Meeting Minutes 09/29/2016 at New House

“/” Indicates comments heard quickly in response to another comment, usually too fast to see who said it

“(name)” Indicates the speaker of a subcomment (aka not the presenter)

Meeting started ~7:35

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<th>Dorm</th>
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<th>CAC Nomination</th>
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- Meeting Started 7:45
- New House Survey Results (ft. special guests VPSL Suzy Nelson and Jag Patel)
  - These are still interim results
  - Will go into “just the high strokes”
  - New House will have to close at the end of the 2016-2017 school year
    - Much due diligence is being done such as ADA compliance and mitigation plans
  - New House has nine individual living groups, mostly cook-for-yourself communities
  - MIT administration understands the importance of keeping the houses as together as possible.
  - Many input streams are converging in this problem.
    - CME ending
    - 9th Term Housing Policies
    - Financial models
    - Fall Survey of New House residents
- Tang vacancies
  - Tang has a history of vacancies
  - Tang could work for the smaller communities of New House
- FSILG participation
  - Most New House residents want to move with their houses
  - About 23% of non-graduating students are in FSILG’s
  - Of students who are not graduating, 30% are enrolled in a meal plan
  - Many residents participate in communal cooking groups
  - The idea here is to get those soul searching questions started in the residents.
  - Many New House students are not sure of their future housing plans
  - NH residents were asked where they would prefer to move if reassigned.
    - BC and Tang came out most popular
  - Word cloud from open responses
    - Kitchen, house, community, lounge, and space were very strong across the questions
- Open Questions about New House
  - Nonye: Is the replacement to New House going to be here in two years?
    - VPSL: The Architectural Principles group will have its final meeting tomorrow. It will create a guidebook for building residences in the future. Hopefully this will be the last time this will happen as we aim to add 700 beds to west campus to give us elbow room for renovations in the future. We are also looking at renewing spaces in between gut-renovations.
    - VPSL: Another committee will be formed to study the architecture, location, and cost of a new dorm. This committee will work with actual architects to determine these parameters. Then they will present this information to the Corporation so that the Corporation can make an informed decision.
  - Sarah: I think its really important that one of the upcoming dorms will be cook for yourself.
  - Allie: Will there be a point person for New House residents to contact about the transition?
VPSL: That will be Jen.

Kyle: Has there been any consideration to shifting existing communities around in their current spaces to create more space? Also has there been any consideration to alumni houses around campus?

Jag: We are considering all options, however freshman cannot be placed off campus, so that’s a constraint.

Jag: We won’t act as a go-between for landlords and students, but we are very willing to work with currently student affiliated housing.

New Houser: Would it be useful for New Housers to be on the architectural planning committee?

Jag: Yes there will probably be 2-3 out of 7 New Housers on the committee for the New House replacement.

You’re looking to add 700 beds, is that in one dorm?

VPSL: No, hopefully that would be in two dorms but we don’t have a funding plan for that yet.

Kate: A lot of NH’ers have expressed concerns about staying with their GRT’s…

Jag: Yes we will be trying to keep the GRT’s as close as possible to their students. It’s one of the reasons we like Tang a lot.

Will New Housers have security access to each of the temporary houses of New House?

VPSL: added it to the list of outstanding questions

Kyle: We’ve had questions for you, but do you have any questions or requests for us?

VPSL: Keep thinking about those earlier ideas of how we can best accommodate extra people in each space.

VPSL:

A question during the forum was “How can I sustain my community?”, and we’ve considered having extra culture spaces to help accommodate.

How will displaced New House members be treated administratively by the halls?

VPSL: How do the dorm presidents feel about this?

Sarah: Emptying out halls in host dorms didn’t work very well after Bexley closed, Allie had a good idea about this.

Allie: Basically host floors/entries would be joined with displaced communities.
*Somehow got to the NH CPW discussion*

Jag: If there was a proposal for this event

Collin: NH is arranged vertically, if we could potentially take advantage of this?

Kyle: The real concern is timing for all of this, eventually we will run out of time

*we conclude that having a more concrete timeline would be nice*

- Officer updates
  - Housing
    - Nonye: Had a meeting with the storage chairs from EC and Senior House about what did and didn’t go well
    - About In-term storage: Senior Haus is looking into using the space for something else during the year due to extreme clutter.
    - Also an extreme number of cardboard boxes were used.
    - Kyle: What about Piece-by-Piece?
      - Allie: We won’t be having a business partnership with Piece by Piece anymore.
    - Issac: Is there a chance that we can get a deal through admin on renter’s insurance.
    - Security meeting will be meeting tomorrow for the first time.

- Campus Activities Complex Advisory Board Nomination
  - CAC does things like W20, Walker, Kresge BBQ Pits
  - Someone proposed to make Pritchett Dining a coffee shop.
    - Lily: There once was a coffee shop there, but it lost money year in and year out so eventually it was removed.
  - Lily is the nominee; the nomination was approved unanimously.

- Meeting ended at 8:46 PM