

Associated Residential Community Housing (ARCH) Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 23, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: ANINDITA BHATTACHARYA  
KIM CIERO  
RAMONA FERREIRA  
ROBERT FRAZIER  
SOPHIA HIRAKIS  
MALIA MAHI  
VALERIE SAPP  
SONJA STEINBRECH  
CORY STEVENSON  
PA CHIA VUE  
MARY BETH WARD  
MATTHEW WILLS

The meeting began at 1:42pm.

Appeal 864

- Kim motioned to vote on the appeal.
  - o Sophie seconded the motion.
    - Appeal denied with 0 approve – 8 deny – 0 abstain vote.

Appeal 865

- Mary Beth motioned to vote on the appeal.
  - o Matt seconded the motion.
    - Appeal approved with 5 approve – 0 deny – 3 abstain vote.

Appeal 873

- Valerie motioned to table the appeal and requested more information.
  - o Mary Beth seconded the motion.
    - Appeal tabled.

Cory said an incident was brought to his attention regarding victims of assault and ensuring that there is emergency housing available for them.

- Kim thought there were emergency units available for these students.
- Mary Beth said yes, but she believes this discussion is regarding whether or not there are enough units set aside for this purpose.
- Cory asked the committee if they felt having a formalized program and process is necessary. He also would like to discuss, in the future, the number of units and type of units that should be set aside.
  - o Kim asked what is driving this.
    - Cory said he'd like the committee to think about is whether there are enough spaces and is there a need to have a formal program. They could also discuss ideas like placing them in a unit with a trained resident who can check up on them. He'd like the committee to think about other solutions like that.
- Sophia shared that she brought this up last summer and brought SARC to the meeting too.

- Bob said he recalls this topic being discussed and reassured that there is definitely a need for it. They spoke about the two units and that they were used quite frequently but not 100% of the time. Whenever there was a one-off incident, they were always able to make space available to accommodate. It was decided that they weren't going to increase the number of offline units but merely address as needed so they don't have this perpetual income loss while waiting for a circumstance to occur.
- Kim thinks these rooms should be handled through SARC.
  - Cory said these are the types of things the committee will discuss.
  - Kim asked if the current procedure is inadequate.
    - Bob shared that the units are occupied 90-95% of the time. It is very rare for them to have to turn anyone away.
- Sonja asked if these units are set aside for residents who need housing for one reason or another.
  - Bob said there are a variety of situations that require a student to be placed in emergency housing and that these units are not just for residents.
- Cory said he'd like to set aside some time at a future meeting to discuss this.
- Sophie stressed the importance of anonymity of the space. In times of crisis, post-traumatic stress is triggered. So, it is very important for them to feel safe in their temporary space.
- Mary Beth referred back to the comment about SARC handling the emergency units and disagrees. She thinks Housing should administer the units because they know the inventory. Also, if the spaces are to be anonymous, then Housing would be able to do that.
- Kim said if the system is working, then there isn't a need to change it.
  - Cory said that's what they will need to determine.

Sophie shared that some of her constituents in Mesa and OMS are complaining about the changes to the parking rules (5th and 6th floor no longer available to guests) and the Mesa Express Shuttle.

- Ramona explained that the parking change is related to the shuttle. The shuttles were getting overcrowded. They witnessed people using the parking spaces who are not students or residents. The previous open policy didn't allow them to do anything about it. To resolve the issue, they went to a system similar to Coast and printed new parking permits. These permits have the license plate written on them to ensure the permit belongs to the vehicle.
- Sophie doesn't believe the changes were communicated in a timely fashion. People have gotten parking tickets because of this.
  - Ramona said it must not have been this time around because they are going to send the email out today and there will be a transition period to allow residents to get a permit.
  - Sophie said as long as there is enough notice, that's all the residents are asking for.
  - Ramona said there will be emails sent out and they will put out A-frames everywhere.
  - Sophie said some residents believe this new policy is hyper surveillance and that it detracts from sense of community. They aren't happy that they have to jump through hoops to have a guest come over to their house.
  - Bob understands but said the process at Coast seems to be working. He also mentioned that it is still open parking from Friday night to Monday morning. No permits or stickers are required at that time.
- Valerie said her phone has been blowing up since this happened. She shared some of their comments. They are concerned about the shuttle, more so than parking. They want their fellow grad students to be able to park in Mesa to facilitate community. If a student wanted to attend a GSA event, where would they park?
- Sonja asked if those two stories are first come, first served.

