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Town of Durham
JUL 26 2019
Planning, Assessing
and Zoning

Conditional use permit in relation to Fraternity and Sorority Life Social Policy

- Description of football incident at the end

One of the main considerations of this application is in regard to how fraternity and sorority social events are registered and maintained within a safe environment.

Several rules and regulations of this social policy are put into place in order to establish a safe environment for all fraternity and sorority life members and guests at any given event. Furthermore, its purpose is to also deter any other non-registered event or unsafe practices within a social setting and present complete transparency between representative chapters, and university and town officials. A list of all approved social events for every given weekend are handed to the Durham Police and Fire Department as well as university representatives.

Below is a detailed description of the registration process for every social event that is approved by the Greek Life Coordinator, Jamie Silverstien, and executive representatives from the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Panhellenic Council (CPH). In addition, random inspections from the fire department have now be implemented as of last year so that they may confirm that these social events are held to the highest and safest standard. Also, IFC and CPH executive members often practice the same process of entering in social events so that their councils can also confirm that the social policy is being practiced properly.

Section 3, Article 2; “Social Chairs and Presidents must schedule a meeting with the Fraternity & Sorority Life Coordinator prior to holding their first social of the year in order to **verify all policies and procedures are understood and to maintain the safety of the event.**”

Section 3, Article 5; “An accurate **guest list** must be submitted to the Fraternity and Sorority Life Coordinator via email by noon on the business day prior to the event... This list must contain actual members that plan to attend and not just be a chapter roster.”

Section 4, Article 1; “No one under the legal drinking age of 21 should consume or bring alcohol into an event. No one shall be allowed by the sponsoring organization(s) to bring **more than six**

standard drinks (examples include 6, 12 ounce beers, 4, 12 ounce malt beverages, 1 750 ml of wine) Hard Alcohol may only be consumed at Third Party Vendor events when served by a licensed bartender.”

Section 4, Article 2; “The purchase or **use of bulk quantity** of common sources of such alcoholic beverages (i.e. Kegs or cases, punch, lined trash cans, party balls, “brothers’ beer”, etc.) is prohibited.”

Section 4 Article 3; “To bring alcohol into a social event, invited **guests must produce proper identification**, such as a valid driver’s license or passport indicating that they are least 21 years of age. These individuals must **wear a wrist-band** given by the sponsoring organization(s). Wristbands shall be picked up from the Fraternity & Sorority Life Coordinator prior to the event occurring. Wristbands are funded by IFC and CPH. Individuals who are under 21 must also show proof of identification. It is recommended that guests who are under 21 are marked with something that would indicate they should not be drinking, such as “X”s on their hands. In addition, IFC and CPH requires the checking of UNH ID for all guests, and the chapter must identify any non-UNH guest on their list.”

Section 4, Article 6; “Guests are limited to three people per each member attending the event and must **not go over fire code capacity.**”

Section 4, Article 7; “The sponsoring organization(s) is/are responsible for providing seven monitors for all social events...Each organization shall provide sober monitors **proportionate to 10%** of their own members in attendance...At least one of the monitors shall be an **executive officer of the organization for the duration** of the event.”

In regard to the incident that occurred on January 27th at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter house, we believe that in hindsight, if our chapter was able to properly and safely register social events, then a non-registered social event never would have spawned like it did the night of January 27th.

That night, mostly everyone was finally back on campus from winter break and was eager to see friends. A few members of SAE proceeded to invite their own guests into their own rooms while many other SAE members proceeded to do the same thing. Without any platform or

way to communicate who is letting in guests and who is not, there was no proper way to accurately identify a potential issue or how many people are actually within the house.

Once executive members of SAE began to realize the becoming issue, no other guests were allowed to enter into the house, no exceptions. At this point, guests and even members were asked to leave and go somewhere else, anywhere other than the house. Meanwhile, the President of SAE stood at the back door to ensure that absolutely no one could be allowed to enter the house while other executive members continued to clear the guests and members out of the house. By this point, the matters between an athletic team and our chapter began when an athlete was not allowed into our house, which he took the wrong way, thus sparking a completely freak incident.

As you can see, the FSL Social Policy is implemented in order to keep record of everyone in attendance so there can be complete transparency between university and police and fire officials so that our campus can maintain a safe environment for everyone.

After the incident on January 27th. Our risk management policy was reviewed with the Greek Life Coordinator and a presentation was given to all SAE members by the executive officer's so that we can all better understand how and why this happened and how it could have been prevented next time.