Lakeside Town Hall Meeting, October 15th, 2019

Time of the meeting: 7:00 pm

Notes were taken by: Shuwen Yue

Present at the meeting:

Committee members

Chair: Kyle Oskvig

Vice Chair: Will Smith

Secretary: Shuwen Yue

Treasurer: Ben Weiner

Social Chair: Peter Czajka

Webmaster: Diana Valverde Mendez

Garden Coordinator: Zoe Volenec

External Relations Delegate: Nancy Lu

University

Michael Hebditch
Kevin Fleming

ACC
Mark Clemmons

Residents

Kurt Ristroph

Henry Lin

Peter Czajka

Diana Valverde Mendez

Fedor Popov

Julian Dean

Brianna Romer

Lena Barrett

Ben Weiner

Grace Lee

Laura Leal

Hugh Wilson

Lindsay Willmore

Shruthi Ravindranath

Nivedita Rangarajan

Emily Cuddy

Matt Mleczko

Lakeside Internet

- Kyle: Today we have visitors from Princeton OIT to speak about how to improve the internet issue at Lakeside
  - Donna Tatro
  - Marrisa Gonzalez
- Donna: We are aware that there is a computer cluster here at Lakeside on the Princeton OIT network, but overall the wifi is not a part of the university network I'd like to hear your thoughts on how the current wifi situation at Lakeside is.
- Resident: We had several outages in last year, some lasted more than a day.
- Kyle: This happens from time to time. It is not only dissatisfaction, which may be the most acute. Most of the time the issue is with the ISP wires on telephone poles - when someone runs their car to relevant poles, even in good weather, the internet is broken for two days. This happens a few times per year.
- Nancy: Another issue is having to VPN to the university wifi in order to access to academic journals
- Diana: Another issue is security - eduroam is safe, while Lakeside wifi is pretty much a public network with no security to users.
- Resident: Since we are all connected to the same wifi, sometimes someone will try to connect the wifi to their TV and connects to my TV instead.
- Resident: I run code that takes a long time to process, but VPN will sometimes time out and break the run process. So there are also limitations of logging into VPN in addition to inconvenience

- Donna: The university currently has wifi5. In about a year, we will have wifi6, the next generation wifi which will have significant improvements in performance, so hopefully that will help.
- Resident: There was a period that my aniti-virus software said there was a virus attacking lakeside wifi. I contacted OIT but they said it wasn't their problem since Lakeside isn't on eduroam, so I notified Mark. Also, in my unit, my laptop can connect to wifi fine, but my cellphone has issues and times out sometimes, particularly when I am streaming videos.
- Resident: I have to turn wifi on and off a lot because it has trouble connecting, and that drains my battery.
- Resident: I've not had this wifi connectivity problem at my house, maybe it is regional, only at certain houses.
- Kyle: It seems the top 2 issues are (1) outages and (2) having to VPN. How do you think we can address these issues?
- Donna: The good news is, there is a closet that has a university owned switch (because there is a cluster here). One of the things we can look to do is find that closet and maybe get eduroam in this common space and in that cluster room, which is not the full answer but it at least gets us some eduroam access here.
- Kyle: That would be a significant step because we have residents who have said that, when there is an outage, if there could be an oasis where we can still access wifi.
- Donna: we can work with Mark to see if we can put some access points here.
- Kyle: Any ideas for long term solutions?
- Donna: We're in the process of a major wifi upgrade on campus, and we are trying to get funding to do Lakeside as well. It would be a major undertaking as well because on campus we already have switches and we only have to replace some things, but at Lakeside we would have to extend the network in to these buildings. We have the schedule in place for the campus upgrade for Summer 2020, so that would be when we would come to Lakeside also if we can identify the funding.
    - [UPDATE 10/21/2019]: Installation to bring eduroam to the Commons and computer cluster room will take place on Tuesday, October 29.
- Diana: Is there anything we can do about the safety concern in the meantime?
- Donna: We can get in touch with the Hotwire folks and ask if there is anything we can do.

Notes from Transportation Advisory Council
- Will: It is prohibitively hard for grad students to get to campus without these buses, so we are looking into making it more efficient. Here's some statistics about the bus usage:
    - Lawrence/Lakeside bus: 30 riders per hour, $4 per rider (by far the most used)
    - Shopper (28 riders per hour)
    - Weekender (12 riders per hour)
    - Other routes are much more infrequent, the university is trying to optimize this.
- Will: The University is also aware of the biking concerns on campus
- Will: Our next meeting will be Nov 15, 9-11 am

Safety walk
- Will: There will be another safety walk on the evening of Nov 5. This is a walk throughout campus to identify residential concerns, from environmental health to safety. If residents are interested in joining or have specific locations that they want the walk to go through, please contact Mike Hebditch (mhebditc@princeton.edu)
- Mike: This walk will be around 1.7 miles, although it could change if other people have other spots they want to stop by.
- Will: Regarding the traffic circle on Faculty Rd, they are requesting another traffic study be done from another consultant

Hardship guidelines (set by Graduate Housing Advisory Board)
- Will: These are guidelines for evaluations of applications from people who experience hardship. The hope is to put in concrete terms what people are looking for when evaluating these applications so that we don't have inconsistencies from year to year, since there is a lot of turnover on the advisory board.

Housing/Room draw changes
- Mike: We're working on improving the room draw communication plan:
    - streamlining the retention form
    - clarifying emails

- - making dates more clear
    - increase number of info sessions
- Mike: Updates to early vacating - we now have a formalized policy for open rooms so that new residents can be placed. If anyone in your apartment submits an intent to vacate form, we emails everyone else in unit. We notify the roomates that someone in unit has put in form, and you and your roommates have 7 days to find a new roommate. If we don't hear from you in 7 days, we will place someone in your apartment. We take into consideration gender preferences.
- Zoe: When an apartment is already mixed gender, do you also ask about gender preferences?
- Mike: I'm not sure, but I can raise that point to do that if it is not done already
- Housing new instagram account: @Princeton_studenthousing
- Mike: We will have a graduate housing retreat on Nov 15, 9am-1pm to discuss the housing survey collected from May 22-July 12

Composting/Recycling

- Will: Updates regarding residential composting, communications about contamination, hopefully the program will be up at Lawrence soon.
- Diana: We got an email from Mark - when people take composting down, they are leaving trails of juices in elevator and hallways. Other residents have been cleaning it up. We wanted to let people know that this is not ok, please be mindful of other residents. Otherwise, composting program has been successful so far.
- Diana: The U-Store will begin stocking bags for recycling next week on Monday (13 gallon blue transparent ones).
- The policy for recycling is that you can purchase bags or use no bags

Election Results

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Vice Chair: Zoe Volenec

Secretary: Shuwen Yue

Treasurer: Emily Cuddy

Social Chair: Peter Czajka

Webmaster: Matheus V. X. Ferreira

Garden Coordinator: Jessica Wilson

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