

AHEC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020, 8:00pm @Zoom

Attendees:

Adam

Katie

Allison

Amanda

Andrew

Haosheng

Kruthika

Mohit

Minutes: Jacqueline

[Update] Mask distribution

- Got more responses from residents
- Amanda to send another email to front desk to distribute masks

[Update] Contact tracing

- May need more volunteers, still waiting on some materials
 - Amanda to ask if we need more Ashdown volunteers
 - (if needed) Haosheng to send another reminder to ask all residents

[Update] Outside meetings

- Building Residential Communities (BRC) meeting – new training for grad students
 - How to wear masks & training on health attestations
 - Issue: also gave information on how to move back to campus, irrelevant for students already here
 - Looking for feedback on training module
- Activities – nothing
- Sustainability – nothing
- GSC – nothing; next meeting at beginning of August
- HCA – nothing yet

[Update] Number of residents back

- Same as it's been, couple more folks trickling in
 - Around 65 for now

[Update] Guest policy

- Announcement will be made in next week or so
- Recognizes isolation will be a problem; working on resources to address loneliness (more mental health help)

- Will keep rule on no day guests for the foreseeable future
 - No consensus at all concerning guests (across HoH and residents)
 - Would be useful to get information on thoughts about guest policy
- Adam to host another town hall after policy is formally announced next week
- Need clarification on fee cancellation
 - MIT previously said they would waive housing fees from Sep – Oct, but will charge rent starting Sep 1 for continuing lease (or when resident moves in, whichever is earlier)
 - Adam to check on this
 - How will housing consider lottery after space opens due to cancellations?
 - Those people may have already found housing by the time decisions are made & may no longer be interested
 - Usually there's a huge waitlist to go through
 - How will partially empty rooms be handled?
 - Adam to check if housing will fill rooms of those who've cancelled & if people can move within building to de-densify

[Update] Resident survey on COVID-19 concerns

- Clarity on concern in “How concerned are you about having limited ability to interact with other residents in-person?”
 - Unclear on whether interaction is too little or too great
 - Amanda to edit survey question about social isolation
- Guest policy thoughts would be appreciated
- Target of survey? How will Housing use this to inform policies?
 - Give a better sense of how everyone is feeling
 - Beware of giving false hope
 - Let residents know this is meant to give feedback to panels
 - Make it clear input will be used towards advocacy, action is out of AHEC's control
- Helpful sections that are actionable for AHEC: events & masks
 - Still having issues with people not wearing masks around Ashdown
- Amanda to edit email and stress that input could be used for advocacy for certain policies/frame as we want to hear from them

[Update] Officer orientation scheduling and presentation

- 45 responses so far, can have max 34 people at once
 - Looking like 3-5 PM on Sunday, July 26th
 - Availability changes between hours
 - People will be popping in and out
 - Amanda to send out presentation after meeting
 - Haosheng to send a Zoom invite to everyone's calendars
- Still editing presentation from Madeleine
 - Replace intros & pics for AHEC positions
 - Heads of House to send intros & updated pics too

- Fill out officer structure hierarchy
- (Kru to) confirm deadlines for event planning funding
- Add to ongoing projects
 - Efforts to build remote community (Zoom, what AHEC's done in terms of surveys, masks, brainstorming on socially distanced events, Mindset lecture note)
 - Policies on events during COVID (what groups can do)
 - Dropbox & reorganizing reorganization

[Update] Website

- No set launch date (migrated all content, waiting on lottery info)
- Lottery logistics
 - Taking into account seniority, priority, sum vs average, group moves vs single
 - Fine to keep old system
 - Stable match – no combination of student/room with low priority & high preference
 - Transparency – just post mechanism in full
- No access to entertainment room for tracking inventory
 - Website could go live without this, would just need asterisks & messages describing situation on this & other areas impacted by COVID
- Website now page-for-page copy of old one – may want to do restructuring
- Hold off on launch for now

[Discussion] Restarting coffee hour

- Email received from resident proposing a way to restart coffee hour – prepackaged food, emails sent to residents to call for pickup
 - How to keep social aspect? Zoom?
 - A good kickstart to having activities
 - Would need to address pickup logistics (packaging, crowding, masks, location)
 - Location – avoid kitchen; maybe hold outside
 - Useful to have long-term tent/canopy outdoors in future (possibly funded by administration, if approached in the right way)?
 - Crowding – release by floor
- Naomi would be good point of contact for this
 - Learn about institute policies & tent possibility
 - Get coffee hour and brunch committees involved after speaking with Naomi
 - Discuss this during officer orientation
- Andrew and Allison to contact chairs of coffee hour and brunch about this
- Andrew to forward chain to Naomi & ask what is feasible to implement

[Update] Suggestion box

- Nothing

[Discussion] Mask availability for former residents

- Former residents don't have access to Ashdown
 - No issue voiced on giving masks, but issue on logistics of delivery
 - Kru to mail masks (on-campus MIT mail is free)
 - Amanda to forward resident email & ask for address

[Update] Events officer handing off memento

- Event was a Reset Mindset lecture; speaker cancelled due to COVID
- Amanda to pick up and store in AHEC closet
 - Will have to try to have event again (virtually) and invite same speaker, then mail gift to them

[Update] Note about action items email

- Let Amanda know if items in list have already been completed

Presided by: Amanda

Meeting adjourned