Lakeside Town Hall Meeting, February 3, 2022

Time of the meeting: 4:30 pm, zoom

Notes were taken by: Sara Sussman

Present at the meeting:

Committee members:
Julia Marino
Sara Sussman
Alina Thokkadam
Justin Sheen
Amy Chan
Shaowei Zhu
Pooja Ramamurthi
Courtney DelPo

University:
Michelle Ruggia

ACC (American Campus Communities):
Gloria Yuen

Residents:
**Agenda**

**Responses to Google Form Survey**

1. A resident requested to have a rowing machine in the Lakeside gym.
2. A resident brought up that a light switch in their living room doesn’t seem to do anything.
3. A resident brought up that they saw an unleashed dog on Lakeside property.
4. A resident requested more mulch on the playground.

Gloria responded to each point in turn:

1. She says that residents have requested this in the past, the issue is lack of space in the Lakeside gym. Something else would have to be removed from the gym in order for a rowing machine to fit. The only machine that there are multiple of in the gym is the treadmill, and Gloria has observed that the treadmills are often in demand during COVID especially, so she is reluctant to remove any one of them.
2. She says that light switches should control the corresponding outlet so that in this case the switch must not be connected properly and that the resident should place a work order.
3. She says that if residents observe an unleashed dog they should email her and Alexis Bonilla (the Lakeside management) describing the incident and also identifying features of the dog owner. This is because Princeton township rules regulate that there should be no unleashed dogs at Lakeside and any resident who has an unleashed dog on Lakeside property could be fined.
4. She says that this Spring mulch on the playground will be redone, as soon as the snow clears up.

It was then brought up by Amy that the Lakeside gym closes at midnight but oftentimes residents might want to use the gym after midnight. This rule was originally instituted for safety reasons but Gloria says she will look into revising it, considering that there is minimal supervision at any nighttime hour anyhow so the gym closing at midnight is a little arbitrary.

**Social Events (February 2022)**

Justin says:

1. The first social event of the year is this coming Wednesday! Residents all received an email invitation:

   Dear Lakeside residents,

   We'll be hosting a board game night on February 9 at 7:30 PM! :)

   We'll have Catan, Jackbox Quiplash, Exploding Kittens, and Fishbowl. We'll also have homemade brownies to take home in goodie bags at the end as well. We'll be hosting this event in Lakeside Commons B, which is the section of the indoor lounge area closest to the patio. If interested in coming, please fill out the following form so we can get a head count! [Link]
2. There will also be an in-person movie night on 2/23, and Justin will find out on 2/15 if there can be food at the event (due to changing COVID regulations).
3. Later this Spring we will host Graduate Student Appreciation Week lunch as well as Wine and Cheese.

After these points are made there is a discussion between the committee members and Gloria about how to organize and register events.

**Book Club**

The Lakeside Book Club on 1/31/22 was postponed due to uncertainty related to the Omicron surge of COVID. Alina Thokkadam (Vice Chair, Lakeside) has very kindly agreed to organize future dates of the book club, which will hopefully be able to meet in person in not too long! Please stay tuned for more updates on the Lakeside book club.

**Room Draw Update**

Michelle Ruggia from Housing gives an update on the upcoming Room Draw:

1. Michelle says that she is working to remove the extra electronic wire transfer fee for residents who pay their security deposit via electronic check (as became the rule during COVID).
2. Michelle encourages residents to look at the Room Draw website and read over the forms and instructions and see if they are clear enough, and also to give feedback to her if they aren't clear.
3. Amy asks whether the planned Princeton grad student stipend increase will also cause housing to correspondingly increase their rent by the same amount. Michelle hasn't heard that there is anything more than the typical yearly increase in rent, but she will check to confirm this.
4. There are virtual info sessions for housing upcoming, Michelle encourages residents to attend them.

Then there is a discussion of how priority housing for committee members works.

**Garden**

Pooja does not have any updates about the garden.

**Open Forum**

1. Pooja brings up that her smoke alarm was ringing for 2 days continuously before Lakeside management could come replace the battery and that this long delay was unpleasant and disturbed her work and sleep. Gloria responds that in the future they will ensure better communication when a resident requests smoke alarm battery replacement and that it shouldn't take longer than 24 hours for Lakeside management to replace these batteries for residents. Gloria also says that Lakeside management prefers to not have
residents replace smoke alarm batteries themselves because it is potentially dangerous and technically challenging.

2. Shaowei brings up that residents might want to be able to pick up COVID test kits at Lakeside. Gloria and Michelle responded that they will look into it.