

DormCon
March 23, 2017
East Campus

Attendance

Baker: yes
Burton Conner: yes
East Campus: yes
MacGregor: yes
Maseeh: yes
McCormick: yes
New House: yes
Next House: yes
Random: proxy - Isaac Grosf
Senior House: yes
Simmons: yes

Agenda

Interim DormCon Advisor
Funding Proposals
 DTYD
 Piano Drop
 Steer Roast
Officer Updates
 CPW/REX Chairs
 REX/Rush
 Community Attitudes on Sexual Assault Survey
New Dorm Design Priorities

Interim DormCon Advisor

Becky is stepping out for a month so Jordan is our advisor for the meanwhile

Funding Proposals

DTYD

Sara: Looking for funding for the B3 Party

Food, dance party, live music

Asking for DormCon funding for food, some equipment, and lights

Same amount as last year (\$2000)

Isaac: Does the funding actually add up? It looks like with LEF and BC funding, it's already covered

Sara: Reason is because BC funds go towards BC stuff which isn't listed here

Allie: It looks like LEF and DormCon are hosting most of DTYD

Piano Drop

MacKenzie: Annual event, adding alumni aspect (inviting Baker alums)

Asking for \$2900

Steer Roast

Organizer: Annual event, weekend long music event

Advertising to all of campus

Get money from LEF and Senior House

Asking for \$7464.45

Kate: We have \$10,500 to allocate this semester (and we usually fund the Spring Picnic as well) and these three events add up to \$12,300

Emma: How does this compare to last year?

Kate: Same for DTYD, Piano Drop got \$1700, Steer Roast got \$5000 at first, \$2500 later

Emily: I feel like there's not really a good way to pull people from other sides of campus. How will you address this?

Steer Roast: We advertise in all dorms and our courtyard is open

DTYD: We try to advertise everywhere

Piano Drop: Lots of people hear about the event

Emily: I feel like people think they need to know someone at the dorm. It would help if dorm presidents advertised to their dorm

Cynthia: Maybe have the social chairs send it out instead, not the president

Allie: DTYD, it bothers me that BC isn't funding this event specifically

Sara: Specific things aren't listed here that didn't impact what we were asking from DC, we're renting a car to get stuff to campus

Steer Roast: The only things listed on our budget are the things available to everyone

McKenzie: We can cut \$500 from Piano Drop

Steer Roast: We can easily cut wrist bands, maybe more

Piper: There are things on people's budget that they might not know are already available to them. DTYD, what is "lights"?

Sara: We usually rent from E33, but we're trying to buy our own now

Emma: I thought the lights came out of BC's budget

Sara: We can cut it out of the DC budget, it might be relic from last year

EC Resident: Have you considered a UHaul instead of ZipCar?

Sara: We can cut car rental and gas. You might want to cut from other events

Allie: For Steer Roast, do you charge for food and is this accounted for? Also, why does MITPD cost \$5000?

Organizer: We don't know about the police costs. We can cut wristbands (\$500). In order to serve this many people, we have to use Walker.

Organizer: We can cut \$1500 from the art costs

Cynthia: What is grounds overtime for Piano Drop?

McKenzie: Cleanup cost, taken from last year's budget. State Police detail is for when we close part of Mem Drive.

Kate: If we cut \$700 from DTYD, \$500 from Piano drop, and \$2000 from Steer Roast, then we have \$9200. Leaves us \$1300 in our budget.

Laura: BC, Next, and McC are going to ask for \$1800 for the Spring Carnival. We will find a way to get more money from the dorms if we only get \$1300. Total budget is around \$4000. Mostly funded by LEF and DormCon.

Laura: As long as BC and Next are okay with funding the event (about \$200 each), we can make it happen

Cynthia: I want to make sure I can justify why it's costing us to Nexties

Cynthia: Do we want to support more expensive events or do we want to support as many people as possible? Do we have numbers on how many people will go to these events?

Isaac: Information is in the budgets.

Jacqui: Organizers, are your events still going to be okay with this amount of funding?

DTYD: Yes.

Steer Roast: Yes.

Piano Drop: Yes.

Let's vote!

DTYD: \$1300

Steer Roast: \$5500

Piano Drop: \$2400

All unanimous (11-0)

Officer Updates

CPW/REX Chairs

Admissions never sent out CPW hosting info to all undergrads - please send the information to your residents!

"Where Will I Live?" panel - are you interested in presenting?

Yuge and Sabrina?

CPW App is live! Hype!

Cynthia: Does our REX chair list need to be updated? If so, why?

