

## **Dartmouth Class of 1968 Executive Committee**

Minutes from Meeting of May 20, 2017

Winship Meeting Room, Blunt Alumni Hall, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

In attendance: Peter Fahey, Bill Rich, Gerry Bell, Dave Walden, John Engelman, Ed Heald, David Gang, Jim Lawrie, Hugh Boss; Jackie Bell, Bev Lawrie and Angela Stafford (guests) in person; Joe Nathan Wright, Peter Wonson, Mark Waterhouse, and David Peck (by phone).

1. President Peter Fahey opened the meeting, and welcomed those attending in person and by conference call.
2. Bill Rich, who had to leave the meeting early, provided his report on the status of the **50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Gift** fundraising. As of April 30, gifts to date have a book value of \$971,195 and a market value of \$1,387,859. He restated the recommendation from Dan Nelson, Director of Outdoor Programs which include the Freshman Trips, that the Trips do need to have some nominal fee rather than fully free, as students should have some “skin in the game”. Recommended minimum fee would be \$100 which would need an endowment of around \$3 million to support. It was noted that there are other funds that contribute scholarship support to the Trips, including a Class of 1980 Memorial Fund. Bill will investigate.

If our gift exceeds that amount, the endowment could support programs such as trail maintenance or loaner camper material. It was noted that our Reunion Gift is a separate and different effort from our future 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion DCF Contribution (see further discussion below).

Bill also plugged the planned 2018 River Cruise and Budapest Visit, which he and Sylvia are organizing.

3. **Reunion Discussion Panel on Diversity:** Hugh Boss, our Alumni Counselor, had distributed a proposed outline for a panel discussion on Diversity and Speech. **The concept was unanimously endorsed by the Executive Committee.** Discussion followed:
  - a. We would not want this panel to become a gripe nor a bloviating session.
  - b. The discussion will need structure, with the suggested panel membership to include Hugh Boss, Charlie Wheelan, '88, a faculty member, and at least someone representing the administration/institution. John Engelman has also been suggested as a member of the panel.
  - c. Ed Heald suggested providing clarity on the purpose: the College attitudes and response, and/or the Students?
4. **Report of the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Czars (the principal standing agenda item):**  
Gerry Bell provided assorted planning updates:

- a. Overall goal is 300 or more classmates and up to 500 total attendance. These numbers become a challenge in finding venues that fit. Peter Wonson reported on recruiting, noting 171 classmates have indicated interest in attending so far. The next mailing to classmates on our reunion is planned for late summer or early fall.
  - b. Food/catering issues: Gerry noted that if we use Blooms throughout for our catered food, we would get a 10% discount. We are not limited to DDA when using College locations.
  - c. Friday lunch will be at Collis; Friday dinner buffet style, perhaps on Baker lawn. Probably no invited speaker as acoustics are marginal.
  - d. Friday evening Karaoke at the tent has been lined up. Music from 1955 to 1975 will be featured, both to listen to and sing to.
  - e. Memorial Service will be at Rollins Chapel, Saturday at 9:00 am. Bob Ross will organize.
  - f. Class meeting will be Saturday at 10:15 am, tentatively in 105 Dartmouth, followed by Class photo.
  - g. A Vietnam War Panel is being organized by Mark Waterhouse, for Saturday 2:15 to 3:45 pm. Mark asked how broad the topic should be: focus on the war only, or the war and larger societal issues of the Vietnam era? **After discussion, it was agreed to keep the discussion scope tighter, narrower, and focus on experiences from the Vietnam war itself.** Mark will work at inviting former President Jim Wright to join the discussion.
  - h. A Reunion Exhibition of Classmate Art will be coordinated by David Peck.
  - i. Party Favors: Cakes had been suggested but are pricey. Gerry will continue research on ideas. Norm Jacobs ('69) is a recommended contact.
  - j. Accommodations: the College dorm rate will be \$50 per person per day; reservations will be made directly with the College for these. Area hotel reservations will be available after June 7 (i.e., one year prior to our reunion). A block of rooms has been set aside in the Hanover Inn.
  - k. Who Are You Program: Peter Fahey reported that the initial test rollout with 6 to 12 classmates is well underway. He has been working with developer Tom Hostage. The data from the initial responses will be massaged and draft reports developed. The deadline for the "guinea pigs" on this first phase is modified to May 21.
  - l. Budget: He will be meeting with Dave Walden, Reunion Treasurer, in the coming months to review the overall Reunion budget in detail. However, to facilitate Reunion planning, deposits etc, **it was unanimously voted to transfer \$3,000 from the Class Treasury to the Reunion Checking Account.**
  - m. No hard liquor, per College policy. Wine and beer only, and based on Class of '66 recent experience, trend is toward more wine and less beer.
5. **Reunion Giving:** Peter reported that a Reunion Giving Committee has been established, with three co-chairs: John Blair, Roger Whitten and Chris Meigher. Co-chairs will identify approximately 20 to 25 other classmates to develop our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Dartmouth College Fund gift. A group met in New York City a few weeks ago. In general, a reunion gift is expected to

