These are the **notes from the September 13 AILG IT Committee Meeting.**

Attendees: John Morgante, Brian Stephens, Nellie King, Scott Klemm, Pam Gannon, Bob Xavier and Bob Ferrara

1. **Welcome & well-being check in**. We all had a good summer. Scott noted that the Student Center has just re-opened. Pam noted she will not be an MIT employee after October 15, and DSL is engaged if filling her role and Pam will be assisting with any transitions through Dec 31, 2024.

2. **Review of June 7 Meeting minutes**. Minutes were accepted.

3. **Any special concerns for the new academic year?** John noted hardware issues at some houses including switches overheating due to excess dust, UPS battery replacement, etc. Affected houses were DP6, TC, Student House, PKT, WILG, Beta, DPhiE and ZBT. In most cases the problem was resolved the same day. Brian said the Zoom outages of the past week (that affected all MIT telephony) appear to be resolved.

4. **Any developments on VOIP options?** Bob shared the screen with the [FSILG VOIP Information](#). One link asks for a certificate. Brian reviewed the text and approved. The consensus, however, is these VOIP features are simply not being used by the FSILG active and alumni organizations as anticipated. Scott noted almost no House VOIP phones are in use today.

5. **Anything new on restricting MIT's WiFi networks**. Brian noted there have nothing new since the beyond those described beyond last year's changes that required additional authentication on MIT's formerly very open networks.

6. **Review Network Management Program**. The group reviewed the current version 5.0 NMP document (effective 7/1/2021) and noted several proposed changes were needed. As noted at the June meeting no initial inspection fees will be assessed because inspection compliance has been so good and it just means more bookkeeping to keep rebating them. Instead there will be fines for noncompliance. Other improvements to sections 2.3 and 2.4 were noted, as well as revisions in the switch replacement plans noted in the next item.

   NOTE: Pam, Scott, and Bob F incorporated all the proposed changes the following day and a new version 6.0 of the NMP and a corresponding version 6.0 Expense Estimation Table. Both are now posted on the [AILG IT Committee web page.](#)

7. **Update on plans for replacement of Wireless Network Switches.** This subject generated an extensive discussion as new cost and planning data is known. Here is a summary of key points:

   - 3 switches in each building.: aggregation, wired edge, wireless edge.
   - Aggregation and Wireless switches are past end of life by several years.
   - The switches were formerly estimated to cost $6,500 per switch, and each house has 3 or 4 switches. Current prices are now closer to $8K per switch.
   - At the IRDF meeting on Friday, Pam can put forward a grant proposal to help with costs of the two switches to be replaced in each of the 33 non-MIT owned houses in early FY2025. Any other

port needs will require houses to purchase another switch. This new IRDF request could be considerably higher than the amount formerly forecast.

- There should also be an additional $10K coordination fee for the FCI.
- John will be looking into verifying covering the labor costs for the switch replacements, which hopefully will be covered by IS&T.
- The goal would be to have these switch replacement costs to cost to hit in FY25 after July 1, 2024 and to complete everything by the start of 2024-25 academic year.
- The expectation is that costs to FSILG would be billed via the FCI, as has been done before.
- Some downtime (on the order of hours) will be experienced while switches are repatched.
- Uptime has been >98% and for most houses 100%. Current switches have lasted 8 to 10 years.
- Switch replacement cost is higher than previously estimated, but the replacement countfor most houses should go from 3 to 2.
- Some historic dates: 2009 first generation of switches. 2014 Wireless switches and first wave of access points. 2017 wired edge switches. 2020 new Wireless Access Points(WAPs) + AP12 augmentation.
- MIT network maintains 100% uptime. Replacement of the switches helps the houses maintain connectivity and resiliency.

NOTE: Before the next meeting Bob F should draft a message for review by the Committee on the new plans for switch replacement and noting the likely budget impacts in FY205.

8. **Status of IRDF and AILG web sites**. All operations have been excellent with no issues.

9. **Roundtable, any other concerns/ideas.** At the next meeting Bob F. would like to discuss the addition of a list of key installation dates to the AILG History web page. The dates would include items like the start of Community Networking Upgrade Program (CNUP) program, the installation of the fiber connection to Boston, significant equipment replacements such as switches and wireless access points, etc.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15 at 2PM on Zoom

Cheers, Bob Xavier & Bob Ferrara, Co-chairs, AILG IT Committee

Charter:
- Collaborate with MIT's IS&T (Information Systems and Technology) department to construct and maintain reliable network infrastructure and IT support services for FSILG residences.
- Maintain platform for the AILG web site (ailg.mit.edu) and AILG mailing lists.
- Provide optional services such as environmental monitoring & VOIP telephony to FSILG houses