

University Housing Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2024

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Quad Commons Conference Room (2221 Dunn Avenue, Room 202)

Attendees: Melissa Merrill, Laren Ball, Connor Brady, Donna McGalliard, Tamanda Beza, Reagan Lineberry, Cornelius Ojo, Jeong Dae Lee

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeong Dae Lee, Assistant Teaching Professor, Health & Exercise Studies, at 12:00 pm.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Lee welcomed the committee members. Attendees introduced themselves.

3. Review of Minutes from September 27 Meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

4. Business Items

- **University Housing Financial Discussion:** The committee discussed the current financial state of university housing, focusing on the recent acquisition of University Towers, which added approximately 900 beds, increasing the total to just over 10,300 beds. This acquisition helps accommodate the diverse needs of the campus population.
- **Housing Rates for Next Year:** Presented by Pete Fraccaroli and Joanie Aitken from Facilities and Business Operations. The committee reviewed the projected housing rates for the next fiscal year, noting a 4.24% increase due to rising utility costs and ongoing renovations and upgrades across university housing facilities.
- **Housing Facility Tour:** Connor Brady from University Housing led a discussion about upcoming tours of housing facilities, emphasizing the improvements and renovations that have enhanced student living conditions, including the introduction of bottle filling stations across residence halls for sustainability and convenience.

Other Business/Additions to Agenda

There were no additional business items or agenda changes.

Items for Next Meeting: To be announced.

Other Business/Additions to Agenda: None.

Next Meeting: January 10, 2 pm, Zoom

Adjourn The meeting concluded, followed by a tour of the housing facilities led by Connor Brady approximately 1:05 pm.

Detailed Discussion Points:

- **Residential Experience and Student Well-being:** The committee emphasized the importance of a supportive residential environment that extends beyond basic living conditions. Initiatives like community-building activities and high-impact experiences aim to foster a sense of belonging among students.
- **Operational Excellence:** The housing operations team has successfully maintained an average resolution time of 16 hours for student work orders, highlighting efficient service and responsiveness.
- **Capital Improvements and Accessibility:** Significant capital projects were discussed, including upgrades to HVAC systems, fire safety enhancements, and renovations designed to improve accessibility across housing facilities.
- **Finance:** The financial discussion underscored the need for careful budgeting and resource allocation to support ongoing and future projects without compromising the quality of student housing.