- Ramona said yes.
  - Sophie shared that it is definitely abused.
- Kim asked if staff members take advantage of this.
  - Bob said yes.
- Matt supports the changes for two reasons: (1) if they want to monitor parking, they have to know who is parking there. There isn't a way to monitor parking without this information. (2) Non-rent paying grad students should not be allowed to park there. This committee just had a very lengthy discussion about parking being an amenity. They cannot justify that parking is what makes a person's rent higher, if they let everyone park in those spots. It contradicts all the discussions this committee had.
- Bob said about a hundred units have been taken offline, yet ridership counts have increased quite a bit. So, they know this increase is not residents. It has definitely become an issue because people are having to wait for a second or third shuttle.
- Cory asked if Mesa/OMS passes worked in each other's lots.
  - Ramona said no. Mesa residents park in Mesa and OMS residents park in OMS. The only exception to this rule is when they had to take 25 spaces offline at West Mesa for construction. Those residents were given temporary passes to park in OMS.
- Cory asked if those parking in the structure are coming from across the street.
  - Bob said they have no tracking system but Parking provides them with ridership statistics. Even though they took part of North Mesa offline, the number of people riding the shuttle grew. So, they can only assume that it is because nonresidents are parking in the community and taking the shuttle.
  - Ramona shared that they've asked a few people coming from the OMS parking structure if they were residents and were told "I'm not a student. I work at the Hyatt."
- Bob explained the Mesa Express Shuttle. They have added an extra bus that diverts off a route from the East Parking lot. That shuttle adds Mesa stops to its loop, on every third loop and drops off at Rupertus.
  - Matt asked if they've considered reallocating the shuttles and having more of them during peak times instead of having two run throughout the day.
    - Bob said they are currently looking into restructuring the shuttles.
- Cory asked if they could write up the whole parking policy and send it to the committee. The committee wants to know what is the policy, how many are there, who gets assigned, etc. The committee will then review it.
- Valerie asked if they could increase the frequency of the 150 MTS bus since many students are using that as an alternative to the shuttle.
  - Bob said yes and no. They aren't able to control the frequency of the 150 MTS bus because that is outside of their jurisdiction. But, they are looking into more effective bus diversion options. Once the Gilman Bridge is done, the bus routes will be very different. They want to maximize ridership and keep costs low.
  - Anindita shared that the MTS 202 is also crowded.
  - Bob said he doesn't know if they have much influence over the MTS buses because they have a contract with Parking and not HDH.
  - Cory said if the committee feels this is important, they can write up a recommendation and send it to Parking.
- Valerie shared that she is still getting communication from students about the new policy. She said students (nonresidents) are happy to pay extra for those parking spots. They want to be able to keep parking there.

- Bob said they have to make sure they are meeting the needs of the residents first. Then they can look at what spaces are available and discuss the possibility of that.
- Mary Beth shared that they can provide feedback about the 150 and 202 online. She's done it before by going to the MTS website.
- Matt asked what the business hours are at OMS and Mesa
  - Ramona said 8am-9pm. There is a staff member on site from 8am-4:30pm and then a student in the office until 9pm.
- Sophie asked if OMS and Mesa has town halls. She's been getting requests for those.
  - Ramona said there will be a community meeting on 1/31.

Meeting adjourned 2:35pm. The next meeting will be on Monday, January 30, at Eucalyptus Point at 1:30pm.