

Minutes, Lakeside Committee Meeting, Jan. 5, 2016

Time of the meeting: 7:00 to 8:00pm

Notes taken by: David Cho

Present at the meeting:

- **Committee members**

1. President: Isabela Morales
2. Vice President: Lian Zhu
3. Treasurer: David Cho
4. Social Chair: Amanda Siemann
5. Webmaster: Jon MacArt
6. Garden Coordinator: Katie Wolf
7. External Relations Delegate: Akil Word-Daniels

- **University**

1. Olivia Martel

- **ACC**

1. Mark Clemmons

- **Residents**

1. Jessica Brown
2. Teddy Brown
3. Hongxin Gao
4. Michelle Frazer
5. Chris Wright

- **Absent**

1. Secretary: excused

Discussion Points

I. *Changes to Lakeside Committee Constitution*

Lian

- Sent out e-mail to residents back in December with 3 proposed amendments to Article 3 of the Lakeside Constitution

1. Section 12: Housing Priority of Committee Members

Amendment: The University grants eight slots for housing priority that shall go to the eight presiding committee members.

2. Section 6: Secretary

Amendment: The secretary will also organize and forward emails addressed to the committee.

3. Removal of Committee Member

Amendment: Any three committee members can raise the issue of removing a committee member for not fulfilling their duties as stipulated by the Lakeside Constitution. The issue will be presented to the committee during a Lakeside meeting and a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote (six out of eight) of all committee members will be required for removal. Lakeside residents will be notified of this change after the meeting and the committee, in coordination with the graduate school, will decide on the replacement of the committee member depending on timing and logistics.

- Amendments need to be ratified by at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Committee in order to become part of the Constitution
- No questions or comments regarding these amendments from those present at the meeting

Isabela

- Called for a vote on the 3 proposed amendments to the Lakeside Constitution
- All 7 present Committee members voted to approve the amendments
- The 3 amendments to the Lakeside Constitution were ratified

II. Housing Inspections & Fire Extinguishers

Isabela

- A resident had previously raised concern that, during a recent inspection, an ACC staff member had removed the seal from a fire extinguisher in order to “make it operational”
- In general, there appeared to be some confusion among Lakeside residents regarding the proper use of fire extinguishers

Mark

- All staff members have been extensively trained regarding fire extinguishers by ACC, the University, a third-party contractor, and the Princeton Fire Marshal
- There are 2 components that secure the top of a fire extinguisher:
 1. Safety Pin — a metal piece that locks the lever/handle
 2. Seal — a plastic ring that secures the safety pin as well as the lever/handle
- The seal was actually obstructing the safety pin and needed to be removed so that a resident could quickly operate the fire extinguisher if the need ever arose
- The safety pin should remain in place until the need to operate the fire extinguisher arises
- Mark will discuss this concern with ACC staff members at their next meeting

Olivia

- A number of residents have asked about the frequency of the monthly inspections at Lakeside
- The inspections have to be conducted monthly in order to adhere to the regulations that are set by the town
- The University is working with the town in order to try to find a way to decrease the frequency of these inspections while still adhering to the fire code

Akil

- Asked about potentially installing additional fire extinguishers in the shared hallways of the townhouse buildings

Mark

- No progress yet on this front because of space limitations in the hallways of the townhouse buildings

III. Ongoing Internet Issues

Isabela

- For which types of Internet issues should residents submit work orders to ACC rather than contact Hotwire directly?

Mark

- Initially informed residents to contact him with Internet connectivity issues so that he could monitor the types of problems that were occurring throughout Lakeside and then contact Hotwire himself
- However, the new protocol is for residents to contact Hotwire directly regarding Internet issues
- 2 reasons for this change:
 1. Hotwire provides 24-hour customer service
 2. Hotwire now has a more extensive catalog of service issues that have occurred at Lakeside and can more quickly diagnose problems
- If Hotwire does not respond to a resident's concerns in a timely and satisfactory manner, please inform Mark so that he can follow up
- May try to have a Hotwire representative attend next month's Town Hall meeting in order to respond to questions or concerns

Isabela

- Proposed to add this information to the Lakeside Committee website along with an explanation of why it is now optimal for residents to contact Hotwire directly when issues arise → [Jon](#)
- In addition, will include new instructions for troubleshooting Internet connectivity issues in e-mail to Lakeside residents along with minutes from tonight's Town Hall meeting → [Isabela/Lian](#)

Resident # 1

- Noted ongoing Internet connectivity issues in apartment
- Had previously tried to contact Hotwire regarding this problem
- Hotwire informed resident that a technician would have to be sent out in order to investigate this issue

Mark

- Residents do not have to be present when Hotwire technicians service an apartment
- If a resident is not home, an ACC staff member will accompany a Hotwire technician throughout the entirety of the appointment

Resident # 2

- Noted that Wi-Fi signal strength tended to be weaker in the evening

Jon

- Wi-Fi speeds are likely to be slower at night given the increase in the number of active users/devices relative to during the day
- Suggested that residents try to use the Ethernet connections in their apartments whenever Wi-Fi signal strength is poor
- Given idiosyncratic nature of Internet connectivity issues, optimal approach would be for each resident to individually raise their concerns to Hotwire so that each situation can be addressed on a case-by-case basis (as per Mark's instructions)

