ZBT Annex in Brookline Will Be Ready in the Fall

By Tracy Liu

Three years after the ZBT house was gutted by fire, according to ZBT President Carlos E. Munoz '93, ZBT, which currently houses 14 of its 55 members in apartments near the house, will be able to accommodate eight additional members in the annex, which will finally be ready for occupancy in fall '94.

"After we purchase the annex, we can either keep the apartments and expand our membership or stop renting the apartments and contract out. For now, it looks like the majority of people will want to keep the apartments," Munoz said.

To finance the purchase, the fraternity will obtain a loan of about $350,000 from MIT through the Independent Residence Development Fund, a grant application by MIT alumni for the purpose of making loans to independent living groups for acquisitions and renovations of their homes, said Neal H. Dowse, adviser to fraternity and independent living groups.

"For a number of years, ZBT has been aiming apartments in order to have more live-in space for its members. This has been happening long enough for us to know that ZBT could sustain enough membership to support the purchase of an annex," Dowse said.

Dowse said that the fraternity will upgrade the safety features of the annex before it is opened in the fall. The annex will not be considered Institute-approved housing and will house only upperclassmen.

"ZBT has been looking for an additional building for about 20 years, and now the annex will be a wise investment," Munoz said. "We really need to focus on the next few years, we have to keep track of MIT housing policy, as well as the attitude of the house," he added.

"I think purchasing the annex will be good for us. If we have a lot of singles, it is nearby and the property is really nice. It will also enable us to rush a lot over people next year, and that would be good," said ZBT member Matthew H. Drake '94.

Food Committee Advises Maintaining Status Quo

Dining, from Page 1

Closing down one or more of the dining halls, and expanding the facilities in the Student Center and Walker.

It's an institute-wide problem, and needs an institute-wide solution," he added.

Numerous students complained that the committee only represented students living in the four dormitories with dining halls, and that the campus dining fee would have never been proposed if someone representing the other students had been on the committee.

Bhatia felt that the committee, which included housemasters, students, and representatives from both MIT Food Services and ARA, had been "stereo-typed a little too much by the faculty members and ARA representatives, rather than the students on the committee." But Watson disagreed, saying, "I don't feel that it was any of our deliberations that people were lined up by interest group or any kind of partisan outlook."

Bad bookkeeping

Bhatia and Louie, whose dormitories both have dining halls, felt that much of the waste could be attributed to ARA's mismanagement.

"Ultimately," Louie said, the administration "will have to make a decision between losing the dining halls, losing a lot of money like they do now, or changing the way they run the dining halls."

Bhatia felt that ARA might be losing less money than it claims, forcing MIT to subsidize the dining halls. "I don't think that the dining fee has been closed. There has to be a solution somewhere. Anywhere you don't pay rent, and you get 200 customers every day, and you only have to employ people from 9:00 until 8:00, you should be able to break even."

He added: "If the dining halls are losing money, people are spending it somewhere, and that translates into a gain at Lobdell."

Food service opportunities

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"It's obvious that they're expecting us to finance the purchase of a new food service company, including the possibility of bringing in a new food service company, and expanding our membership or stop renting the apartments and contract out. For now, it looks like the majority of people will want to keep the apartments," Munoz said.

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