

Dartmouth Class of 1968 Executive Committee

Minutes from Meeting of May 14, 2011

Zimmerman Lounge, Blunt Alumni Center, Hanover, NH

In attendance: Ron Weiss, John Engelman, Gerry Bell, Ed Heald, Joe Nathan Wright, Peter Fahey, David Peck, Janet Rosa (guest); Dave Gang, Jim Lawrie and Mark Waterhouse by phone.

1. President Ron Weiss called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
2. **Minutes Approval:** The minutes of the meeting of January 22, 2011, were approved as submitted.
3. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - Jim Lawrie, by conference call, reviewed handout material forwarded by him to Ron Weiss and shared with the committee in advance. Class dues for the period 7/1/2010 through 5/7/2011 totaled \$22,695. Expenses during the same period totaled \$13,979.79, thus showing a net income of \$9,601.40.
 - Current investments stand at \$73,442.95, per the handout. \$19,439.23 in Vanguard Short Term Bond Index Fund, and \$54,003.72 in Vanguard Stock Market Index Fund. The mix of investments is approximately 30% bonds; 70% equities. It was again suggested the move funds out of the Bond Fund, potentially into a TIPS vehicle, but not until interest rates go up, and bonds decline in value.
4. **50th Reunion Gifts Report:** The 50th Reunion Fund was \$552,211.27 per an email from Bill Rich, who was unable to attend the meeting. He also noted an intention to start this year's fundraising toward the goal earlier this fall, with a letter and calls in synch with the school year. Ron Weiss asked Janet Rosa about how to get a list of donors to the fund who made donations directly through the College, rather than the Treasurer. Janet noted that she plans to send monthly reports. Jim Lawrie, as Treasurer, keeps a master list of donors.
5. **Communications/Web Use:** Jim Lawrie then moved discussion in his role as **Webmaster**. He reported that since January, the class site has been averaging about 500 visits per month (range 462 to 518 per month).
6. **Head Agent Report:**
 - Joe Nathan Wright reported progress to date. He also started off by commending the work of Participation Co-Chairs Dave Walden and Peter Wonson. The FY 11 goals are \$450,000, and 59% of our participating classmates (615) To date, we have \$221,000 in cash, with 226 donors and 37% participation. Counting pledges, we are at \$258,286 with 252 donors, or

41% participation. We are running approximately \$39,000 and 18 donors behind last year.

- Joe noted that there will be no extension of the 6/30/11 deadline, so there needs to be a strong push to the finish line. Janet noted that for the College overall, the fundraising is going well, though participation is somewhat lower. She further noted that as part of the College's budget planning, for 2012 there will be a 22% higher target for the Fund (\$41 million to \$50 million). This will make next year more of a challenge.
- Ed Heald noted that our class routinely sets goals higher than our neighboring classes. He hopes the College recognizes this and doesn't arbitrarily raise goals across the board.

7. **Secretary's Report:** David Peck noted Frank Couper's passing (see below for further discussion), but that no official obituary can be provided the Alumni Magazine until the Magazine officially notifies him as Secretary. They are trying to avoid inaccurate or incorrect obituaries (e.g., the classmate who did not in fact pass away). He also noted the recent death of classmate Gary Blaich. An obituary is in preparation.

8. **Class Newsletter:** Dave Gang, by phone, noted that the next Newsletter will be out in June. He noted that he continues to request info and pictures from classmates, but has only a modest response. Ed Heald promised an article on planned giving, and on the Class Birthday event. Ron Weiss will provide a President's Message. The Committee commended the first Newsletter for its overall look and content. Dave noted his wife should be thanked as well, and the Committee expanded their thanks to both Dave and Roberta. Gerry Bell noted that the Alumni Council meeting is coming up, and there should be a follow-up report on that for that or a future Newsletter. Jim and John both recommended the Harris training process, which can be provided by Deb McCaffrey.

9. **Mini-Reunions:**

- It was noted John "Bear" Everett has returned to the Appalachian Trail, and will be on a 6 month sabbatical. Ed Heald will be coordinating the 65th Class Birthday event in September in Williamsburg. John Engelman will work on the details of Fall Mini-Reunion (9/30—10/1), including working to identify a dinner location for Friday, September 30.
- Gerry Bell announced his "retirement" as coordinator of the annual **ski trip**, which he has done ever since its inception. He feels the event almost runs itself; and that it is time to pass the reins. Jim Noyes, John Blair, Clark Wadlow (Social Director) and Peter Fahey (Music Director) have attended nearly every one, and done much of the work. He noted next year's trip has already been set for Aspen. The Committee toyed with

refusing to accept his retirement, but of course did, with hearty thanks for a job well done.

- Ron Weiss reported he had heard from classmate Jack Sedgwick, interested in a future class bike trip in Europe. This prompted general discussion about whether to have one class-wide event per year (not counting mini-reunions)...thus Class Reunion in one year (every 5 years), one Class Birthday (every 5 years), one “Bike and Barge” trip, in Europe or somewhere in the country (perhaps every other year) and some other general interest trip such as the Grand Canyon or paddleboat on Mississippi. These would be in addition to the focused, and already successful, ski and golf trips.
- Ron also noted that Bill Rich is working with Pete Wonson, Dave Walden and others to arrange 2 to 3 dinners per year, sprinkled around the country, to focus on the 50th Reunion Gift. A kickoff dinner was held in Houston during the Fall of 2010.

10. **Planned Giving:** Ed Heald, as noted above, will prepare a contribution on planned giving for a future newsletter.
11. **Class 65th Birthday Party at Williamsburg September 15 thru 18:** Ed reported that he has already put down a \$500 deposit on the hotel venue, for which 10 rooms are on hold. 31 people so far have indicated interest in the event. Right now, Ed is assuming 50 classmates and guests for the dinners. Notice to classmates will go out shortly. It was suggested that on one of the evenings, Bill Rich make a presentation on the status of our 50th Reunion Gift, and perhaps show the video that was prepared to support the donation ask. The only formal events will be a Thursday evening gathering at the Lodge, a Friday evening dinner at a colonial tavern, and a Saturday evening banquet for our “formal” birthday party. There will be optional tours of Williamsburg and golf, and since the meeting, a tour of nearby Civil War battlefields for the Sunday of the weekend is in early planning.
12. **Frank Couper Memorabilia:** Peter Fahey shared with Committee that Frank Couper’s son had sent all of Frank’s Dartmouth memorabilia, for Class use as it sees fit. Some items were distributed around the meeting room. It was suggested, and unanimously endorsed, to auction the items, via website and perhaps live auction at the Williamsburg event, with all proceeds to go to the 50th Anniversary Gift fund.
13. **Alumni Council Updates:** Gerry Bell asked if there any Executive Committee questions or issues for him to bring to the next Alumni Council. There were none, but the agenda item allowed discussion of some College-wide updates:

- Starting in 2012, the academic calendar is being adjusted for the Fall, with classes starting earlier and finishing by Thanksgiving. This may affect the Freshman Trips: issues TBD.
- The Memorial Book process remains in place, per John Engelman. Gerry suggested putting information on this in the Newsletter.
- Starting summer 2011, there will be a new Public Policy course, with national guest speakers once a week. Bob Reich is one of the invited speakers.
- There will be Presidential debate on campus, sometime this fall.

14. **President's Report and Old Business:** None

15. **Next Executive Committee meeting** will be held in Hanover, during the planned mini-reunion, on October 1, 2011, from 10 to noon, location TBD.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Peck
Secretary