IV. Assorted Issues in Mid-Rise Buildings

Isabela

- The Committee received a few e-mails asking for updates regarding the recent water outages and fire alarms in 151 Taylor Court
- Seeking clarification on whether or not these issues have been fixed

Mark

- The sprinklers in 151 Taylor Court were set off on 2 separate occasions because of a heater in the vestibule of the building
- Unfortunately, there is no way to guarantee that sprinkler heads will only go off during an actual fire
- Nevertheless, ACC staff members have investigated why this occurred and looked into how to prevent it from happening again
- In addition, water service was temporarily discontinued in 151 Taylor Court on Thanksgiving because of a faulty pressure valve for one of the water heaters in the mechanical room

- Subsequent water outages in December and January at 151 Taylor Court were also due to ongoing attempts to fix this malfunctioning water heater
- Furthermore, maintenance has already been done to fix the same pressure valve for the water heaters in the other mid-rise buildings

Isabela

- When will the resident directories for the mid-rise buildings be up and running?

Mark

- The directories for the mid-rise buildings have not yet been put into place because the current system can only handle 15 area codes
- A solution to overcome this limitation is in the works
- Hope to have the resident directories operational soon

Isabela

- A resident raised concern that the elevator in 351 Lemonick Court was recently taken offline by custodians after they cleaned it
- Isn't this problematic for students who may depend on elevators as their primary means of egress?
- Are potentially toxic chemicals being used to clean the elevators?

Mark

- Custodians only use regular stainless steel cleaner to clean the elevators
- Toxic or harmful chemicals are not being used
- Given that elevators are confined spaces, they have to be taken offline and held open so that the cleaning solution will dry out properly
- Likely not possible to find an "ideal" time to take elevators offline in each building, but will discuss with custodial staff in order to try to minimize inconvenience

V. Updates From Recent Graduate Housing Advisory Board Meeting

Akil

- Smoking ban in graduate housing (as well as on the rest of campus) was recently approved by the University:

<https://ehs.princeton.edu/health-safety-the-campus-community/smoking-campus>

- A new electronic system for graduate student housing priority and the Room Draw will likely be implemented for the 2016-2017 academic year
- Hardship Housing
 - Families who moved to Lakeside from Butler should continue to receive the same financial assistance as before
 - Families who did not move to Lakeside from Butler and are seeking financial assistance should contact Jim Poole in the Housing Office: <https://hres.princeton.edu/staff-directory>
- Information sessions regarding the Room Draw process will be held in coming weeks
 - Jim Poole will be present at the next GSG meeting in order to answer questions
- Ongoing Problems with Tiger Tracker
 - Discussed this issue with Julia Wittes of GSG, who had previously raised concerns with Kim Jackson in the Transportation Office
 - Unfortunately, Tiger Transit's tracking system/app is operated by a third party, and the University has no control over its effectiveness
 - Best approach is to follow the printed shuttle schedules rather than only relying on the app: <http://www.princeton.edu/transportation/ttroutes/>

VI. Preview of January Events

Amanda

- Proposal to hold a joint Movie Watch and Arts/Crafts Event on Saturday, January 23rd (after finals)
- Plan to show a family friendly film: "Despicable Me"
- More details and a formal invitation to come

VII. Electricity Billing & Sub-Metering

Isabela

- Should expect an official explanation for why sub-metering was chosen at Lakeside from the University in the near future

Resident

- Raised concern over apparent differences between electricity bills for unit and those of neighbors
- Spoke to Mark after the Town Hall meeting regarding this issue

VIII. Proper Usage of & Issues With Thermostats

Amanda

- Appears to be some confusion among residents over how to properly operate thermostats — especially those in bathrooms (for units that have them)
- Propose to include instructions for setting thermostats in the next Lakeside newsletter

Multiple Residents

- Raised concern that their thermostats regularly overshoot the programmed temperature by several degrees

Mark

- Requested that residents submit work orders so that ACC staff members can investigate these issues on a case-by-case basis

IX. Housing Priority of Graduate Students

Akil

- Some members of the University—including faculty members with graduate students who have been inconvenienced by moving—have questioned the current policy regarding housing priority
- Seems problematic that housing priority declines for graduate students with each successive year of study
- Plan to raise this issue with the GSG and Jim Poole in the Housing Office in order to see if changes can be made to this policy in the future

X. Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Katie

- Will be forming a subcommittee to establish a CSA in order to arrange for fresh produce to be delivered from local farms to Lakeside starting this Spring
- Will be sending out an e-mail to Lakeside residents with more information

XI. Covered Bike Storage

Resident

- Asked if there were any plans to install covered bike storage equipment at Lakeside

Olivia

- This is frequently requested at every single graduate housing complex (including the Graduate College and Lawrence)
- There are no plans to provide covered bike storage at Lakeside
- Suggest contacting Dorian Johnson in the Housing Office for a more detailed explanation: <https://hres.princeton.edu/staff-directory>

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 2, 2016.