

## **Lakeside Town Hall Meeting – June 26, 2023**

**Time and location:** 4 p.m. EST, on Zoom

**Notes taken by:** Isabelle Chen

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### **Attendance:**

- **Committee members:**
    - Alina Thokkadam
    - Sara Sussman
    - Isabelle Chen
    - Allison Tang
    - Sophia Yoo
    - Justin Sheen
    - Shaowei Zhu
  
  - **University:**
    - Lisa DePaul
  
  - **ACC (American Campus Committees)**
    - Gloria Yuen
  
  - **Residents:**
    - N/A
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### **Agenda**

#### **Lakeside Book Club**

- Next book club meeting coming up on 6/28.
- One more summer meeting, likely in August, but we haven't yet started planning it.
- Alina has clarified the funding situation with Ellen Kellich, and Amy (Treasurer) cleared it, so the book club is good to go financially.

#### **Lakeside Garden update**

- Garden dues are into our account; Allison has purchased electrical tape to fix the leaky/cracked hoses. We do have the funding to purchase new ones if necessary, but it would be ideal to not have to do this every year.
- Looking forward to planning and hosting a garden event later in the summer; more info to come.

- Some people are still on the waitlist for the garden, and there are more residents moving in who would like to join. Allison will try to accommodate them, especially as other members might be moving out.
- Received the money from the GSG events board for the pizza party, and Justin was fully reimbursed for food, drinks, and tip.

### **Social events**

- Pizza party (co-hosted with the garden) went very well! Lots of residents in attendance, many families. All thirty pizzas got eaten!

### **External relations**

- Thanks to everyone for helping with the Greening Move-Out. It was a big success.
- By Friday afternoon, the items were picked up, but because the tents are still up, people continue to drop off items.
  - Sophia will connect with Alana to see who is in charge of taking down the tents, and when this can happen. We may also take down the tents ourselves, just so that people don't continue to leave items.
  - As for the new items, we will likely put them in the dumpster in the next day or two, especially because they've gotten wet.
- The pilot of the program went very well; in following years, we'll just make sure the tents get taken down at the cut-off time.
- With regard to furniture going missing/being stolen: Isabelle recently sent an email to residents advising them to not take furniture that might be someone else's, or might be in the process of being moved. Gloria recommends that if people are leaving items that they plan to come back to, they should leave a note and make it clear that these are not free for the taking.

### **Resident feedback from the anonymous form**

- Some residents would prefer not to have a pickleball court painted on the basketball court.
  - Given that we've received quite a bit of pushback about this idea, we will not be moving forward with painting court lines. However, we still hope to purchase equipment for pickleball and other outdoor sports, so that residents can still play.
- A resident was wondering if landscaping could cut down the taller grasses in between the buildings, to keep away pests.
  - Gloria says that certain areas are supposed to be left "natural," and so the taller grasses are purposeful; in other areas, though, she's making sure that landscaping is pruning back significantly.
- A resident was complaining about the increase in meal plan costs.
  - This is a question that is best directed to the housing office, as it is not within the domain of Lakeside or ACC.

- Residents are dissatisfied with the new electronic payment system, as it charges a high fee for using credit and debit cards.
  - Gloria says that unfortunately, these fees are just part of the third-party system we use, and are unavoidable. Residents of course still have the option to do bank transfers and submit checks to the Lakeside office.
  
- There are rumors circulating that grad students might be able to renew their housing through G4, as opposed to cutting it off after G3.
  - Lisa: there will be an official announcement about this (as well as about the new Meadows housing complex) by the end of the summer or in September. A working group on the housing and room draw system has been working on it and presenting it for approval.
  
- A resident said that their apartment was not clean when they moved in, and are dissatisfied.
  - Gloria: this depends on their situation. If they are moving into a one-bedroom, or are the first person moving into a multi-room unit, then the space should certainly be clean; if it isn't, please come to the Lakeside office. However, if they're moving into a bedroom in a multi-room apartment/townhouse that is already occupied, the cleaning staff is not allowed to clean common spaces such as living rooms, kitchens, bathrooms, etc., because they are occupied.
  
- Follow-up question: there was a situation in which a roommate moved out, but didn't take all of their belongings.
  - Gloria: After they've moved out, Lakeside will get rid of the things, but only in the room assigned to them. However, if the roommate leaves items in the common spaces, Lakeside can't do anything about that. In this case, the roommates have to deal with it.
  
- One resident asks: many Lawrence residents do not pay for electricity; why are Lakeside residents required to?
  - It's Gloria's understanding that some Lawrence residents *are* required to pay. Lisa confirms that some have to make their own accounts with PSE&G, and then for others, that fee is rolled into their rent. At Lakeside, we bill directly individually, and part of the reasoning behind this is that it reduces the cost of move-in deposits.
  
- A resident suggests that one way we could reduce package misdelivery is to label the door to each mailroom with the address of that building.
  - Gloria: The buildings are labeled. USPS has a map of all the buildings and all the mailboxes. Amazon has similar information. There are also the little black signs that designate each building.
  - The committee says: We do have these measures in place, but something super apparent might be helpful, especially for individual delivery people like for food

and groceries. As a temporary measure, we could even just print out papers with the names of the buildings and tape them to the glass walls.

- Gloria says she will look into it, as part of our continued discussion about trying to avoid misdeliveries.
- Shaowei: what would be the correct measures for someone who has had USPS mail misdelivered in someone else's box? If we have a recommended solution, he will put it on the website.
  - Gloria: contact USPS at the Carnegie Center, because once it's in the boxes, Lakeside is not permitted to touch people's mail. Residents can also ask the mailperson, if they catch them in the building, to check for it in other boxes/buildings.
  - If you do find mail that's not yours in your box, it's recommended to mark "return to sender" and put it with the outgoing mail.
- A question about the delinquency email: a resident tried to contact Lakeside management about it but was ignored.
  - Gloria is pretty certain that she and Anne have answered everyone, but she apologizes if this is not the case. If not, please email her and Anne; that's the only suggestion she can give, if she doesn't know who the resident is. She'll go through the system to see if they missed anyone.
- Regarding the Greening Move Out: there were many people who were clearly not students who were walking around and picking things up from the tents, and even from mailrooms. This could be a reason that people's furniture went missing. Could the publicity around the Greening Move Out have attracted a lot of the Princeton public?
  - We will pass this along to Sophia and Alana, who can perhaps address this in their publicity next time around.
  - Gloria: we should make it clear that this is for Princeton students only. She also reminds residents to not open the door for people you don't know.
- Question from Isabelle: what next steps can we take to get that outdoor sports equipment available?
  - Gloria is looking into the possibilities for its storage. She would prefer not to keep it inside the Commons, so is looking into a weather-proof storage area to keep near the basketball courts.
  - But it would be beneficial to keep it inside, for security purposes. Could we keep it in the gym area? Gloria is still wary, because kids who live in Lakeside can still swipe in and play with the equipment inside, which we wouldn't want.
  - What if we had a box with a kid-proof combination lock? –Gloria says that we can look into it.
  - To conclude, Gloria asks the committee to find specific ideas for storage strategies, come to her, and we can discuss further. Isabelle & committee will come up with a suggested plan and send it to Gloria.

**Open forum**

- N/A, no residents present