run at 5 times the normal annual level but much higher for the 50th. We as a Class plan to continue to be leaders, and are contemplating a higher multiple of the regular annual level. Another possible benchmark is 1% of net worth as a target for individual gifts. He noted that Dennis Drapkin and Bill Mutterperl have already made significant donations to kick off our effort. No official Class target has yet been set.

Peter also noted that in 2018 a new College capital campaign will be coming out, something to be aware of as we do our reunion solicitation. He also noted Ed Heald is our Class Planned Giving Chair, with whom we all should work. There are significant planned giving opportunities which arise because we have now aged to 70+. These opportunities include designation of distributions from IRAs and recognition without discounting for bequests in our wills.

6. **Succession Planning:** Peter again requested responses from current officers on whether they wish to continue after the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. As of now, he has heard from Jim Lawrie, Treasurer/Webmaster and Ed Heald, Planning Giving, both of whom plan to continue in their roles. Secretary David Peck is mulling it over. John Isaacson, Vice President, will not continue, and David Gang, Newsletter Editor reported he is unlikely to continue. Peter plans to organize a Nomination Committee of past presidents, including Clark Wadlow, Ron Weiss, and Steve Calvert.

## 7. **Officer Reports:**

- a. **Mini Reunions:** Gerry Bell reported that upcoming Mini-reunions will include the Okemo Ski Mini-reunion in January 2108, the Snowmass Ski Mini-reunion in March 2018 and the next Danube/Hungary trip in April 2018.

The next on-campus Mini-reunion will be at Homecoming, weekend of October 6-8, 2017, which will be the Yale Game (an Executive Committee meeting will be held that Saturday morning). Weekend would also include tailgating at AD and Class Dinner at Dowd's Country Inn, Lyme, NH.

- b. **Class Agent:** Joe Nathan Wright reported by phone. This year's Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) campaign has a Class goal of \$400,000 and participation of 50%, or 342 classmates. As of now, the class has \$251,818 in hand, from 239 classmates (35%). Overall pace is about 20 people behind last year. He asked everyone to step on the accelerator.
- c. **Treasurer:** Jim Lawrie provided his Treasurer's Report: As of May 18, 2017, the class checking account has \$3,869.83, the reunion checking account \$387.50, and the Investment accounts \$209,813.15 Income from July 1, 2016 to May 18, 2017: \$38,491.01, and

expenses \$38,766.88. Expenses included the \$20,000 toward the Who Are You project and \$5,000 toward class projects (Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network – DEN).

- d. 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Gift:** Bill Rich reported earlier in the meeting (see above)
- e. Newsletter:** Dave Gang was commended on the quality and presentation of the most recent newsletter, but it was noted that future ones should be more timely if possible. Planning ahead, there will be three newsletters between now and Reunion: August 2017, Winter 2017-2018 and April 2018.
- f. Secretary:** David Peck reported steady as she goes, preparing the 6 Dartmouth magazine columns per year, as well as obituaries when received from the College or classmates. He asked if future columns should include information when spouses or significant others pass on, citing the recent example of Sandy Smith, wife of Larry Smith. The Committee supported adding spouse obituary info when received for inclusion in future columns.
- g. Class Connections:** John Engelman reports that activities with the Class of 2018 remain modest. The Class of 2018 recently held their class elections, and he hopes to connect with their new leadership. Connection ideas include inviting them to join the Okemo Mini Ski Reunion in January 2018. There was also discussion of possible Class gift from the Class of 1968 to the graduating seniors of the Class of 2018, such as the books we each received from the Class of 1918. Another idea: our class paying their class dues for their first year out of College. These ideas will be a continuing topic of discussion.

8. **Next Meeting:** 10 am Saturday October 7, 2017, tentatively in the Zimmerman Lounge.

Respectfully submitted,

David Peck  
Secretary