Stella: We're trying to get more early returns so it'd be good to have a contact who can make accountability plans

Cynthia: I'll direct you towards our VP-Relations

REX/Rush

Isaac: I talked over our feedback with the other parties. We won't have a contract about enforcement because other groups don't want it. Something which could happen is a "things you need to know" booklet about Rush/REX so we all know how to talk to each other/who to contact about things. Once it exists, we'll ask presidents to distribute it to their REX chairs and so they can know how to schedule things. There are no policies changing.

McKenzie: Is that going to everyone?

Isaac: We can send it to everyone, it doesn't hurt.

Isaac: If there are things you always wished you know about fraternities, I can answer!
Community Attitudes on Sexual Assault Survey

Kate: CASA is supposed to run after spring break. How do we increase participation?

Yo: Give people an emotional attachment to it

Cynthia: Condoms with the QR code

Isaac: Give more information about how the survey data is used

Sarah: Make people more invested in what they put

President's Announcement

Kate: Please send House Team Feedback form to your GRTs! I will include a fake deadline when I send a bump.

Cynthia: Include a short blurb on what you're actually looking for so they don't spend time bias checking.

New Dorm Design Priorities

Kate: Committee met on Monday and won't be meeting again until May 1 at which point the design architect will presumably have a design. Up until this point, it seemed like we were going to get everything we want, but that doesn't look true anymore.

No longer using "swing dorm" but instead "flexible space" because there are no guarantees that people will be swung out. More beds makes it look cheaper. Dorm will have a dining hall. We requested 1 kitchen per 50 people in the pre-design, but it appears they want to cut down the number of kitchens.

Kate: Admin concerns about kitchens is energy usage and cost

EC Resident: Small kitchens are not going to work for Cook-for-Yourself communities

Kate: I agree, we expressed that sentiment

Isaac: I think what's more important is making sure people aren't forced onto a meal plan

Cynthia: Has there been any discussion on use of kitchens by student groups and by those in dorms with dining halls?

Sadun: Some people appear to be "content" with the current number of kitchens in dining hall dorms, mixed messages on that front.

Yo: Is there any overlap with the Met design committee? Because one of the issues they had is that they asked for student opinion too late

Sarah: Specifically, a lot of the feedback we've discussed include that 450 is a large number to try and build a community. Maybe we should look at ways to effectively subdivide the community.

Rob: What room types? Answer: singles and doubles? Kate will check with Suzy
Emma: Vague list of priorities?

Kate: Room sizes and types and ratio, lounge spaces, general amenities (CK, dance studio, meeting space, makerspace), number of people in a cluster

Allie: Potential compromise: shut down dining hall and convert into large kitchen when other groups get moved in

Laura: McCormick people love their kitchens. 1 kitchen per 60 people is unreal.

Sarah: I think sustainability is great but they're sacrificing well being. What was not on their list of priorities was not community wellness.

Sadun: The list of priorities for the architects needs to be concrete

Allie: I just see kitchens as a necessity not something that can be forgotten.

Kate: I don't think admins believe that community isn't important but instead that kitchens are not a necessity for community.

Sadun: Dining Chairs should focus on not making the dining hall mandatory

Isaac: What makes something a kitchen?

No fridges? Many fridges?

Kate: Adequate number of burners for a subcommunity?

Answer?: 5 sets of 2 burners

Lily: I don't want to sacrifice lounge space for kitchens

Isaac: If there was a 100 person kitchen, I would never use it. I started cooking because I lived somewhere where people hung out in the kitchen

Cynthia: Centralized kitchens only work if there is a lot of storage space. If we were to sacrifice small kitchens for large kitchens, we have to make sure there's space for people to keep things

Kate: What are other things we should think about?

Kate: They want to find a way to meet both of our goals

Lily: How much of a priority is sustainability to us?

Kate: It's good but it should be done in a way that's elegant and invisible to the people who inhabit the building

Sabrina: I don't think we should sacrifice the things we need for it

Kate: How do people feel about a gym?

Nonye: I think gyms are important and different dorms use them differently

Sarah: I think we can have benches and free weights but then leave out treadmills and other energy hogs

Sarah: What about the dance studio?

(general ambivalence?)

EC Resident: Requiring a dining plan in a 450 person dorm is MIT turning its back on low-income students. Should not be creating the view of "you don't belong here."

Kate: My list of priorities is kitchens (at least one per 60 people), lounges,
singles/doubles, everything else we are willing to trade off to some degree
Vote: 11-0 in favor of these priorities

Quote of the night: "Sit-ins are the laziest form of activism." -Allie