AILG Board Meeting

Thursday, December 3, 2020 | Zoom | Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by Akil Middleton

In Attendance

Board: Akil Middleton (ZP), Eric Cigan (LCA), Tyler Kemp-Benedict (pika), Cecilia Stuopis (AXO)
Administration, Staff, Vendors: Scott Klemm (FCI)
Other Alumni/ae: Ashley Pearson (Panhel), Sara Wilmer (SK), Patrick McCabe (TT), Tom Stohlman (KS), Mark Thompson (ADP), Tom Holtey (CP), Bob Ferrara (TC), Stan Wulf (PDT)

Review of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Board’s September 3rd, approved.
A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 10th Plenary, approved.
The minutes of the October, and November meetings were deferred.

Treasurer’s report

Eric Cigan reported that overall, the numbers look good. All income from houses is in. Eric will transfer about $50,000 to the AILG savings account to earn some interest. $40,000 is outstanding from the IRDF, but this is not unusual. P&L is showing that only the monthly expenses for SLI and BSF have been occurring.

FSILG Office / DSL, and Council updates, Review of Ongoing Efforts

Akil reported no major updates from Brad. GRAs were informed about the pilot program possibility. Some concerns from some GRAs; will be addressed if their houses are picked. IFC is transitioning officers, and they have informed the undergraduates about the pilot.

Committee chairs and charges

Approval of Facilities Committee Chair – A motion was made by Cecilia and seconded by Tyler to appoint Tom Stohlman as chair of the facilities committee. It passed.

FSILG Pilot

A Pilot program to open a small number of FSILG houses at limited capacity was announced last night. Tom Stohlman says Facilities committee has prepared guidelines for startup and re-occupancy. Some undergrads who learned about the pilot from their GRAs were excited, maybe not yet tempered by full consideration of how different this will be from “normal.” Others have low interest so far.
Some houses would not be well suited for the pilot because of housing density. Others don’t have enough returning students. Some houses have already planned renovations during the spring. It will be a lot of work.

IFC, Panhel, and LGC were briefed by DSL and AILG yesterday.

Cecilia indicated that the pilot houses will be very similar to the dorms, and it will not be the usual use of the buildings. Rules and regulations for the dorms are posted at now.mit.edu/undergraduate-students/

Akil suggested that the Facilities committee may be involved in January and February.

Planned bi-weekly assessments may involve the Peer Visit Program Committee.

Scott suggested that the Education Committee should be involved in helping the houses get back up to speed on how the buildings work and residents interact with them.

Lessons learned during the pilot should inform all the houses reopening in the fall.

MIT via Sarah Gallop will let the municipalities know that the pilot houses will have 15-person occupancies. Neighbors should also be notified, for good community relations.

The question of potential insurance implications came up. Scott indicated that across the country other FSILGs have remained open and residential. AILG insurance program has not changed during these times and occupancy will not be a factor. Since the pilot houses will not be having any events or guests, those do not present an insurance (or public health) risk. Scott suggested that the Pilot houses have an agreement with MIT that this is part of an MIT Pilot program.

Cecilia indicated that from a public health perspective these are “super pods” and as such, need to be especially carefully isolated.

Cecilia reported that MIT Medical is expecting a post-Thanksgiving surge. Mental health services is very busy, but otherwise Medical is quieter than usual. When MIT gets vaccines, they will be distributed according to the state regulations, most likely in three phases.

Cecilia also reported that the American College Health Association is pushing for institutes of higher education to be in the third section of the first tranche, due to their congregate housing situation; for now, universities are in the second tranche. We need to be cognizant that not everyone will take the vaccine, so it is doubtful that our houses will open in the fall as normal.

Akil reported on the Pilot timelines: 12/15 Pilot houses will be selected by a steering group comprised of MIT staff and alums; 12/22 students and all will be notified which houses were selected for the Pilot, after finals are over.

The goal is to set up the pilot houses for success.

Other Business

FCI is working with Cambridge ISD to get buildings inspected next Tuesday.

Announcements

Akil wished everyone Happy Virtual Holidays.

The next board meeting date is TBD for January 2021, probably mid-month. Then back to first Thursday in February.

Adjournment – 6:48pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Tyler Kemp-Benedict, AILG Secretary

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 Fraternities, Sororities and Independent Living Groups
IFC Interfraternity Council
ILGs Independent Living Groups
IRDF Independent Residence Development Fund
ISD Inspectional Services Department
IS&T Information Systems & Technology
LGC Living Group Council
MITAA MIT Alumni Association
NIC North American Interfraternity Conference
NPC National Panhellenic Conference
Panhel Panhellenic Association
RFM Release Figure Methodology (algorithm for optimizing Panhel recruitment)
SLI Safety, Licensing, and Inspections
VPR Vice President Recruitment