AHEC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 8:00pm @ Hulsizer

Attendees:

Adam

Amogh

Charvi

Ignacio

Tejas

Xiaowei

Yuriy

Minutes: Jacqueline

[Update] Outside meetings

* HCA: largely uneventful, there’s a plan to have grad dorm spaces reserved for quarantine over the fall but not confirmed if there’ll be any for Ashdown
  + If people are uncomfortable, they have a right to know if quarantine spaces are near them but they’d also like to avoid a situation where everyone’s
  + HCA will contact Housing for more info, and Adam will follow up too but Ashdown’s ventilation system moves air from rooms to the outside, so very low chance of room-to-room transmission
  + On food service, after July 15th trained people can now train new people (rather than having everyone training directly by contractors for $15-20 per person)
* Activities: around mid-July, plan to give tickets to [MFA Boston](https://www.mfa.org/) to see special exhibits and invite artists for discussions, plan to subsidize tickets for Fenway games, will start planning for Grad Gala venue and logistics (volunteers get 2 tickets free and get to do food tasting with 5-star chefs)
  + Email [gsc-ac@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-ac@mit.edu) to volunteer with gala event planning; Grad Gala open to any resident
  + Orientation committee will start meeting soon
* Sustainability: nothing
  + Ignacio to check when next meeting will be
* GSC General: GSC’s hired a graphic designer, AHEC can commission them for flyers and things at no charge for GSC-funded events

[Update] Serve safe training

* Originally had 20 people volunteer to be trained as kitchen stewards, spread out evenly across committees, but now that people can train each other we can just train chairs
* Training is online, about 3 hours; AHEC has enough money to train anyone interested
* Amogh to send final list to Naomi so she can send out training info

[Update] [Suggestion box](https://forms.gle/Bsgb64vTRSf48zwp7)

* Nothing (got a question on the doc instead: see in-house lottery item later)

[Update] New masks policy & weight/aerobic room capacity requirement

* As of June 4th, no mask requirement for residents so we can remove all reservation systems but should keep all the cleaning supplies
* For common spaces, everything’s unlocked now except the study lounges that seem to be getting cleaned; still need to scan at card reader to check for COVIDpass access
* Ignacio to send email announcing changes & ask Julie about keeping doors unlocked

[Update] Extensions for AHEC funding

* Events committee requested extension for funding application, Ignacio told them it’d be fine since GSC also pushed back their deadlines
* Funding application deadline was set by funding sources like GSC so AHEC was asking for budgeting forms, no set deadlines so Xiaowei can submit applications later
* Xiaowei to send a deadline once AHEC has met with all the chairs

[Update] Kayak event

* Events wants to hold a kayaking event and needs updated info on policies; in the past you had to register events on Atlas, but now small events with less than 15 people don’t need to be registered and large events will be registered on a new site to be given out
* Ignacio to check with Naomi on whether kayaking can be done

[Update] Fourth of July BBQ

* Planning to order from [EZCater](https://www.ezcater.com/), shouldn’t need kitchen stewards if an external company is catering as we just can’t have people serving themselves
* Shouldn’t be an issue holding event jointly with SidPac, but still need list of people attending event and their emails for contact tracing
  + This is the first Ashdown event in 1½ years so keeping it within Ashdown would reduce headaches over planning food and headcounts in just 2 weeks (could shift cross-dorm events to Orientation where there’s over a month to plan)
* No longer have room capacity limits but should set budget soon for catering since July 4th is usually a large event with 200-250 people
  + Typically covered by GSC and large grants, not Ashdown HoHs since it’s usually open to the entire MIT community; this year is different
* The way liquor licenses work in Cambridge, Ashdown can only serve alcohol through the Thirsty Ear so unlikely alcohol can be served by 4th of July; both the Muddy and the Thirsty Ear should be opening in the fall
  + If alcohol is served in courtyard and not in the Thirsty Ear like with the dance party, the police have to be present
  + For future events, AHEC can’t pay for alcohol but usually GSC or HoHs pay

[Update] Meeting with chairs

* Looks like it’ll be on Saturday; most of the chairs are new so it’ll be a getting-to-know-you and getting to know your role session

[Update] Meeting incoming summer officers

* After chairs meeting

[Update] Cost-sharing food event plan

* People are picking up succulents in Hulsizer room

[Update] Cleaning up Hulsizer kitchen

* Will be this Saturday afternoon from 1 to 5 PM
* Have about 4 people signed up per task, Amogh to organize all the things that need to be done and separate by timeslots

[Update] Garden

* Half the plots have been taken, Charvi ordered bamboo sticks for people to label plots
* Typically, arts and inventory officers keep plants alive over the spring and fall, then organize a cleanup at the end of the year

[Discussion] Summer officer recruitment & 3AM Newsletter

* Send out hiring emails for specific positions in Operations and Communities; don’t need to worry about leases if they’re already here
  + Communications officers could send out 3AM newsletter more regularly to plug events now that Ashdown’s having them again
  + Communities needs officers urgently
  + Can ask at chair meeting if they’ve got urgent positions that need to be filled
  + Tejas to take care of summer officer hiring
* Xiaowei to update list of officers on website

[Update] Seniority points

* Everything’s good, now just needs to update people after each term

[Update] Broken old video games

* Need to remove the video games that haven’t worked for a long time; people used to restore and fix them but now the cathode ray tubes seem too worn out
* Have talked about getting an arcade or pinball machine, but would probably want to check with the people who live next to them first since it’ll get noisier

[Discussion] Reaching out to current residents for in-house lottery

* A resident seems to have asked if there’s a way to reach out to current residents and see if they get along before lottery, but doesn’t seem possible as in-house is an anonymous black box
* Another option would be a stapled lottery (as in, stapling two entries together) where you can specifically request to be placed with your friends and algorithm takes care of it
* Amogh to send out follow-up email

[Update] Mailing list cleanup and footers

* Tejas already updated the footers and can edit as needed
* Tejas to remove old officers from mailing lists, but can keep chairs in case new chairs have questions; need to keep ahec-five only to current AHEC members though

[Update] Officer leases

* New Publicity and Garden officers don’t need leases

[Update] Peer system

* Ignacio will discuss with Haosheng about peer leaders; should leaders be officers?
  + No, they would be members of a casual interest group and would need to keep meetings up to the event registration guidelines (register if more than 15 people)

[Update] Joint gathering with HoH and old AHEC

* Usually hold a retreat between outgoing and incoming AHEC + some former AHEC members, would like to hold it soon
* Ignacio to ask old AHEC if they can attend

[Update] Officer and AHEC poster in 1st floor corridor

* On hold

[Update] Officer of the month

* On hold

Presided by: Ignacio

Meeting adjourned