Meeting Minutes 10.14.09

- Committee Members—present
  - Adam Bockelie (Chair)
  - Lyla Fisher
  - Krishna Esteva
  - Alex Jordan
  - Sivakami Sambasivam
  - Paul Baranay

- Updates
  - Budget Task Force Position Pieces
    - Proposal to decrease Financial Aid to match food spending: we were in support of this
    - Replace existing house dining membership fee with a $600 declining balance fee: we were not in support of this
  - Trial Run of Breakfast in Dorms
    - Special Projects Chair Vrajesh Modi wants to work with Dining on this
  - Dean Colombo wants to wait until the Task Force Report comes out to make Dining decisions
  - No word back from Rich Berlin
  - Request for help with a Food Truck permit
    - Contacted him, no response
    - We could help him obtain the permit, potentially
    - Litter issue caused permit to be revoked
    - Permit through the City of Cambridge
    - “Want to clarify the situation with Facilities”

- Committee Logistics
  - Meeting times: Thursday 9:30pm
  - Transparency:
    - Want committee to be open
    - Everyone should be able to find out what is going on if interested
    - Adam wants to post minutes on website
    - Ua-dining email list is public
      - Members and listeners
      - Private committee issues: ua-dining-members
  - Google Calendar: shared with list, also on UA website

- Goals: Prioritize goals for the year and the semester
  - Adam: Work with Admins to develop an implementable solution for large-scale changes to dining
  - Alex, Lyla: Read reports (BRC, DPC)
- Come to next meeting with comments to refine and further develop
- Create our own summary for voting online (similar to Task Force statements on UA website)
  - Adam: Appendix or follow-up on reports
    - New information (i.e. McCormick endowment, New dining hall in W1, Stata no longer serves dinner)
    - Things that can’t be implemented
  - Adam: Chinese restaurant in Pritchett
  - Adam: Expand vegan and vegetarian options
  - Adam: Have administrators and committee members eat in dining halls
  - Adam: Trial runs of breakfast in dorms
    - Where? Which dorms?
    - Who should pay for it? How should it be run?
    - Option: students pay for cost of food, dorm breaks even
    - Health code regulation issues?
    - Can students sell food out of dorm facilities (like desk)?
    - Student run—no outside workers
      - Desk workers
    - TechCash? Not comfortable having money over to desk workers in the pilot program
    - Take cost out through dorm tax
      - Not popular at Next
    - Declining balance system
    - Funding through Special Projects
  - Adam: expand hours, food offerings in dining halls
  - Adam: explore AYCE
    - Alex: bad idea
    - Lyla: we would need to close other dining halls, but we don’t see that happening
  - Adam: Publicity
    - Students need to know about programs before they are implemented
    - Needs to be more than just an email to a list

- DPC Discussion—Summaries from Paul Baranay and Adam Bockelie
  - Summer meeting with Dean Colombo
    - Three DPC members: Paul Baranay, Lyla Fischer, Cinjon Resnick
    - Colombo mentioned (1) nothing changing with dining this year and (2) he would be reaching out to Housemasters, Presidents, and Dining Chairs of dining hall dorms
    - Decided, as DPC, to contact above mentioned people to discuss changes going forward
Thought that the UA should do the same
- Reached out to Housemasters, Presidents, and Dining Chairs under the DPC umbrella; later meetings shifted towards Dining Committee umbrella
- Simmons, McCormick, Next, Baker meetings already happened
- Dean Colombo meeting in November (Paul, Daniel Hawkins)
- McCormick meeting
  - Paul, Hawkins, and Vinayak Ranade with Housemaster Kathy Hess and President Anila Sinha
  - McCormick’s private endowment funds all loses
  - Closing dining hall not possible because of said endowment
  - Clarification on this issue needed
- Simmons
  - Paul, Hawkins, and Alex with Housemasters Ellen and John Essigmann and Associate Housemaster Steven Hall
  - Originally conceived as independent dining hall (no Bon Appetit, etc.)
  - Plans for independent dining hall will be emailed from Housemasters to dining committee
  - Self-run dining program would need to come from students proposing plan
- Next
  - Adam with President Gloria Yang and Dining Chair Ron Perez
  - Reactions to the DPC and BRC reports
  - Not excited about breakfast
  - Want expanded dinner hours on Sun-Thurs
- Baker
  - Adam with President Britni Ihle
  - Discussed breakfast and DPC issues
  - Currently no dining chair for Baker
- Former DPC members met with DormCon
  - Paul, Adam, Hawkins, and Alex with President Aziz Albahar (Baker) and Co-Dining Chairs Geoffrey Thomas (Next) and Michael Berry (Burton-Conner)
  - Implement monthly meetings with DormCon and Dorm Dining Chairs
  - Cooperative/coordination meetings
  - TBA schedule

- TO DO
  - Food handlers permits for breakfast pilot program
    - Lyla and Krishna
  - Card Services: setting up TechCash for breakfast pilot program
    - Sivakami
  - Dorms interested in pilot program
- Lyla (email dorm presidents)