AHEC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2020, 8:00pm @Zoom

Attendees:
Adam
Allison
Amanda
Andrew
Haosheng
Katie
Kruthika

Minutes: Jacqueline

[Update] Contact tracing
● Waiting on TEDx MIT video to send out email to residents (hopefully this week)
  ○ Video would provide background on project

[Update] Resident survey on COVID-19 concerns
● 27 responses so far, hoping for more
  ○ We’re about 70% capacity right now, so roughly 350 residents total
  ○ Low number of responses, but in line with past survey efforts
  ○ AHEC will be getting biweekly list of capacity updates
● Most people say
  ○ they wear masks all the time
  ○ they don’t see other residents not wearing masks
  ○ they don’t interact with other residents often (but they get socialization outside of Ashdown)
  ○ they’re looking forward to speed friending and other social events
  ○ they aren’t concerned about the laundry room (besides removing lint from dryer)
  ○ they’d like to have other Ashdown residents as guests
● Some people are leaving because the rent is too high
● Amanda to resend survey in a week or two
  ○ Will share responses with housing

[Update] Outside meetings
● Building Residential Community: all undergrad, nothing for graduate students
● Events w/ Naomi: will be getting back to us on occupancy limits for courtyard; for now keep outdoor events to 10-20 people
  ○ GSC isn’t approving any in-person ideas, but Naomi can approve houses on case by case basis
  ○ SidPac Café open for catering for food/boxes
  ○ Edgerton has rented out single-person kayaks
○ Picnics okay for ~6 people
○ Nothing is working in Atlas right now, so send to Naomi for approval
○ With masks and social distancing, can distribute things to residents from lobby or courtyard
○ There’s a yoga app for use for the rest of the year
○ Will be an opportunity for groups to reserve outdoor spaces in the future
○ Will look into temporarily turning off door alarms for ventilation during events

● GSC Activities: reviewing scalability of virtual game ideas (murder mystery, trivia)
  ○ Andrew to report back to share if it will work
● GSC: ramping up for non-STEM fields, virtual events ramping up at Activities Committee, encourage people to submit orientation events for advertising
  ○ Veterans – group formed in response to veterans reaching out to improve services & connections at MIT
  ○ Diversity & Inclusion – RISE petition with list of demands for institute including timeline of work that has been done and steps that still need to be taken
● GSC Sustainability: hackathon in the works
  ○ Haosheng to publicize
● HCA: no updates

[Update] Updates from Adam on Housing
● Roommates: Housing will send out an email saying that people will be notified beforehand with enough time to plan accordingly if new roommates are assigned
  ○ AHEC to let Adam know if they hear about anyone not getting notified about roommates
● Lottery: typically run in November, so will check back in October and see if it’s good

[Discussion] COVID Pass notifications
● PIs currently get notifications for specific times you’ll be in lab but hours are confusing
  ○ Do PIs need to be notified? Why, if some residents don’t go into lab?
  ○ Maria Zuber would decide more on this
● Confusing since system for working on campus labs is coupled with residential
  ○ For daily attestation, put all hours
  ○ Adam to ask about clarifying logistics about decoupling (and on housing side, will ask to pass on PI notification concerns to Maria Zuber)

[Update] Online education module & attestation
● What happens if residents don’t fill out attestation? Website wording unclear
  ○ Supposed to fill it out every day, may get locked out if not completed
  ○ Adam to clarify with David what will happen if people don’t fill out attestation with regard to dorm access
● When is module coming out?
  ○ August 17th
    ■ Hoped for it to be all set now, but still trying to roll out COVID Pass
    ■ Later on, COVID Pass will send notification on when to get testing
[Update] Ashdown Orientation events & video
- Dinner will be 6:30 to 8 PM on Sept 8, 9, 10
  - Meals will be delivered to residents (30 new residents)
    - Rita’s catering, choice of vegetarian or not
  - Zoom call for up to 20 students at a time, 4-5 former/current AHEC for intros
  - Breakout room “tables” with 1 AHEC member at each table
    - Amanda to send out survey to AHEC to see who can attend each dinner
  - Adam to find virtual map pin to show where people have been
- Events committee will be testing out virtual board games this week
  - Speedfriending, Jackbox, watercolor painting, board game night
  - Got GSC funding for everything
    - Amanda to make sure Events registers these with GSC
  - No food options yet, should have it for Ashdown events, especially Orientation
    - Katie to pass on details for Rita’s catering
      - Might be cheaper than SidPac & individually packages food
    - Free food might not draw as many people as before since virtual
  - Adam to check on Ashdown video

[Update] Website
- Haosheng found more user-friendly plugins to test
- Andrew revised About Ashdown section, mostly done
  - Andrew to send Amanda info to transfer to resources
- AHEC to test out new plugins

[Update] Suggestion box
- Nothing

[Update] 3AM: July & August
- Communications has enough for July/August 3AM
  - Waiting on results from external judge to send by Saturday
  - Not started with Orientation yet
- Comms to AHEC know if they need anything for orientation

[Update] Composting project
- Adam hasn’t heard from Dennis, happy to push for this program
  - AHEC fine with holding off on this for a few months; interested but not top priority
  - Would be nice to communicate with residents on this
- Sustainability efforts can also go to improving existing recycling at Ashdown (e.g. plastic
  bag recycling at front desk, residents’ own recycling bins)
- Table this project for end of semester

[Update] Sustainability officer
- Weiyue and John have yet to meet, Haosheng to update once they do
[Discussion] New door nametags
- Got list of residents and room numbers from Housing, images from photography officer
  - Ran python script to generate & randomly assign images to rooms/names
  - Printed them on business cards & put on magnets
  - Floor officers assembled and put cards on each person’s door
- Could send an email to residents to let them know when floor officers will be around with nametags
  - Don’t have floor officers for all floors yet, but can expand to other officers as each floor shouldn’t take too long
- Haosheng to ask Gary from Operations for debugged naming script & Can about photos

[Update] New Ashdown logo
- Adam didn’t find any emails
- Send email to AHEC mailing list for former AHEC officers to ask about logo & get institutional knowledge

[Update] Responses from Denise
- Can’t tackle card access right now, table for future
- Composting bins: rather than move bins, fine for people not in 3-bedroom suites to use
  - Send email clarifying that bins are open to all residents, but cooking in kitchen still restricted to those in 3-bedroom suites (and kitchen has 2-person occupancy limit)
  - Could add to Orientation 3AM, but might be better to have Sustainability officer send out email on composting & general recycling policies
    - Haosheng to ask John or Weiyue who would be best to do this, and if Publicity has time or interest to make a poster
  - Should also add to website under COVID section

[Discussion] MIT delta v email
- Request to learn more about Housing and get feedback on concept for app (vague, no details – email titled Masks for Ashdown but nothing about masks)
  - Could be part of MIT Sloan startup initiatives
  - Amanda to forward on to Housing

[Discussion] Tomorrow’s meeting
- 8 AM on residential spaces and ventilation
- Most of AHEC will be present
- Consider taking exercise machines out of room and placing in hallway between front desk and stairs
  - Katie to contact Denise on this and bring up concerns about common use space

Presided by: Amanda
Meeting adjourned