

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

Minutes from Meeting of October 29, 2016

Zimmerman Lounge, Blunt Alumni Hall, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

In attendance: Peter Fahey, Bill Rich, Gerry Bell, Parker Beverage, Jack Hopke, Dave Walden, Don Marcus, Joe Nathan Wright, Beth Kelly '96 and David Peck in person; Jim Lawrie, Peter Wonson, David Gang, and Hugh Boss (by phone).

1. President Peter Fahey opened the meeting, and welcomed those attending in person and by conference call.
2. Peter proposed a moment of silence for John "Bear" Everett, who passed away October 4 in his sleep while walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain.
3. Peter also shared with the Committee that the Class of 1968 had received a Certificate of Recognition during Class Officers Weekend, commending among other things our We Want You Back program, our Newsletter and Class Connections work.
4. **Report of the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Czars (a new standing agenda item):**
  - a. Gerry Bell distributed a handout with a draft preliminary schedule for our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion, which will run June 7 thru 12, 2018. It will also be on the class website soon. Overall goal is 300 classmates plus guests. A telephone campaign will begin in November 2016 to identify early commitments to attend. A second set of calls will be in June 2017 and a final set of calls February 2018. Class tent location for Tuck Mall has been requested. Grand reunion dinner could be held in the Hanover Inn, which can accommodate up to 500 people. The new Mooselauke Ravine Lodge (under construction) could handle up to 108 guests for early arrivals. Exclusive of extra days, activities, cost for past 50<sup>th</sup> reunions have been in the \$425 to \$460 per person range, plus \$45 to \$50 per night housing.
  - b. Peter Fahey noted that he had contacted Bespoke Reunion Publishing, for possibility of arranging a dedicated "Who Are You" website. The process would be to distribute a questionnaire to classmates with assorted questions such as favorite books, movies, life events, advice for next 50 years etc. Results would be compiled and shared with all classmates. In addition, responders would qualify for discounts from the reunion fees. The cost to develop the website is \$25,000, to be paid in installments. In addition, the class would get a 5 % royalty if the website format and approach were used by others. The goal is to go live by November or December 2017, requesting responses by March 2018 so the results can be compiled by April 2018 and shared with the full Class. After discussion, **it was moved by Bill Rich, seconded by David Peck, to authorize Peter Fahey to sign the agreement to proceed with the website. The motion was unanimously approved.**
  - c. Other Reunion updates and suggestions: Don Pease has volunteered to speak, but time and location TBD. It was suggested that we will need a Food Committee; John Maxwell was mentioned as a potential talented participant. Consider including an

exhibit of art and architecture by classmates. Consider publishing a Class Directory in late 2017 and distribute to all classmates in advance of the Reunion.

**5. Class Officers Weekend Best Practices** and other discussion:

- a. Peter shared an idea of how to enlarge our classmate email list: include a request for help with “unknown” classmate emails in the next newsletter. Dave Gang will include.
- b. Peter noted another suggestion: the Executive Committee be included in periodic post-Alumni Council conference calls, to learn about what’s happening on campus; possibly involve some Class of 2018 members to provide the real skinny. Our Alumni Councilor Hugh Boss to do further investigation on this suggestion.
- c. It was noted that younger classes conduct “Virtual Reunions” and “Mini-Reunions” on line (i.e. Facebook or similar).

**6. Class Officer Reports:**

**a. Mini Reunions:** Gerry Bell reporting:

- The Napa Valley class 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Minireunion, this past September was our most successful ever, with 75 classmates and guests in attendance.
- Early suggestions for a class 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Mini-reunion include Broadmoor, Jackson Hole, Santa Fe, Mississippi River Boat, return to Williamsburg (site of our 65<sup>th</sup>).
- The annual golf minireunion will be held in early November at Bandon Dunes, in Oregon.
- Eastern Skiing Mini-reunion will be at Okemo Mountain January 24-27, and Western Skiing at Jackson Hole March 4-11.
- The Grand Canyon Hike Minireunion will be in April.
- A return trip to Hungary is contemplated but not in 2017.
- It was noted that we don’t want to plan too many minireunion events in late 2017 or early 2018 so as not to compete with our 50th Reunion.

