

## MEETING MINUTES

**January 31, 2004**

**Minutes of The Board of Trustees of Dodd Hall Meeting, Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 a.m. in Benjamin Harrison Room Shriver Center, Oxford, OH 45056.**

- Trustees Present:

Brothers Eric McCarty, President, Terry Raulin, VP, Steve Rohe, Treas., Roger Harris, Secy., Bob Riebel, Ch. Advisor, Dan Weinstein, Sam Ashworth\*, Dan Graf\*, Sam Flannery\*, Matt Ryan, SMC, Dave Kravec, Alumni Chair, Marsh Mowrey, Walter Frank, Hal Jasper, Jon Hein\*, Bob Potts\*, Brandon Rawot, THC. (\* new appointees)

- The meeting was called to order by President Eric McCarty. All present introduced themselves for the benefit of the new Trustees. Each person gave a short introduction.
- Br. Roger Harris, Secy., read the minutes of the Oct 2003 meeting. Motion to accept minutes: 1<sup>o</sup> T. Raulin; 2<sup>o</sup> S. Rohe. Vote: Unanimous
- Br. Steve Rohe gave the Treasurer's report (attached)
- Br. Matt Ryan gave SMC's Report: recapping details of the fire for the new Trustees. Rush was down across campus but good this year for the chapter, signing 21 pledges. Informal rush will continue to try to get a total of 30-35. No fraternity pledged more than 30 men, even in the large houses such as KA with 100 members. Br. Matt Simon, pledge chair, has produced an excellent 40 page pledge manual. Further discussion of rent & house capacity. There is only one "double occupancy" room; all others are "singles." Pledges are aware of required living in the house. Br. Rohe felt it should be mandatory for at least one year. Rents will be keyed to occupancy and comparable/competitive to dorm & apartment rents levels. Br. Raulin brought up making it a non-smoking house. Br. Harris felt the decision should be made amongst the brothers living in the house. Further questions discussed were: loss of deposit for smokers to cover expense of repainting, limiting the areas where people may smoke, buying an air cleaner similar to those used in restaurants for the smoking area/room(s), false smoke alarms and what causes them, who gets called by the alarm company. Br. Ryan asked that chapter officers be called first before any Trustees, as they are in the house and can prevent any fire department response where it's not needed. Br. Ryan explained the new chapter list server whereby everyone on the list could easily send e-mails to all others on the list. Trustees Jasper, Harris & Riebel have webmaster access to the website. Br. Harris suggested that Trustees volunteer to organize "tiers" of 5-10 years periods for purposes of additions to the local chapter history on the website as well as keeping in touch with those period alumni.
- Br. McCarty gave a short history of Dodd Hall and collection of rents and occupancy. This was expanded upon by Br. Raulin. Ideal would be close to 30 "live-ins." A general discussion of finances of the house rooming ensued. No meals are served at the house; most brothers choose to use the university meal service or area restaurants. A small kitchenette is available for light meals and snacks. Dodd Hall has supplied 10 folding tables and 64 folding chairs with mobile chair and table racks for use by the chapter. They are used often and help with proper seating at various functions.
- Br. Rawot gave a presentation on chapter collections and Judicial Board. Past collection problems were reviewed. The chapter now has a treasurer's website which everyone can access

to see the finances of the chapter. The URL is: <http://treas.mupikes.com/> . The chapter treasury has over \$8000, including collection of past dues. The Pike National Chapter Consultant has stated the plan is one of the best he has seen of all chapters. Collection is at 100% with the new plan. Br. Ashworth recommended that the pledges be informed of the plan early in their pledging. A pledge class treasurer could be elected who would work with the current treasurer and then succeed to chapter treasurer.

- Br. Riebel, Chapter Advisor, gave his report, stressing leadership, goals and establishing an advisory committee of other Trustees as well as other alumni. The expansion of our existing Alumni Association was discussed, with emphasis on updating our database, keeping it current with an interactive website page. Br. Riebel then discussed fund raising using Pennington, who is recommended by National. Pennington needs about 18 months to develop and institute their plan. Br. Jasper reminded the Trustees of the pending 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Miami University, in 2009 and felt we should do something before that to avoid conflicts with university fund raising plans. The cost of the Pennington feasibility study is \$15,000, some of the cost of which can offset by a loan from National. Br. Harris questioned whether the treasury was stable enough to take on this expense.

Motion: That we invite Pennington to make a presentation to the Trustees at the next meeting, which would not cost us anything, and that we then make a decision as to Pennington's feasibility study at that next meeting.

1<sup>o</sup>: Br. Frank

2<sup>o</sup>: Br. Ashworth

Vote: Unanimous

Br. Riebel reminded the Trustees of the Dodd Hall Scholarship Fund, \$1000.00, which pays part of the expenses of sending chapter officers to PIKE UNIVERSITY leadership workshops.

- Br. Harris expounded on a mini-reunion planned for October 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> for alumni from the years 1960-1965, as well as the need to organize sub-committees from every 5-10 year time period to increase alumni participation with the chapter. Methods of maintaining alumni records was discussed, including expansion of the alumni section of the chapter website to include an interactive page where alumni could update their information easily. This will be developed further by Br. McCarty, who also discussed the role, authority and organizational structure aspects of a Chapter Advisory committee. Br. McCarty will develop a tentative flow-chart regarding the creation of Dodd Hall committees and general alumni sub-committees. This will be discussed further at the next Trustees meeting, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004, to coincide with the chapter Work Day. It was agreed that this meeting would begin at 9:30 a.m. instead of the usual 10:00 a.m..
- Further discussion was directed to better alumni relations. Br. Harris felt that we should update the alumni database first and get more brothers returning for homecoming, Founders' Day, etc, first before asking them for donations. Br.s Potts and Flannery take part in a golfing function in Chicago and will try to get those participants to become more active in chapter functions. Br. Frank volunteered activities at his lake cottage. Br. McCarty had organized a reunion similar to that discussed by Br. Harris. More organization is needed through the formation of various committees of alumni representing 5 or 10 year periods.

- Br. Frank then discussed the establishment of a special room in the house, dedicated to those who have made significant and outstanding contributions to the chapter and Dodd Hall. It would be marked with a plaque with those alum's names as well as outstanding actives and brothers recognized for their exceptional professional achievement. Br. Frank will head a panel to develop this further. It is possible to have tax-deductible donations made for this effort, with sharing by National, as long as the fund is educational in nature.
- Motion: Adjournment  
1<sup>0</sup> : Br. Harris  
2<sup>0</sup> : Br. Raulin  
Vote: Unanimous

An updated list of the Trustees is attached.  
Financial Reports are attached