



AILG Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 | W59 | Meeting called to order at 6:25pm by Akil Middleton

In Attendance

Board: Tyler Kemp-Benedict (pika), Akil Middleton (ZP), Eric Cigan (LCA), Alice Leung (ET), Cecilia Stuopis (AXO) (by phone)

Administration, Staff, Vendors: Brad Badgley (FSILG Office), Scott Klemm (FCI), Pam Gannon (DSL)

Other Alumni/ae: Patrick McCabe, Larry Stabile, John Covert, Bob Ferrara, Stan Wulf, Herman Marshall, Ken Schumacher

Review of Minutes

Minutes of the 04/09/19 AILG Board meeting and 04/10/2019 AILG Plenary were reviewed and approved as corrected. It was agreed that a record of the Annual Meeting business (budget approval, elections) should be documented.

Treasurer's Update and Financial Report

Eric Cigan, Treasurer provided an update. There are a few more invoices we expect to come in, such as those associated with the recent FSILG alumni/ae leadership retreat. The IRDF contribution for SLI/BSF will be increased. We can discuss at the Board retreat whether there is a particular need that we should consider handling with the small budget surplus going forward.

FSILG Office and Student Council Updates

Brad Badgley reported that things are pretty quiet for the summer. The FSILG office continues to be involved with students during the summer as they plan recruitment. A community email will go out about 4th of July safety. The fall House Manager's meeting will be scheduled. One thing that will be covered at that meeting is a new aspect of the IT program. There will be a \$200 inspection fee per house, but this can be waived if the houses respond and schedule the inspection in a timely fashion.

There was discussion about whether the GRA reimbursement could be increased, as it is significantly below housebills and hasn't increased in many years. An increase has been requested, but has not been approved. The community should consider whether this is a priority issue. The AILG Board should develop a request. Potentially the request could be to tie reimbursement rates to something like dorm rent, so that the request is not asking for an immediate budget increase but prevents the percentage of housebill that reimbursement covers from falling further going forward. Also, it was noted that it can be hard to make a case for increasing the reimbursement rate when some houses don't invoice for the currently allowable amount, which causes some fraction of the annual reimbursement budget to not get spent.

Accreditation Redesign Status

Akil reported that the 6th redesign meeting is coming up, and the group is making progress on a proposed visiting committee process and framework. The general idea is to focus more on alums and issues that the alums are responsible for, and to emphasize the idea of inter-group collaboration. The purpose is not to be judging the group or overlapping with the FSILG Office efforts. There will not be an “accreditation status” issued, but instead the Committee will be a kind of centralized place to track the improvement goals each group makes for itself, and to connect the group with the appropriate resources for their goals. BDF is being cut down to focus mainly on concerns and trends; it will not duplicate data collection that goes on elsewhere. The next meeting, Thursday, will focus on the post-visit process: how to present best practices at plenaries, how to keep in touch with groups between visits. The working group will compile a set of recommendations and send them to the Board. Trial runs will start in the fall. There was discussion of whether all houses would be visited annually, and how to identify/cultivate the right resources for groups seeking help with their goals.

Facilities Renewal Update

Pam reported that the Facilities Renewal Committee is thinking about a proposal to MIT for how the fire and life safety issues could be addressed system-wide over 5 years for about \$6.75 million. The IRDF grant model, where 75% of costs can be covered from grants, is being discussed, but MIT support would be needed because IRDF itself doesn't have extra funds for this. IRDF is considering ways to make smaller loans (<100K) that would not require houses to do as much process as getting a mortgage.

Review of Alum Leadership Retreat and Annual Meeting

Pam reported that the Retreat went well, and post-event surveys have some feedback. She is making a revised set of handouts and notes from the 4 sessions. One question is how to reach out to the alums and houses that could benefit from this sort of event but who didn't attend this year, and who are not attending other AILG events. Personal invites and publicizing the agenda could help.

The Annual Meeting went well. Karen Singleton was a great speaker, and the audience was highly engaged. Alum awards were a good addition to the event.

Brainstorming AILG Areas of Interest for 2019/2020

The Board Retreat is still being scheduled, and suggestions for discussion topics are welcome. The group listed possible topics: administrative assistance for the Board, GRA reimbursement increase, renewing the CARMA program, new directions for the Education Committee, helping alums help students with recruitment & retention, young alum engagement, improving contact information availability, formalizing/reviewing contracts for services, reviewing bylaws, how to advocate for more facilities support and what that would look like, finalizing the location & time for this year's Plenary Meetings.

Officer Elections

Akil Middleton was elected as AILG Chair. Cecilia Stuopis was elected as Vice Chair. Eric Cigan was elected as Treasurer. Alice Leung was elected as Secretary.

Key Committee Updates

Larry Stabile led a discussion of the recent Theta Chi roof deck recommendation. The historic records around previous roof deck recommendations are not very consolidated, so there was some challenge trying to know how this process has been handled previously. Brad noted that according to the MIT FSILG Social Events Policy, any roof deck event has to be approved by the FSILG Office; normal/casual use does not include events. Posting a sign is one way to help propagate the knowledge of approved roof deck use to incoming students. The group discussed recommended changes to the recommendations: that instead of referring to Boston authority, the letter refer to the MIT FSILG Social Events Policy and that the language not specifically disallow guests. The capacity is recommended based on a formula, but the House Corporation is the one who makes the house policy and posts the restrictions, and they can post a lower number than in the recommendation.

Other Business/Announcements

AILG Board Retreat – Working on scheduling it; possibly in August.

AILG Board Meeting – Sept 5 evening, but not certain.

AILG Plenary Meeting – Sept 12 at 7am, location could be Hulsizer Room.

Note that some of the group have been receiving spoof emails, so be wary of emails that claim to be from AILG members asking for money.

We may consider an AILG social event during ALC weekend.

The Community Relations Committee is moving to help houses hold smaller events instead of doing a large annual open house, because the events tend to only appeal to local neighbors. When houses do hold events for neighbors, those tend to work well, but not all houses make an effort to do this.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice Leung, AILG Board

Abbreviations

AILG	Association of Independent Living Groups
BSF	Building Safety Facilitator
CPW	Campus Preview Weekend
DSL	Division of Student Life
FCI	FSILG Cooperative, Inc.
FSILGs	Fraternalities, Sororities and Independent Living Groups
IFC	Interfraternity Council
ILGs	Independent Living Groups

IRDF	Independent Residence Development Fund
LGC	Living Group Council
MITAA	MIT Alumni Association
Panhel	Panhellenic Association
SLI	Safety, Licensing, and Inspections