AHEC Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 8:00pm @ Courtyard

Attendees:

Akhilan

Kim

Shomik

Yanina

Xiaowei

Henry

Will

Katy

Dierdre

Yuriy

Minutes: Shomik

[Updates] Outside Meetings

* Yanina – guest policy meeting
  + 3 days for overnight stays
  + Discussing extending the limit
  + Update the checkin process
  + Sharing of keys – current policy of no sharing can be annoying
  + No actual updates or decisions yet
  + Meetings are still ongoing
  + Keith Moser
  + Need to remember any inconvenience caused by guests
  + Approval of roommates + person residing

[Updates] Suggestion Box – None

* Hammock in courtyard broken
  + Someone may have fixed it
  + Not sure if it will hold up
  + Get another one if falls apart
  + Will keep an eye on it
* Special speaker series (like SidPac)
  + Events committee had an ET event with experts
  + Want more of these types of events
  + Easiest to start with MIT or Harvard professors
  + Ashdown residents have diverse research interests
  + Need to be more general talks than specific
  + Ashdown could combine with SidPac for bigger audience
  + Yanina will reach out to SidPac to get more information
  + House Fellows
    - Faculty member for relationship with building but not live here
    - i.e. advisors

[Updates] Seed packets and plants

* Tax free issues
* Xiaowei will buy through buying.mit.edu
* Kim reached out to coffee hour, no reply, will stop by coffee hour tomorrow

[Updates] New furniture for courtyard

* Do the new cushions work on old chairs?
  + No
* Options:
  + Return cushions
    - Could get tables instead
    - Xiaowei will check with Naomi and Dennis about return date
  + Keep cushions and buy chairs
    - Chairs are expensive
    - Are there alternative chairs of the same size?
    - Cushions are not waterproof
    - Chairs are ~$450 each
    - Could keep cushions at front desk for checkout

[Updates] Garden event

* Kota organized, they cleaned the garden, removed weeds
* Lots of garden waste left
  + Someone moved the garbage bags back to garden and put compost bags there
  + Kota and other inventory officers can work on cleaning it up again
  + Yanina will follow up
  + Maintenance will come take it, don’t block paths with it

[Update] Broken vending machine

* Call a number. Third party people maintain it
* Yanina will call the number

[Updates] Website – no update from Yanina

[Update] Budget

* Xiaowei has revised budget from all committees
  + Committees were asked to reduce budget
  + Not going broke, but still huge negative
  + Will keep close eye on spending
  + Every committee increasing their budget
* Expected revenue from house tax during summer is lower
* Impossible to go with original budget proposal – will hit negative
* Depends on GSC funding

[Update] Additional GSC funding

* Extended to June 22
* Almost all committees already submitted application
* Brunch: 20-30% increase from before covid
  + $1700 from OGE
  + Past few expenses somewhat lower

[Update] Ashdown swag

* Xiaowei placed order and It got through
  + Can opener already shipped
* Latest by June 29

[Update] Website access for comm officer - no update yet

[Update] Conflict resolution resources

* Meeting with Naomi next week (Weds at 10AM)

[Update] Contraceptives in public restrooms

* Inventory officer will take care of it

[Update] Water issue

* Few residents have noticed slight discoloration
* Run the water, takes a while to clear

[Discussion] Officer Orientation

* Amogh ordered food $500
* 25 said yes or probably
* Decide on an activity
  + Sorting hat
  + Scavenger hunt – Narumi organized
    - Could be useful to explore common spaces
  + Egg drop
* Sorting hat + scavenger hunt
* TE on June 19
* What to say? Look at slides from previous years
* Officer headshots before orientation from 5-6 by photography officer

[Discussion] Pictures of staff

* Denise will figure something out
* Staff doesn’t always like getting pictures
* Katy will ask Denise

[Discussion] Inactive officers

* Yanina reached out to chairs
  + Brunch and Events and Operations
  + Most are fine
  + A few brunch officers were inactive
  + What happens to their lease?

[Discussion] Posters

* Ignacio may delegate person to regularly check

[Discussion] Hulsizer issues

* Outlets often break – trips the circuit breaker
  + Not really a way around this. Ask electrician to increase capacity?
  + Circuit breaker may be locked
  + Pay attention to how FixIt fixes it
* Kitchen space
  + Small dishwasher, Sinks clogging/leaking, Limited workspace, Dripping surfaces
  + Barrier near edge of table to prevent water going on floor
  + Meet with Denise to ask if Dennis can come by
  + Sink filter to prevent clogging
* Key card access to the locked stairwell outside Hulsizer

[Discussion] Officer perks

* Rent reduction is difficult
* More officer socials for all
  + Events and Communities have been luxurious so far
  + Update budget

[Discussion] Printer for publicity

* Replace ink cartridge
* What are logistics of buying new one

[Discussion] Brunch food

* Some people take too much food
* For Brunch, people serving can be more careful about portions
* Put up a sign again. Can set norms with new residents

Presided by: Akhilan

Meeting adjourned