

2026-10-28 Lakeside Town Hall

Meeting Minutes

Date: Oct 28, 2026

Time: 4-5

Location: zoom

In Attendance

Committee members: Cece Ramsey, Sophia Koval, Christopher Branner-Augmon, Jan Ertl, Kiera Lowman, Daniel Jorge, Yuqi Zhang, Will Zhao

University: Shawn Copeland, Michelle Ruggia

ACC (American Campus Committees): Loydes Nieves, Ashley Sosa

General Updates

- Committee meetings
 - Will continue using paper meetings in between Town Halls; occasionally meeting with Housing staff via zoom a few times outside of Town Halls (Shawn Copeland will do the scheduling).
- Amazon locker updates
 - From Michelle Ruggia: to be installed late fall, early Spring is what we are aiming for.
- Room Draw approaching
 - From Michelle Ruggia: Keep an eye out for important room draw communications. First email went out already. Deadlines are important to pay attention to.
- Housing survey
 - From Michelle Ruggia: **Housing survey is live until November 10th**. If you have not done it, or started but didn't finish it yet please do so. The feedback is very important to Housing.
 - Check your email for the link. (search "Princeton Graduate Student Housing Annual Survey")
 - The survey is anonymous.
 - Previous changes thanks to the survey: increased pet housing, more options for housing preferences, etc.

Elections

- Welcome to our new committee members!

Social Events

- Pumpkin Painting 10/27 @4pm (Philip's last event as Social Chair)
- New Social Chair: Kiera
 - Kiera has drafted a survey for Lakeside residents to find out more about desired events (types of events, timing, where to advertise, etc.). To be sent later this week.
- For committee members: email Lo with ID numbers to get access to our storage closet.
- If the event involves alcohol, there's a special registration. (Kiera will get onboarding from the Grad School for all the new Social Chairs)

Budget

- We got our \$3,000 yearly allocation in September, we have spent around \$300 so far.
- Money usually goes to social events, plus a few items (e.g. sports equipment).

Garden Updates

- **Garden clean up Nov. 14th** afternoon if weather permits (rain date Nov 15th)
 - Trim oregano, thyme, and mint and remove other community garden herbs. Trim strawberries to avoid overgrowing and taking too much space.
 - Requested wood chips, soil and compost; facilities have responded that work request is being processed.
 - For garden members: notify Yuqi by Nov 14th if you want to plant winter crops or keep perennials.
- Community garden winter options
 - Mulch + wood chips/shredded leaves, or
 - Cover crops: Oats (die over winter but cover the soil and prevent weeds) or winter peas (pea shoots are edible and provide nitrogen)
- Funding
 - Requests can go through SAFE since the Garden is a separate student organization.

External Relations

- Will is getting onboarded and stepping into the role.
- Vending machines — Will is going to follow up on this possibility. The big question is about location.

HVAC Updates

- Stay tuned: HVAC replacements coming after Thanksgiving, timeline TBD.

Website

- Goals for the website this year
 - Daniel is interested in updating the website. It's hosted by Wordpress which presents some constraints, but Princeton should be able to host our websites and that might give us more options.
 - Short-term plan: revise the existing website with Word Press.

Follow-ups

- New trashcan near the playground!
- Stapler has been added to the computer room by the printer
- **For lost packages**
 - Reminder to report all missing/stolen packages to DPS!
 - Lo and Shawn talking with Print & Mail about improving the Frist mailing system to make it easier for residents to use that as a secure mailing option.

Anonymous Feedback Form

- Alarm ringing in Janitors closet on 4th floor of 600 Hibben Magie. Also has been an issue in 151, there has been an alarm going off.
 - Ashley will follow up on this.

Action Items

- **All committee members** send Lo your ID number for storage closet access.
lvazquez@americancampus.com
 - **Kiera** to send Social Event survey to Cece (to send to residents by end of week)
 - **Chris** to meet with Yuqi to discuss garden account; and with Kiera to budget events.
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Next Meeting

Stay tuned for details on our November Town Hall.