**b. Class Agent:** Joe Nathan Wright reporting:

- Joe Nathan noted the great help of Participation Co-Chairs Bob Ross and Peter Wonson, as well as Peter Fahey.
- The Dartmouth College Fund (DCF) for 2016: our goal was \$400,000 and 50% participation (344 classmates). We achieved \$464,901, with 352 classmates, or 51.1%. We were told this was a new non-reunion year participation record. This year we will again have the same goals of cash (\$400,000) and a 50% participation rate.
- It was noted that the past year there were only 31 solicitors; through hard work and persuasion, we now have 41 solicitors.
- It was also noted that the Set the Record Straight program grew from 37 to 87 classmates who have now contributed every year since graduation.

- Peter reported that there was a dinner in New York City with President Phil Hanlon; the top 20 lifetime donors were invited, though only about 8 to 10 attended. He plans to establish a Reunion Giving Committee in the future, with a first meeting tentatively for April 2017.
  - Peter also noted that there will be a new College Capital Campaign, to kick off in the Fall of 2017. He also noted that there is a new policy which will recognize Bequest Intentions.
- c. **Treasurer's and Webmaster Report**, Jim Lawrie reporting:
- Checking account, as of October 24, 2016 holds \$21,331. Investment accounts include \$147,576 in stock index funds, \$43,033.17 in bond funds.
  - Income includes dues of \$14,700, 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion project donations of \$7,300 and \$5,000 transfer from Vanguard, for a total of \$27,000. Expenses of \$10,203 include \$5,000 to our class project, newsletter, and dues collection costs.
  - The contribution to Dartmouth Athletic Sponsors of \$500 was unanimously approved for this year.
  - Jim did not have website utilization statistics at this point, due to a server crash.
- d. **50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Donation Fundraising**, Bill Rich reporting:
- As of September, \$873,159 has been booked, and with investment growth, total now stands at \$1,227,827.
  - Active focus on this fundraising will be during each Fall, in order not to compete with the DCF activity each Spring.
  - Bill is planning a new column for the Newsletter, to be provided to Dave Gang. One new theme: road trips.
- e. **Newsletter**, Dave Gang reporting:
- Dave reported his overall goal between now and Reunion will be 3 newsletters per year. One theme he plans to incorporate over future newsletters will be pictures of past reunions, starting with our 5<sup>th</sup> through our 45<sup>th</sup>
  - Next newsletter aimed for February 2017. He requests material by the middle of January. He hopes to include remembrances of Bear Everett.
- f. **Class Secretary**, David Peck reporting:
- In addition to continuing efforts to gather news for the class column, David has created two Survey Monkey questionnaires for the class. The survey links have been provided in the class notes column in the alumni magazine, the website and class newsletter.
  - To date, the survey responses have been modest, but growing. David plans to prepare a future article on responses for inclusion in the Newsletter, in addition to summaries in the Class column in the magazine.

- g. Class Connections**, no report this meeting as John Engelman could not attend.
  - h. The Vox 8 Program**, Dave Walden reporting
    - The program remains active, and Dave noted that all “8” classes between 1968 and 2008 received recognition at recent Class Officers. The Class of 2008 was Class of the Year.
    - The recent focus has been preparing for reunions. The College is proposing to transfer this program to Class VPs rather than a separate Exec Committee chair. Our Class received an extension on this transfer, as we are getting close to our reunion.
  - i. Alumni Council**, Hugh Boss reporting:
    - Hugh attended his first meeting this fall, and reported lots of energy. The overarching theme was creating an inclusive community. He plans to send an email to all reporting on the weekend events, activities and his observations.
    - There were a lot of young alumni presentations. Among interesting statistics: the College has over 500 students, in four classes, who are first generation college students.
    - Hugh noted less discussion of free speech issues than he expected; it should be its own topic.
    - Hugh is participating with the Student Affairs Committee.
- 7. President’s Report**, Peter Fahey reporting:
- Peter noted that it is time to consider succession planning. He asks all officers to tell him if they are interested in continuing in their current roles, or perhaps move to a new role, or “retire” from the Executive Committee.
- 8. Next Meeting:**  
10 am Saturday February 11 (Winter Carnival weekend), tentatively in the Zimmerman Lounge.

Respectfully submitted,

David Peck  
Secretary