

## **Lakeside Town Hall Meeting – February 29, 2024**

**Time and location:** 3 p.m. EST, on Zoom

**Notes taken by:** Isabelle Chen

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### **Attendance:**

- **Committee members:**
    - Allison Tang
    - Isabelle Chen
    - Sneha Srinivasan
    - Justin Sheen
    - Arseniy Andreyev
    - Christian Kragh Jespersen
  
  - **University:**
    - Amber Serrano
    - Michelle Ruggia
  
  - **ACC (American Campus Committees)**
    - Gloria Yuen
    - Lo Nieves
  
  - **Residents:**
    - Shashwat Kumar
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### **Agenda**

#### **Book Club update**

- Last book club: 7 residents in attendance, and they should be getting their reimbursements soon for the cost of the book.
- Allison and Justin will send out a form for suggestions for the next book to read, and the next session will be hosted sometime in April.

#### **Social events**

- Sneha is planning the Student Appreciation Week luncheon; we got financial support from the Grad School, and she is waiting to hear back from GSG. Once we hear back from them, we can call Mamoun's to start our food order.
- Expected date and time of the event: April 6, 12 - 2 p.m.
- Food will be set up indoors, but residents can sit inside or outside as they wish.

## **Garden update**

- Tonight, 6 p.m., Lakeside Commons: Potting event! Residents will be able to start their own plants. Christian will also host a seed-starting event around mid-March or early April.
- Fun fact: potting is slightly different from seed-starting. Potting refers mostly to starting indoor plants, and seed-starting is for plants intended to be transferred to the outdoor garden eventually.

## **External relations**

- N/A today

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

- There hasn't been a recent Lakeside social event recently.
  - We actually host them every month, and we have several upcoming. Community Associates often organize them, as do the Lakeside Committee and Gloria & Anne. Keep an eye out for the Lakeside newsletter and the GSG newsletter, where we announce these on a regular basis!
- A resident said that Lakeside doesn't allow the thermostat to go below 70 degrees, which is very warm and also expensive for a Masters student.
  - Lakeside doesn't control the thermostats in individual units, and residents can certainly turn them down below 70. (Though they shouldn't go lower than 65 during the peak winter season, to prevent pipes from freezing and breaking.) In terms of cutting electricity costs, it's best to keep the thermostat stable over a long period of time (i.e., not turn it on and off a lot, or turn it very high or very low, because this fluctuation and starting-and-stopping takes more energy).
- Can residents have cats on floors other than the ground floor?
  - Criteria for pet-friendly units: pet-friendly apartments have a front door and backdoor; for townhouses, all residents must be in agreement. These units are all unfurnished.
  - Emotional Support Animals are allowed in most units—if students are thinking about registering for an ESA, they should go through the Office of Disability Services.
  - Lakeside and Meadows have limited pet-friendly accommodations; Lawrence, however, was able to expand its pet-friendly housing recently.
- Can we change the format of the electric bills from images to text or PDF?
  - We cannot change the format currently, but we're in the process of trying to update the system.
- Trash and recycling are massively overfilled on the weekends; is there a way to add another pickup date to remedy this?

- We can speak to Facilities about this, as they handle all of the trash pickup. They typically come every other Saturday, but we can speak to them to try and arrange an additional pickup.
- When will the garden application be live?
  - Within the next two weeks.
- We need more study spaces in Lakeside, as the currently designated areas are not enough.
  - Little-known information: On the fourth floors of the apartment buildings, there are actually some cubicle-like designated study areas that are under-utilized. People can feel free to go here and work, if the rooms in the Commons are occupied.
- Timeline for the garage construction project?
  - Gloria will have a better idea where we stand tomorrow. Much of it is done, but we're waiting for things to dry—this is what has caused the delay, as some of the materials need to be cured at a certain temperature, and the weather has fluctuated a lot lately.
  - We should be able to provide a more concrete update tomorrow. (3/1)

#### **Open forum**

- The mail delivery person for 151 Taylor Court has been asking that people not leave mail lying around, either in the “discard” pile or letting it pile up in their mailboxes.
  - Lakeside will put a sign up too, but Gloria would also just like to remind people that when mail is misdelivered to your box, please don't leave it out; instead, mark it with “Return to Sender” and put it back in the mailing slot.
- Update from last week about people parking in that long driveway outside 351 Lemonick: we have purchased a sign that reads, “No parking except for authorized vehicles,” and we will have it installed once it arrives.
- The door to the 151 Taylor mailroom has been broken again and is triggering the “Please close this door securely” alarm.
  - This has already been brought to Gloria's attention, so she's having someone come fix it.
- A resident says that over the summer, there is often a “sewer smell” in the building. It started even earlier this year. Could there be something caught in the sewer drainage?
  - Gloria will talk to Maintenance about this, because this is the first time she's heard about it. Is there a specific area/unit that it might be coming from?

**Next town hall : Thursday, March 28th at 3 p.m., on Zoom**