AHEC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, Aug 10, 2021, 8:00pm @ Hulsizer

Attendees:

Amogh

Akhilan

Charvi

Katie

Ignacio

Xiaowei

Tejas

Minutes: Xiaowei

[Update] Outside meetings

* Ignacios—general GSC meeting: vaccination rate is pretty high, especially among graduate students; Calling for suggestions on the Kendall building public space (Kendall initiative); Repuposing GSC funding for non-food purchases requires talking to the GSC treasurer
* Ignacios talked to Madeline about the rent issue; details sent through emails to AHEC
  + Housing is not making any profit; Ashdown is doing well, but other halls are in debt in general
  + Site 4 replaces Eastgate. Eastgate's spot will be used for commercial purposes.
  + Site 4 is planned to be occupied by Sloan students and MIT students with spouses working. That's why the rent is so high there.
  + GSC encourages students to check off-campus housing options. If occupancy is high in MIT dorms, it is very difficult to make Housing accept changes.
  + GSC is working to guarantee that stipends increase jointly with rent.
  + Undergrad in Ashdown is a different situation, depending on how they are supported for paying rent
* Amogh suggest collecting more data from the past effort and try to advocate for all

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

* Turning the dance party into a masquerade? Put decor mask on top of medical mask? We may propose this to event committee and see what they think.

[New] Indoor mask requirement reinstate in Ashdown

* More details about the new requirement sent by Naomi
* Consider moving as many events as possible outdoors.
* If food is not essential to the event, eliminate it altogether (e.g., just the movie, no popcorn).
* If food is being eaten indoors please follow the guidelines below:
  + Limit individuals’ indoor eating time to 20 minutes.
  + Wear masks at all times unless guests are actively eating or drinking.
  + Keep the eating space well ventilated; open windows and set up fans when you can.
  + Be mindful of the flow of your event: try to avoid set-ups that encourage “grazing” or serving in a way that requires individuals to remove their  masks continuously to eat..
* Dedicate just a portion of the event to eating (i.e. for a pancake event, don’t have people grab and eat pancakes as they are cooked, instead cook all pancakes and then they can be eaten during the “eating portion” of the event).
* If the event centers on cooking or if food is being prepared at the event, have participants pack up the food in containers and eat it in their rooms or outside. Please make sure all students preparing food are approved kitchen stewards.
* If eating in groups:
  + Groups should be limited to 4 people (4 people at a table/grouped together)
  + Groups should be distanced 8 feet from each other while eating and drinking.  This may require you to limit occupancy or find an alternative space where attendees can spread out

[Update] Orientation events planning

* Most of our events could still happen under the new guideline, so long as they are held outside and people are not removing their mask and eating for extended amount of time.
* In case of bad weather, Naomi responded that canopies will be at the front desk. We can also consider breaking people into smaller groups and have them meet and eat on different floors/common spaces.
* Ignacios contacted SPEC about their brunch plan. They have no clear idea yet.
* Our brunch officers were copied with the newest policy, and Amogh will contact Ruihan and Zach to make sure they have a plan.
* John is working hard with EC on dance party and other events
* Check with Henry about the speed friending plan under the new policy
* Xiaowei will ask to see if GSC can fund a bit more for the dessert night.
* In two weeks, we should start advertising for the events on campus.

[Update] Coffee Hour

* Doing it outdoor this week to see how things go

[Update] Officer of the month

* We have three nominees: Michael and Tzu-an from CH, Zhutian from Communities (floor brunch)
* Ignacios nominate Liza from event committee.
* We will pick one person for every committee: Michael from CH, and …
* We will make them retroactively to be May, June, July officer of the month, to fill the three poster space we have.
* Xiaowei will ask publicity to prepare the posters.

[Update] Purchasing a new large movie screen

* Xiaowei still looking into it
* Debating between the risk (of buying PVC tubes and a movie screen canvas and ended up spending more than just a movie set or failed to put them together) and the gain (of getting a bigger screen)

[Update] Officer Orientation and Transition dinner

* Set on Aug 28, the day before the MIT orientation happens, as long as all committee chairs are available
* Three chairs responded yes and will come and talk about each committee;
* Ignacios working on collecting old slides for officer orientation
* We will let the officers know about the orientation once we have three new officers onboard.

[Update] Summer officer recruitment

* Tejas panning to schedule the meeting this Saturday morning (10-11 am)

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

* Notified Can; waiting for the new officers to be hired

[Update] New door tags

* The easiest way to do this is via CopyTech. CopyTech can even do the design/layout for $45/hour (it’s an approximate 30min design = $22.50 total). They require the design/artwork for the tags, and the spreadsheet of names/room numbers. They can then print the cards on a 65# cover stock (business card size which is 3.5” x 2”). Then an Ashdown officer, or a few, stick the printed cards onto sticky magnets of the same size, which you’ll need to order (something like this). CopyTech takes only a few days and the contact person I last spoke to is named Allen.
* If you don’t wish to use CopyTech, then you can ask an officer to do the design/artwork and place the resident names on the cards, either manually or by algorithm. Last time Zhutian Yang <ztyang@mit.edu> did this for us. If you’d like to access the same artwork as the existing labels, you can find it here in the dropbox. You can either print using CopyTech (in this case don’t purchase cardstock), or print at Ashdown House using the color printer (you’ll need to buy your own cardstock).
* Ignacios will contact CopyTech to get a quote

[Update] Hot water or vending machine

* Amogh sent the email to Naomi
* Naomi will start working on getting the vending machines back

[Update] Alternative for Slack

* Tejas has set up a Piazza, hasn’t sent it out yet, more discussion needed

[Update] Serve safe training

* Everyone’s done besides one person from CH (didn’t send Amogh the certificate but may have done it already)
* We have enough people trained across committees now

[Update] Club

* Haochen has sent out the info and set up the clubs.

[Update] Vacuums

* Ready to go. Xiaowei will send out announcement to residents.

[Update] Bookshelf for book exchange between residents

* No update

[Update] Security for bike room

* On hold

[Update] Olympic watching party

* Done

[Update] Gathr

* No update

[Update] Weight room equipment

* On hold

[Update] Broken old video games

* On hold

[Update] Holiday/Themed Coffee Hour

* On hold

Presided by: Ignacio

Meeting adjourned