

Lakeside Committee Meeting – September 30, 2025

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

Notes taken by: Sophia Koval

Attendance:

- **Committee members:**
 - Emily Lobb
 - Sophia Koval
 - Momin Ghaffar
 - Christopher Branner-Augmon
 - Yiying Tan
 - **University:**
 - Michelle Ruggia (housing)
 - Shawn Copeland (grad school)
 - **ACC (American Campus Committees)**
 - Loydes Nieves
 - **Residents:**
 - Joelle-Marie Begin
 - Josephine Wang
 - Carla Crucianelli
 - Christina Shatford
 - Katherine Novack
 - Christopher Catalano
 - Elijah Gallimore-Repole
 - Jan Ertl
 - Kaleigh Remick
 - Ariana Croese
 - Qixuan Yu
 - Olivia May
 - Silvia Trinczek
 - Cece
 - Clement Herman
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Agenda

1. Gym refurbishment updates

- Tigerwell grant status?
 - It's with the TigerWell evaluation committee – Janice Huang, an administrator from TigerWell, told us on Sep 15 that the two proposals (one for gym, one for common space) will be reviewed in 4-6 week timeframe
- Where is the proposal currently? ACC and housing director? The graduate school? The risk management team? The general counsel.
 - Michelle: Proposal has been reviewed and we have secured gently used gym equipment to meet some of the needs/requests!
 - Thank you for finding this equipment for us!
 - Elliptical, treadmill, stationary bike, captain's chair, cable machine
 - Jan: Any timeline on when it can be moved?
 - Michelle: We are waiting on moving quotes. We will let you know if we need the TigerWell grant to cover some of those moving costs, but we no longer need funds to purchase the machines.
 - Sculpture removed
 - Pool table/ping pong table needs to be reassessed, not yet approved

2. Garden updates

- Christian absent
- A few plots have been reassigned because they were not taken care of by residents. Be sure that you are still taking care of your plot!

3. Book club updates

- Meeting next Tuesday at 7:30pm in Lakeside Commons to read Emily Dickinson, no pre-reading needed

4. Social events

- Narelle absent
- Wanted to check on budget before we move forward with planning one last event

5. External relations

- Room change period begins October 1st, look out for emails regarding that process
- Communications from housing and ACC are moving to the StarRez system
- Listserv and email issues
 - Currently the listserv isn't working so emails need to go through Shawn and Amber to be sent through the StarRez portal
 - The portal pulls an active roster that goes to Shawn and Amber, will be more accurate than the listservs were. There was always a big delay in updating the listserv. Send messages to Shawn/Amber with 24h notice
 - Sophia: We have concerns about not being able to communicate directly with residents. We also are concerned that our messages might not be sent if we are seeking/communicating information that is not in the best interest of the graduate school.
 - Michelle: In the past, graduate school vetted communication for resident committees. At most, grad school would not send out inaccurate information. Housing doesn't manage these listservs, so it wasn't part of the package when they were looking for. We are not in any way shape or form trying to censor any

communications being sent out. Meadows committee never had a listserv and they haven't had an issue.

- Shawn: Retweet all of that. If it's a busy season like with elections, I will be sure to look out for emails and will send them out ASAP. I will read over the email but really intend to copy, paste, and send.
- Yiying: This also adds a lot of additional administrative responsibilities for both the committee members and Shawn and Amber. We want to really push for a technical solution to this problem.
- Emily: Is there a way for the emails to look different when they're coming from the Lakeside Committee versus emails from ACC? It would be helpful for residents to distinguish.
- Lo: We want to distinguish this too. If it's sent from Amber/Shawn it will look different than when it's sent from ACC.

6. HVAC updates - neighborhood-wide overhaul

- Lo: In the summer, we proposed 2 new HVAC systems to facilities for their consideration. They're doing a deeper dive on those. They're considering the EPA guidance in changing the refrigeration.
- Timing
 - Lo: We would like to get one unit done in the fall as a test unit. It's going to take a lot of coordination and cooperation with the residents. Steps of process include dry wall removal, HVAC removal, HVAC installation, then drywall replacement and painting. Would like to get at least one done in the fall so they can figure out the cadence of the work and they can start scheduling more units.
- Sophia: Are residents expected to still live in their units during repairs?
 - Lo: Residents are expected to stay in place.
 - Sophia: Is the test case going to be in an occupied unit or an unoccupied unit?
 - Lo: Depends on occupancy. But ideally an occupied unit.
 - Sophia: So you can see how disruptive it is to residents. Just want to start that conversation now in case units are full of dust and residents cannot comfortably stay in their rooms during the construction.
- Lo: Priority is residents' comfort. Wanting reliable heating and cooling. Want to send out that communication and cooperation on both parts. It will depend on occupancy. Feels wasteful to change in an unoccupied unit
- Michelle: To get residents' experience would make more sense to do an occupied unit.

