

Associated Residential Community Housing (ARCH) Advisory Committee | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 5/11/2018 12:00 PM

Meeting location: Barrett Room

Type of meeting: ARCH Advisory Committee	Attendees:
Co-Chairs: Tatiana Zavodny Jana Severson	Ramona Ferreira Jana Severson Rebecca Otten Robert Frazier Malia Mahi Tatiana Zavodny Burgundy Fletcher Jacob Schalch Marybeth Ward Kim Ciero Shana Stebioda Petia Yanchulova Merica-Jones Burton Ober Michael Salas
Note taker: Leticia Ruelas	

AGENDA

Meeting begun at 12:08 PM

Community Living Statement

- Jana shared the idea originated after she spoke to an alumni student who came back to share feedback.
 - Feedback was about her student-to-student experience.
 - Her experiences involved feeling like the natural response from neighbor to neighbor was to call the police when there was a concern rather than talking to each other.
- Jana displayed two different draft structures for the Community Living Statement and expressed her interest from ARCHAC (as students who live in the communities).
 - Narrative statement
 - Talking points
- Kim shared she liked the idea of having sentences, but was unsure if residents would read the full sentences versus the bullets.
- Bob talked about the idea behind both structures.
- Kim suggested turning the bullet points into complete sentences.
- Tatiana suggested (as a resident) making the statement more specific by providing an example for each bullet.
 - Example: if you are having a problem with your neighbor, try knocking on their door and introducing yourself.
- Jacob agreed with the statement, but felt it was vague. He also suggested spelling out examples to make it a more functional document.
- Jana asked if the committee had heard about this feeling (expressed by alumni) between residents.

- Jacob responded he's experienced it.
- Marybeth suggested adding whom students should contact in specific scenarios, such as contacting the housing office for noise complaints. She also shared an example of one of her students.
 1. Example: one of her students would wake up to strangers as the roommate would Airbnb during the weekends, she suggested who to contact (office).
- Jana responded some of the information is in the handbook and confirmed the committee would like some universal examples.
- Burton mentioned the person who is likely to read the statement is more conscientious and asked about distribution to target those who need it.
- Burton added he understood the document was also a way to enforce rules.
 - Kim asked if the document was meant to be informational or to serve as a way to help enforce punishments.
 1. Bob responded it's made to be a seed to bring to the community along with programming.
- Petia clarified it could be a matter of life style and personality as some residents might feel comfortable reaching out to their neighbor and some might not. She suggested having a mediator.
- Kim mentioned she liked the bullets, but felt they need to be contextualized.
- Jacob asked if HDH had a FAQ.
 - Committee members confirmed.
- Jacob felt his impression of document was to encourage residents to talk to their neighbors and expressed not everyone is willing.
- Shana asked how the statement would be distributed.
 - Jana responded HDH has conduct, leases, handbooks, but was hoping to humanize the organization. The document would show what HDH and the community believes in. She brought up the possibility of doing more programs between neighbors in their specific living areas.
- Shana agreed it would be a good idea to have specific examples.
- Ramona shared housing has a process in place for roommate or neighbors issues.
 - Typically, roommates would meet with a Residential Relations Coordinator to resolve issues.
 - Some roommates are reluctant to the possibility, but housing tries to mediate whenever possible. She feels there seems to be a general reluctance of not reaching out to each other.
- Bob added it's about trying to establish a new skill and willingness to try. Everyone is willing to share a text message, but have forgotten about the effort of connecting with neighbors.
- Kim added its part of the technological society. Human interaction is uncomfortable to some so they tend to handle it by a text message.
- Burgundy shared her experience with TRIO, which made students fall in love with each other, and asked if housing had any similar programs.
 - Jana responded housing doesn't have a full residence life program for graduate housing, there's an expense for such a program and graduate students have shared they don't want to be treated like an undergraduate student.
 - Burgundy shared Trio was 1 week and originally she didn't want to attend (her attitude was like what housings sees in survey), but her idea after the program was different.
- Petia mentioned timing might be hard as graduate students are a little more focused on work. She also shared Coast residents enjoy town hall meetings as they can ask questions and can experience the person-to-person interactions.
- Marybeth asked the committee what their first reaction would be when people are loud at 2 am.
 - Petia shared she's knocked on Ian's door and asked him to turn his music down.
 - Jacob shared his neighbor would always come by even after repeated offenses, but understand other people are less willing and confrontational. He added many foreign students and students who's English is their second language might try to avoid face-to-face interactions.
 - Burgundy shared she would have her husband go knock on neighbors' doors. She's had the police called on her for her daughter playing a clarinet and wished they would have knocked. About half of the instances a neighbor knocked and half a neighbor called the police.

