

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

Minutes from Meeting of October 20, 2007

102 Dartmouth Hall, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

In attendance: Clark Wadlow, Gerry Bell Bill Rich, Mike Lenehan, John Everett, Joe Grasso, Parker Beveridge, Cedric Kam, Cliff Groen, Bob Holmberg, Joan Holmberg (guest), Dick Olson, Greg Marshall, Janet Rosa (guest) and David Peck.

1. President Clark Wadlow called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
2. The **minutes** of the meeting of July 14, 2007 were approved as distributed in advance.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Ron Weiss was unable to attend, so there was no Treasurer's report for this meeting.
4. **50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Gift:** Gerry Bell reported that the pace of donations still appears slow. However, a target of \$1 million by 2008 and \$2 ½ million by 2013 (5 years before our 50<sup>th</sup>) remain reasonable goals, with an expectation of accelerating gift giving as we approach the 50<sup>th</sup>. Discussion followed:
  - a. Janet Rosa offered to provide a list of consecutive year donors, who are both likely to call and help make calls.
  - b. There is no substitute for phone calls. "Swat Teams", with a push for calls several weeks in advance of any event.
  - c. Another suggestion was pursuing "early bird" donors, giving up to 3 years before the reunion.
5. **Head Agent Report:** Bill Rich provided an update to the Committee:
  - a. Goals for the upcoming reunion year were 61% participation, 379 donors, and \$2,000,000 gift.
  - b. He also provided handouts documenting the results of 2005, 2006 and 2007, where donors ranged from 352 to 368, participation varied between 56.2% and 59.1%, and actual donations ranged between \$406,539 and \$437,553.
  - c. Joan Holmberg noted that donations seem consistently around 60%; perhaps the class should survey the 40% who don't give to understand the reasons.
  - d. A second handout included a chart showing gift options as a percentage of net worth.
  - e. Overall plan is to make initial contact with classmates in November/December, and with follow-up calls in January/February. One theme, suggested by Peter Fahey, is to emphasize that there are stages in life: learn-earn-return, and we are entering the time of return.

It was also agreed not to make any donation communication an implied referendum on the current governance dispute; let's be inclusive in our call for donations, and not be divisive.

6. **Secretary's Report:** David Peck reported continuing commitment to a column in every Dartmouth Alumni magazine, and continuing need for news. He also noted that all past columns and executive committee minutes from past 5 years or so have been sent to Webmaster, for posting to the class website.
7. **Newsletter:** John Engelman was unable to attend, but on his behalf, it was reported the next Class Newsletter (November) will include a class directory.
8. **Communications:** Clark announced with some satisfaction the Class Website is indeed up and active, with Jim Lawrie as Webmaster. It was noted that the Listserv, which is also active, seems to have frequent timeouts and loss of connections. John Engelman will be asked to check this out.
9. **40<sup>th</sup> Reunion:** John Everett reported on status.
  - a. The Reunion is still looking for a Treasurer. Several classmates have been asked but have declined. Gerry Bell volunteers to serve if no one else steps forward.
  - b. The new Fahey dorm has been requested (quite appropriately!) as home for our class reunion.
  - c. Reunion will be running from Monday June 9 through Thursday June 12.
  - d. We plan to have a supplemental early day Sunday June 8 at Mooselauke, with separate fees to the DOC.
  - e. He is working with John Engelman to get a synopsis of the reunion into the November newsletter.
  - f. Peter Fahey has also volunteered his home as a possible venue for a class event.
  - g. Greg Marshall is developing ideas for the memorial /celebration of life event.
  - h. Mike Lenahan is concerned about pricing; he strongly suggests we keep the price affordable so as not to discourage classmate attendance. In addition, perhaps there can be a one day or one event pricing option as well
  - i. Dick Olsen, editor of the 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion book, communicated by email, requesting that a representative from each fraternity be delegated to push participation in the book
10. **40<sup>th</sup> Reunion Book:** Dick Olson reported:
  - a. Initial letter of invitation to participate has already gone out, and provided format, email and snail mail address etc. It encourages use of the website for communication. Overall goal is to maximize participation in the 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion book, which in turn will help reinforce attendance at the Reunion itself, and hopefully reconnection with Class and College.
  - b. Volunteers are needed to call people to reinforce the initial letter.
  - c. Letter creates deadline of November 21, but true deadline is by end of December.

- d. He noted that publishing is in Canada, and changing exchange rate may affect our costs. It was suggested that perhaps we could prepay to save further loss of buying power if the exchange rate continues to sag.

- 11. Mini Reunions:** Mike Lenahan and Gerry Bell reported:
  - a. **Class Ski Trip** will be at Whistler, March 1 through 8, 2008. 2 houses appear to be fully booked, and if another 4 to 5 people plan to come, a third house would be booked. Gerry noted that a new gondola connecting the two mountains is being built.
- 12. President's Report:** Clark reported that Gerry Bell and Dennis Donohue have volunteered to serve, with him, on the nominating committee to offer candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Alumni Council at the 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion, to serve for the next 5 years.
- 13.** Next Executive Committee meeting will be held in Hanover on January 26, 2008. Details to follow. In addition, there will be an April Executive Committee meeting, details to be developed in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Peck  
Secretary