Lakeside Town Hall Meeting – January 29, 2024

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

Notes taken by: Isabelle Chen

Attendance:

- Committee members:
  - Allison Tang
  - Isabelle Chen
  - Arseniy Andreyev
  - Sneha Srinivasan
  - Ishita Chaturvedi
  - Sophia Yoo
  - Christian Kragh Jespersen

- University:
  - Amber Serrano
  - Michelle Ruggia

- ACC (American Campus Committees)
  - Gloria Yuen
  - Loydes Nieves

- Residents:
  - Christopher Catalano
  - Ouriel Ndalamba

Agenda

Book Club update
- Book club is back! We'll next be reading *The Devotion of Suspect X*; 9 people have signed up so far. Meeting is scheduled for February 27.

Social events
- Sneha recently met with Anne regarding the Resident Appreciation Event. First task is to establish a date—likely to be around April 6th. It will be at lunchtime, with catering likely from Mamoun’s (to be confirmed later in the semester).
- Sneha will talk to Justin about budget logistics.
- Dates for Grad Appreciation Week more generally: April 1-7.
Garden update
- Nothing growing, as it’s winter! But Christian is looking into learning how to grow specific plants/crops in New Jersey, so as to provide info to future gardeners.
- Given that room draw this year is earlier, we will likely do garden applications earlier this year. **Room draw results should start coming out this Wednesday 1/31**, so February will be a good time to do garden apps.
- Christian has been working on getting rid of the pile of dirt/mulch in the Taylor Court cul-de-sac, but hasn’t yet had any replies. Gloria says that next year, we should maybe reduce the amount of mulch that we request from facilities, so there’s not as much left over. We could also simply designate an area near the shed to put extra mulch so it’s not in the way, and so it can be used from season to season.

External relations
- Sophia has primarily been looking into safety in the parking garage lately. The main update is that Gloria is working with TPS to install corner mirrors inside the garage. There are also some logistics still being worked out regarding signs for the roads around Lakeside.
- Gloria: the temporary parking spots have all been marked with 30-minute limit signs. The cul-de-sacs have been marked with notices to park parallel to the curb, not perpendicular. We are looking into the best way to post the speed sign for the roads.
- We did receive guidance from TPS regarding what kinds of mirrors are allowed to be installed in the garage. Once the equipment and the project are reviewed and approved, we'll get started on the installation. There will also be extensive work on the garage floors—residents can expect an email about this soon (garage will not be completely closed for these repairs, but residents may be required to move their cars within the garage).

Resident feedback from the anonymous form
- One resident asks about the Lakeside CSA we used to have—we partnered with a farm to deliver weekly produce.
  - Sadly, that farm went out of business! If there is enough resident interest, we could think about bringing it back through a different farm—this would be under the purview of the garden coordinator, Christian. When the program was in place, though, we had problems with residents not picking up their produce and having it go to waste. So if we were to reinstate it, we would have to ensure that this wouldn’t happen.
- There’s a group of students that congregate on the weekends to play games in the study rooms, even though the lounge is the designated social space. Can we do anything about this?
  - This came up in the last town hall as well; we can send reminders in the next newsletter that will go out later this week, and we will also update the signs in the rooms with a reminder to be courteous to others by keeping noise levels down. Studying/working should take priority, but if the rooms aren’t in use, it’s perfectly
fine to socialize in there, provided that the time limit is respected and that the space remains relatively quiet.

- There is a light on the path from Taylor Court toward the new dorms area that is broken.
  - We have also noticed that this is a weird light that seems to work at times, and not work at other times. This will have to be reported to Facilities directly, as it's not on the Lakeside property. Allison actually reported this in November, and Amber will follow up now with Facilities.

- The safety zone near Lemonick Court: students who use it for accessibility reasons have had issues with delivery drivers/maintenance trucks blocking it, or even with people parking there.
  - Gloria: That zone is meant for emergency vehicles and maintenance. Delivery people can temporarily leave their vehicles there as they’re dropping off items, but no one should be parking there.
  - There isn’t currently any signage about what this spot is meant for—could we stamp a “No parking” component onto the “351 Lemonick Court” sign that’s already there? Yes, Gloria says she will take care of it.

Open forum
- None today

Next town hall TBD: we are still working on determining our schedule for this semester, so please keep an eye out for an email soon with the date of the next meeting. Thank you!