- Bob added part of approaching a neighbor is also being open to the idea that a neighbor might contact you as well.
- Malia expressed people might be more willing to contact their neighbors if they know them. She shared an example with her neighbors.
- Jacob mentioned he gave his neighbors his number since people are comfortable with texting.
- Ramona mentioned housing used to have community breakfasts. Although typically the same people would attend, they got to know each other. She brought up the possibility of doing something on a smaller scale. She shared an example from a previous experience.
 - Kim thought it was a good idea, but suggested something on a regular basis (bagels on Thursdays) to be more efficient.
 - Ramona responded most people grab and go to class. Community building is sometimes forced. She shared there was a thanksgiving event that was very well attended, but doesn't know if new people became friends or if friends attended together.
- Petia shared at Coast they have discussed the potential of having the most outgoing person greet new residents moving in.
- Malia mentioned the programming team is working on an application process where residents can apply to do their own programs/events in their community. This could be a way to build connections on a smaller scale.
- Burgundy gave examples of the lack of interaction between her neighbors. She also asked about the possibility of having a texting app for specific buildings to contact neighbors anonymously.
 - Kim responded it could get offensive if it's anonymous, but it could be a good idea if people are respectful.
- Marybeth mentioned the Rita residents like the fire drill and feel it's a bonding activity. She suggested Next Door for each community.
 - Petia looked into Next Door for Coast, but it can't be contained to just Coast. They have been using a list serve for that which has been very civil.
 - Ramona added housing doesn't administer it. Housing will email residents instructions on how to sign up for it.
- Tatiana paused the discussion. A goggle document will be created for suggestions.

Sublease Portal

- Michael provided background:
 - Paper process was inefficient.
 - There weren't any available lists before.
 - Based on ARCHAC inquiry, worked with IT to add an automated electronic portal.
 - Sublease Portal was developed in order to provide a more intuitive process to both "advertise" your space to lease and the ability to search space that is available based on preferred variables as inputted by each party.
- Michael went through the website and process with Malia's profile as an example. A few important bullets:
 - Students use single sign on to help verify affiliations and have a degree of privacy.
 - Students need to create a profile.
 - Sublessee and sublessor can see what's available.
 - There is a matching system. Based on self-preferred criteria, sublessors and sublessees are matched and can start the contract process immediately.
 - Both Sublessor and Sublessee can keep a list of those spaces they are interested in within their account until they make a decision or the space is no longer available.
 - Students can communicate with each other via email.
 - The office gets an email and verifies eligibility and affiliation.
 - If a multi bedroom space is offered to someone of a different gender, the office will confirm they all agree to live with each other.
 - Online portal is in multiple HDH pages for easier access.
 - Auto-emails are generated at each step of the process so applicants know the status immediately.
- Malia added people struggled with signatures in the past as some roommates were away for the summer.

- Bob mentioned the portal is much more efficient. In addition, the ability “to go shopping” allows people to connect.
- Tatiana asked what would happen if the roommate didn’t agree to sublease.
 - Malia answered housing can’t force the residents and shared it’s happened in the past.
- Burgundy asked if she had to start the process to see what’s available.
 - Michael responded she needed to sign up and could cancel if she changed her mind.
- Marybeth thanked Michael for the improvements and asked about the possibility of seeing everything available as a list.
 - Kim responded they would need to make an account.
 - Michael added if she wanted to see a wider range she should select any location.
- Burgundy asked if the system would eliminate those who aren’t properly affiliated.
 - Michael responded yes.
- Burgundy asked how long it took someone to receive a PID.
 - Kim responded it varies by department.
 - Michael added housing kept the hard copy in the case students couldn’t receive a PID.
- Bob commented things are better.
 - Marybeth added the portal is visually appealing.
- Jana shared the portal doesn’t stop people from doing an illegal sublease, but makes the legal sublease much easier.

Water station:

- Jana gave an update: They identified a location with water supply, electricity, drain at OMS and Coast
 - At the Coast laundry room and outside the OMS Lounge.
- Jana added housing could obtain quotes if the committee agreed on the locations.
- Kim shared her building had a water hydrating station added and the installation took a long time. She added Facilities Management has a different person for each part of the job (paint, drywall, installation, etc.), as they are all the different union shops.
- Jana confirmed housing handles the ones in housing and it would be coordinated by the superintendent.

Garden:

- Petia shared that she and her husband installed the Coast illegal irrigation system discussed in the previous meeting. She understands it’s against housing contract, but wanted to inquire about the possibility of keeping it. She described the system and clarified the leak occurred as she was gone for a month. She also asked if she could get more than 10 days that the letter stated (sent by HDH to remove it) and if she had to restore the garden back to normal or just remove the irrigation.
 - Ramona added the letter was a follow-up to the previous discussion and offered to talk with her concerning the date it needs to be removed.
- Burgundy suggested the possibility of moving the irrigation system to the Coast gardens.
- Ramona shared the Coast gardens have water hoses and bibs, but not an automatic system. She added the plots are ready to go and people at Coast should get in touch with the garden coordinator. Lastly, she added the email included a photo of a netting system the residents could build themselves.
- Tatiana postponed the garden topic.

Closing items:

Jana shared Hemlata Jhaveri, the new HDH Executive Director, would like to introduce herself next meeting. However, they are in the process of recruitment and will not be able to attend if a recruiting meeting is scheduled.

Meeting adjourned around 1:22PM. Next meeting will be on Friday, 5/25 /2018 at the Boardroom at 64.