

**MIT AILG, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 24th, 2013 at 6:30PM**

Board Members in attendance: Eric Cigan, Steve Baker, Richard Larson, Rich Possemato, and Anya Kattf. Also attending: Tom Stohlman, Scott Klemm, Tom Holtey, John Covert, Bob Ferrara, Marlana Love, Herman Marshall, Akil Middleton, Henry Humphreys, Adam McCready, Stan Wulf, Sandra Kassin-Deardorff and Haldun Anil (IFC Rush Chair).

The meeting commenced at 6:15 pm with a round of introductions.

**I. Review Minutes of 8/29 Board and 9/11 Plenary Meeting – Rich.** The Board reviewed and made a motion, seconded, and passed (MSP) to adopt the August 29<sup>st</sup> Board meeting and September 11<sup>th</sup> Plenary minutes, as amended.

**II. Review of AILG Financials – Anya Kattf.** Anya presented the year to date P&L statement. MSP that the AILG pay for the assembly egress plans (\$200 per house) out of the AILG reserves. Anya has circulated the AILG tax return (Form 990) to the Board via e-mail. The Board will vote off-line in a week on accepting the AILG tax return.

**III. Review of RA Task Force Report – Henry, Adam, Marlana.** There was a presentation of the RA Task Force Report, which covered the history of the RA program from the alcohol related death of an MIT student in 1997 to date. Recently, the Supporting students committee, 2013 Student Quality of Life Survey, and 2012 FSILG Strategic Plan raised issues about the RA program, and the RA review task force was asked to address these issues. Adam reviewed the task force methodology, which included feedback from key stakeholders, including a survey of students indicating those issues about which students were comfortable speaking with the RA (from ~80% for academic issues to ~40% for LGBTQ issues).

Among the task force recommendations:

- MIT should assume responsibility to employ the RA through graduate assistanceships (open to include graduate students at nearby universities). This recommendation has been accepted by the Chancellor.
- The RA position description should be amended and the title changed to Graduate RA.
- Chapters should be provided with a subsidy that determines compensation on a square footage basis (minimum of 120 square feet, 300-400 sq. ft. typical for GRTs, room should be identified ahead of time and be permanent).
- RA appointment period should be from mid-August to early June.
- RAs should receive a stipend comparable to GRTs.
- The process about selecting the RA is unchanged.

The RA must be at least two years out from having graduated to serve in his/her own living group.

It is not yet clear what the arrangement or requirements for the RA program are over the summer.

MSP that the Board adopt the RA Task Force Report and its recommendations for presentation to the Plenary on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**IV. Update on Boston ISD / Meeting prep (Steve, Henry, Marlana, Tom)**

Dean Humphreys described the agenda for the Community Meeting tonight and his expectations. He said that arguing with the City was not going to be productive. The Institute will support the process organizationally and financially to resolve the City's concerns about the

FSILGs. MIT Facilities has also offered their services to help in concert with Dennis Collins to get FSILG facilities in compliance with code.

There was a discussion about the logistics of getting new Certificates of Inspection issued. Chapters that have improvements done can be reassessed at a later date (either later in this cycle or in a future year, but future assessments will come at additional cost to the chapter). Tom has completed 9 buildings and expects the other 18 to be complete by mid-December, although MIT/AILG will likely hire an additional architect to expedite the process.

Roof decks: Tom Stohlman wrote up a roof deck primer which he has circulated. This primer describes how chapters can get in compliance with code. The City is currently looking for all chapters' roof deck permits. Roof decks must be for residential use and not for assembly purposes.

Sleeping lofts: Built in furniture has to be detached, meant for sleeping, safe (i.e. have railings and not block egress ways), and not interfere with safety systems. Old lofts with sprinklers above and below will be grandfathered in.

Family weekend: Chapters need to comply with the City. If a chapter is planning an event this weekend, there are ways to have parents visit that do not violate the City's code.

Cambridge and Brookline chapters will need to meet these assembly, roof deck, and loft requirements as well.

Steve emphasized that no single event or incident at MIT precipitated these changes to City code.

**V. DSL Visiting Committee briefing (Henry, Bob).** This November 5-6, the Division of Student Life will host its Visiting Committee. The DSL Visiting Committee is an entity of the MIT Corporation, whose membership is recruited from Corporation members and distinguished alumni and top student affairs professionals from many academic institutions. Most major MIT departments have Visiting Committees, of which there are 31 in all. For this biannual visit, the DSL Visiting Committee will focus on 4 specific issues: student stress, risky behaviors, the first year experience, and FSILGs. The Visiting Committee wants to figure out how to strengthen and support the FSILG community. The FSILG session will start on Wednesday morning, and be preceded by a breakfast with all the Panhel, IFC, and LGC exec members.

## **VI. Announcements**

FCI Annual Meeting - November 7<sup>th</sup>

Next Plenary meeting – November 12<sup>th</sup> in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the MIT student center.

Next Board meeting - December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in W59

The Board went into executive session to review the Accreditation Reports of Fenway House and Sigma Nu. The Board accepted the Sigma Nu report as written and tabled the Fenway House report for consideration at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.