

Minutes of the EXCOM, June 8, 2016

The Chairman, Dick Schonberger called the meeting to order at 1030 am. Present were Tony Smith, Pete Kusek, Frank Waskowicz, and Jack Gordon. Present virtually were Jack Bradshaw, Tom Claffey, Pete Penczer, and Paul Vanture.

Finances. Pete Kusek, reported that the class had \$69,000.98 in assets (\$67,862.43 with T. Rowe Price and \$1,138.55 in a USAA Checking Account.) There were five Operating Fund expenses in the period:

ExCOM meeting commo	\$29.57
Reimbursement to the AOG for the Herbert Hall flag	\$1,526.00
HPH Hospice donation (Bill Brown)	\$100
Payment to Leslie Myers for Shrader flowers	\$100
AOG donation for TK Smith FedEx cost	\$80

In addition to these assets, the class had \$1,174.71 deposited in an administrative fund with AOG to provide “quick start” monies in support of reunion activities.

The AOG donation of \$80 is the result of an effort by the class to reimburse TK Smith for his expense in underwriting the cost of transporting the class flag to a funeral — a service TK has provided to the class for some time. When the class tried to reimburse TK, he declined and suggested that the repayment go into the class gift fund.

Skype. Based on a suggestion that using Skype would reduce cost of our audio conferencing, Frank Waskowicz provided notes to members of the EXCOM earlier in the week on options. Skype is free and will work. As it turns out, however, we are being assessed a usage charge with our current provider, StartMeeting, to cover the cost of a toll free number. Converting to a toll number eliminates that charge. It was agreed that we should remain with StartMeeting and go to use of a toll free number. But also that we test Skype, and reconsider the options at the next EXCOM meeting.

In general, there was little enthusiasm in moving to a video sharing system.

“Life After Sixty”. Frank Waskowicz discussed the effort to review and assess class governance in the years following our 60th Reunion. He will send an early outline/working paper to the committee that he and Jack Bradshaw drafted that suggests the variety of topics to consider.

The idea is to flesh out these ideas, and present a full draft to the EXCOM in April of next year with findings and recommendations that would be presented to the class for consideration at our 60th.

Frank will contact members of earlier West Point classes to tap into their experience as classes shrink in size and energy.

First Class Club. Tony Smith discussed a May meeting he attended at West Point on the rehab of the First Class Club. Tony provided his notes to the EXCOM on May 27th, and is working on a detailed report to the class that he intends to send when he returns from travel at the end of this month. The bottom line is that

- Funds are firmly in hand to cover a budgeted cost of \$3.67M for building rehab
- A contractor has been selected with notice to begin this month
- 9 months is the estimated period to complete work on the building
- Installation of furniture and furnishings — our piece of the pie — will require an additional 4-6 weeks

FCC Fund Raising. Tom Claffey reported that \$329K has been raised, with 54% of the class participating. He anticipates that the brochure mailed in May might spur giving.

Widows. Anne Martin was not present. Dick spoke about the need for us to be responsive to needs of our widow community. Several widows have indicated a willingness to be involved. It is critical that newly widowed receive outreach from the class, and on a continuing basis are made to feel welcome and wanted to class activities through company CCQs.

CCQ Coordinator — Memorial Articles. Paul Vanture provided some metrics on how we stand by company on articles. He reported that at this time there are 19 memorial articles that have no writers. 16 have writers listed and are in progress. There are 16 ex-cadets with 2 articles written (Paul Dean, B-2 and Jack Lowe, D-1). Some attempts have been made, but he was not optimistic because of the long time lag.

Paul stated that it was his practice to contact each CCQ individually to ascertain what is being done on the outstanding memorial articles. In many cases, the writer has had problems contacting the appropriate people to get the needed information. Paul provided specific information on certain classmates, and expressed a view that we are doing about as much as we can to work toward the goal of 100%.

There was some discussion about just what our goal is. Jack Gordon expressed the view that while our goal is 100%, realistically that is probably unachievable; especially as our class diminishes, it becomes more and more difficult to find someone to do the honors.

Classmates are encouraged to take an active interest in their own memorial articles while they are still able — either writing or having some one else author a memorial article. Thus far, there are four who have done so.

Tony Smith expressed a view that in his experience the most memorable and compelling memorial articles are those that come from family members relating shared experiences that provide a real and human portrayal of the person.

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Social Chairman. Jack Gordon reported that Van Van Fleet will introduce an NFL ProBowler as our speaker at the June 16 lunch at the ANCC who will discuss a very successful youth-oriented outreach program. It promises to be interesting. 15 people have subscribed.

Mini Reunion in Carmel, CA. Jack Gordon stated that he has heard some discussion about the high cost of the Carmel mini, but said that was unavoidable as Carmel is a very expensive area. Frank referred to the note Jody sent in May that announced lower costs for the main dinner – down to \$125/person from the original \$200 figure. The dinner venue has been changed because of construction at Pebble Beach. At this time 149 classmates, wives and others have subscribed.

Class Flag in Herbert Hall. Dick Schonberger reported that the class flag is now on display at Herbert Hall. A photo of the completed flag is attached.

Class Flag at Classmate funerals. Dick led a discussion of our policy regarding the transport of the class flag to funerals. Very recently there was a request for a flag at a funeral where no classmate was available to receive, display, and return the flag. Jack Gordon authored a change to policy as follow:



We prefer the flag(s) to be in the custody of classmates. However, given the declining numbers and health in the class, it is permissible to entrust the flag to a family member of a deceased classmate if no classmate can attend or be responsible for the flag sent to a funeral. The Company CCQ, roommate, or whomever in the class is acting as a contact person should: (1) ensure the family member understands the flag is to be returned and (2) ensure that the shipping method includes a prepaid return label in a reusable package.

Tony Smith suggested that we not change the policy, but allow for exceptions based on the best judgment of the involved CCQ. Pete Kusek suggested that if the funeral flags are less expensive than the one displayed in Herbert Hall, that the occasional loss of a flag is a cost the class could accommodate. It was suggested that if a classmate is not available, the concerned CCQ could assess the possibility of a West Pointer from another class to assume responsibility. The sense of the discussion was to stick with the policy as is, but expect and accept exceptions. Custodians could be family members (as in Jack's suggested change), or other USMA grads, or even Funeral Home directors.

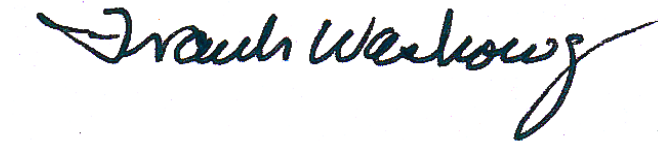
Time Capsule. Dick advised the committee that Jack Downing is working on a plan to integrate opening the time capsule in concert with presentation of the first disbursement from our Perpetual Endowment Fund. Jack will present his ideas to the EXCOM at its next meeting.

Use of WestPoint.Org. George Lawton suggested to the committee that it assess options that would allow attaching documents to e-mail. Currently, attachments are not allowed.

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Whether this is imposed by WestPoint.org, or adopted because of concerns regarding viruses, systems overload, or other considerations is unknown. Jack Bradshaw is following up on this.

Distinguished Graduate. The committee voted to nominate Bill Tuttle to the AOG for designation as a Distinguished Graduate. Tony Smith and Frank Waskowicz have responsibility to submit the nomination with supporting documentation by Nov 3rd, the deadline for submission.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Waskowicz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "F" and a long, trailing "y" at the end.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Waskowicz