contributed (\$72,384) and in total number of '61 donors who contributed or made formal pledges (63).

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. The winter mini-reunion will concentrate primarily on a panel of classmates who will focus on their "roads travelled and less travelled" and on some undergraduate students (and their coach) who have achieved outstanding success in a minor unrecognized "club" sport while at Dartmouth. In addition, the Class will present a D'61 Special Classmate Award to a well-deserving classmate. Early sign-up has been very encouraging.

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.

Digital Content Manager/Webmaster's Report

Harris McKee, Class Digital Content Manager/Webmaster, reported that during the current monthly period he had generated 11 class website updates, including the postings of the January/February 2022 issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine and the addition of links for the upcoming February 10th mini-reunion. In addition, Harris issued 7 iModules emails 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: Ray Halperin (classmate) and Phil Spitzer (classmate). Both classmates passed away in October 2021, but formal notification of their passing was not confirmed until after our December virtual class officers/executive committee virtual Zoom telecom. The Class' officers and Class executive committee, upon behalf of the Class, has extended its written condolences to the families of the aforementioned. 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.

Finally, Harris conducted a study of the passing of '61 classmates for the last four years for our class versus the classes surrounding us (1958 through 1964). The results showed that during the past fiscal year, the class of 1961 (and also 1959) had many more classmates who passed away than the average for the other six classes surrounding us (1958-1960 and 1962-1964). If our class were to decrease its number of deceased classmates to the same average rate as the other six classes involved in the group studied (which is lower than the national average, for numerous socio-economic and other reasons), then Harris projects that we should expect the passing of approximately 21-24 classmates to pass on during the current fiscal year, which would be a pleasant change from the 30 classmate deaths reported in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

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 late February 2022, so that the results of the February 10th mini-reunion can be included.

Bartlett Tower Society (BTS) Report

Both Al Rozycki and Dave Armstrong, Class BTS co-chairs, were able to attend the meeting. The Class apparently now has 72 or 73 BTS members. According to comments by Al and Dave, some additional classmates appear interested in joining and, hopefully, will join the BTS during the current fiscal year. However, Al stated that the approach to obtaining additional classmates to sign up has "perhaps" been too heavy-handed. Both he and David will try to soften their approach going forward. In addition, an existing list of 50 classmates most likely theoretically to join the BTS will be more closely revisited, as will selected widows still reasonably close to the class.

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, reported that the committee, consisting of Dave, Harris McKee, Denny Denniston, and Vic Rich, will present one '61 *Special Classmate Awards* during the Winter '61 mini-reunion to be held on February 10, 2022. Vic is in the process writing the inscription for the recipient's plaque.

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. The final draft of this awards archive booklet should be completed and ready for a final review in March 2022.

Alumni Council D'61 Representative Report

Don O'Neill, the class' current representative to the Alumni Council, was not able to attend the virtual telecom and did not submit a report. However, no one attending was aware of any Alumni Council issues of substance at the time of this report.

Proposed Improvement of the Robert Frost Statue Visitation Area

Al Rozycki, the classmate currently leading the efforts to convince the College that improvements are necessary to the broader area surrounding the Frost statue, which had now become seedy and unsafe. Al 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, but the set-up has not yet been finalized.

- 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. Vic believed that George's involvement would help to move the proposed project along in a positive manner.

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 which are unwilling to comply with the demand to eliminate such legacy preferences, the Class via Don as our Class’ Alumni Council representative and/or Maynard as our class president separately or together should respond to this proposed boycott of the College if it does not agree to comply. Apparently, Dartmouth is currently in the process of reviewing the demand.

One question which immediately arises is how do the 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- A suggestion was made that since the ’61 Performing Arts Legacy was so well funded at this time, with approximately \$2 million dollars in its account, and since the far newer Robert Frost Endowed Class Project fund (which includes the Dickey Center/’61 Stephen Bosworth Award and the ’61 Arts Legacy) had a greater need for some additional funding, the \$100 contributed by the Class on behalf of each newly deceased classmate and any newly deceased spouse of a classmate going forward be switched and donated to the Robert Frost Endowed Class Project fund (which includes the award honoring deceased classmate Steve Bosworth). Although the brief discussion appeared positive, no decision was made at the time.

The next class officers/executive committee teleconference will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at Noon (EST).

Maynard adjourned the meeting at 12:45 PM (EST).

Respectfully submitted,

Vic Rich, ’61 Class Secretary