7. Other follow ups

- Purchasing a bike pump/ball pump
 - TPS have confirmed that the bike pump has been fixed! It is fancy and also has bike repair tools. Thank you to Michelle for pushing this.
- Lamp post in wooded area that flickers
 - Michelle: I have been following up and escalating this but just get back "we're working on it." In the past they've had issues finding replacements that work with existing systems. Last I heard it was with the electrical shop for review.
- Intercoms

- Lo: Sent out a call to collect resident information because we have started installation of new intercom systems. We have less than 100 responses so far, so we would love help spreading the word to your fellow residents. The phone numbers will be pre-loaded in when the system is installed. We would love 100% response but even 80% is good.
- Emily: Can you explain how to use the intercom?
- Lo: One roommate's number will be connected to the intercom. When someone buzzes in, the resident will get a call and be told to press a button to open the door.
- Did the ACC survey go out to students?
 - Yes it went out in the spring. A separate housing survey (will be sent out beginning of October) asks about move in, room draw, current community. Would love help getting more responses to **those surveys because these surveys really drive the policy discussions on the graduate housing committee.**

8. Committee election information

Elections committee: Emily Lobb (chair), Christian Kragh Jespersen, Kathryn Wantlin

- Nominations are now open, will be open until Oct 13, 5pm
- **There will be a communication in the next week or 2 about housing priority for people on the committees. The policy is changing.**

9. Open forum (for residents present on the call)

- The mirror at the entrance/exit of the parking garage is broken and turned - can we get this fixed?
 - Lo: It's both an ACC issue and a TPS issue. New mirror has been ordered and has to approved.
- Website says that students should book events in Lakeside spaces 3 weeks before the event. Can we reduce this to 1 week in advance? Also, can we eliminate the event form and just book through EMS?
 - Lo: Even if it's late they should still fill out the form and try to reserve. There are differences with the patio and commons compared to seminar rooms. Form is necessary so we know if DPS needs to be there, alcohol consumption, making sure details are thought through. Grad school recently put together a short cheat sheet so that residents can have a resource to reserve for an event.
 - Shawn: Event registration is for the graduate school. It's for making sure details are thought through.
 - Michelle: There are limitations on who can book those spaces as well.
- Jan: Can you tell us more clearly what other considerations we need to take into account for the gym/common space proposal? Who do we need to convince for these approvals?
 - Michelle: Nothing you all need to do, it's just still being reviewed. We are really pushing the gym which seemed like your top priority. We will tackle that then tackle the common space proposals.
 - Jan: Where is the proposal? Everyone involved in the proposal would be happy to field questions and concerns and stay involved in that process.
 - Michelle: It's out of the housing office, being looked at by risk management, ACC.

- Cece: Could we establish a reasonable period for notifying residents in advance that repairs will take place in their unit?
 - Lo: Yes we will give notice and typically do.
 - Cece: Since the HVAC work will be invasive, it would be great to get several weeks' advance notice. We often only get a few days' notice max.
 - Lo: Yes we would give a lot more notice for this process.
- Chris: We can anticipate HVAC issues this winter. Is Lakeside/ACC preparing for that by stockpiling parts? This would help expedite repairs that we anticipate will be needed.
 - Lo: Stockpiling parts is a practice but it's not an efficient practice because of the variety of units we have in the neighborhood. This summer we built a relationship with a third HVAC vendor that has made things better for everyone.
 - Chris: I wonder if you can use information from previous seasons to stock the most commonly needed parts.
- Kaleigh: What will Lakeside do to provide heat for residents whose HVAC is broken?
 - Lo: Will provide a space heater for the time that it's down.
 - Sophia: During our summer HVAC discussion, we agreed that while HVAC units are down, ACC must provide sufficient temporary heating or cooling units to keep the units comfortable and livable. Residents can request additional units if their units are not being kept at a livable temperature.

10. Anonymous feedback form

- Question about maintaining the vegetation by the lake
 - Lakeside doesn't manage the areas near the lake past the garden/playground
- A resident whose HVAC has been out since June. Has not been given a time frame, poor communication, and no accountability for not resolving the issue.
 - Michelle says to reach out to her. She is copied on most communication and thinks Ashley is doing great at communicating, so she's surprised to hear that.

Next town hall: Town hall and election meeting on October 28th, 2025