AHEC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 8:00pm @Zoom

Attendees:

Adam

Allison

Amanda

Andrew

Haosheng

Katie

Kruthika

Michael Durso

Minutes: Jacqueline

[Update] Outside meetings

* GSC: nothing
* HCA: nothing
* Activities: nothing
* Sustainability: cost sharing meeting
  + DSL willing to match houses dollar by dollar up to $600 to help support local restaurants that have been struggling throughout coronavirus pandemic
  + 3 types of events proposed (with most of the work done by Housing)
    - Dorm organizes own activities and encourages residents to order local; collate orders & delivery
    - Dorm holds cooking classes with restaurants; restaurant sets up filming & kitchen on their side
    - Housing sets up tables at specific locations at meal times where residents can go and pick up food at each location (e.g. Kresge, grad dorms)
  + Restaurants in mind: Flour, Brothers Market, Sidney Pacific Café, Blaze
    - Brothers Market responded enthusiastically and offered snack boxes
    - Business diversity directory highlights Cambridge restaurants owned by women or minorities
  + Could be something for Coffee Hour or Brunch to get involved in
* Grad Dorm Officers: update on VPR & IDHR revamp
  + Resources for handling dorm conflicts, training for educational conversations

[Update] Update on spring Coffee Hour plans

* Coffee Hour wants to plan more activities, games, and events like escape rooms, streaming things like March Madness, or themed around ordering from specific restaurants
  + Links up very well with option 1 in DSL restaurant plan
  + Allison to ask Tejas to look into pay-per-game, channels on Xfinity
* Allison and Andrew to contact Coffee Hour and Brunch to connect with Naomi

[Update] Laundry machine signage and issues

* Michael got in contact with Washlava head of operations, who said they should be able to remotely restart machines by ID, waiting to hear back on getting machines reset on a regular schedule since this happens often
  + Emailed Denise so she knows what’s going on
* No update on signage

[Discussion] Brainstorm how to recruit nominees for AHEC

* Have 2 confirmed nominees, 2 people still considering, want gender equity on board
  + Adam happy to talk with the 3 people on the fence
  + Don’t need a speech night if 5 people are running, use campaigning to help decide chair (since chair usually decided by who gets the most votes)
* Ask officers if they’d like to join AHEC & let residents know nominations are open again
  + Nominations open until 12 PM Wednesday, 24 March
  + Amanda to email officers & CC Adam and AHEC in case they have questions
* Need to work on transition plan so new AHEC can learn the ropes
* When guaranteed housing was extended to 2 years two years ago, incentives like reduced rent were considered to encourage new officers to run
  + Could revisit compensation
  + At the time, students were against it as they felt it went against the principles of student government
* Schedule an “Ask AHEC” session and CC everyone nominated

[Update] Virtual escape room event

* Budget increase approved

[Update] Suggestion box

* Asked about address book for Ashdown
  + Already exists for all MIT if you know someone’s Kerberos
  + Would need to make sure people had the option to opt out; security concern with knowing which rooms are empty

[Update] Officer hiring

* Deadline not as important this year
* No new submissions

[Update] Cookbook

* Not clear if multiple submission problem resolved, Andrew to follow up

[Update] Mental health programming

* No response, Amanda to forward to Adam

[Update] Garden and bird programs

* No response yet, Allison to follow up

[Update] Graduate housing survey

* No response yet, Allison to follow up

[Update] Residents getting notice before new roommates move in

* Nothing

[Update] Folding cart for front desk

* Haosheng contacted Inventory to get 1 folding cart first to see if people like it; move older cart to storage

[Update] Common space policy progress

* Amanda sent music room guidelines, Amanda to make signage

[Update] Student art making activity

* MIT Student art association funding art making supplies this semester to anyone who wants to apply at link

[Update] Choose Officer of the Month (February)

* 1 entry, give to Christina for February & March

[Discussion] Address issue with pie contest

* Had a resident misuse voting form and create confusion around winner
  + Adam took care of it
* Andrew to email Amogh about re-announcing winner

[Open Forum]

* Make Zoom backgrounds for Ashdown/Ashdown officers with customizable names so people get to know who their officers are

Presided by: Amanda

Meeting adjourned