Superblock Stewardship Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Thursday, November 10, 2016, 12:00pm – 1:30pm

Meeting Location: President’s Conference Room, Bobst Library 12th floor

Members in attendance: Barbara Albrecht, Juan Bello, Anne Hearn, Larry Maslon, Allen Mincer, Ezra Sacks, Erica Silverman, Eero Simoncelli

Members Not in Attendance: Neal Herman, Angela Kamer, Joseph Onwughalu, Robert Shapley

Representatives: Lynne Brown, Senior VP, University Relations & Public Affairs (ex-officio)
Marlon Lynch, Vice President, Global Campus Safety
Erin Lynch, Assistant Vice President, Faculty Housing
Rachel Belsky, Project Director, University Relations (ex-officio)
Heather Banoub, Assistant Director of Communications, Community Engagement (ex-officio)
Erin Donnelly, Community Liaison, Faculty Housing

Invited Guests: Clare Aronow and David Gresham, Washington Square Village Affiliate Tenants Association Representatives

1. Welcome and Comments from the Chair
Chair Larry Maslon welcomed Committee members. He also welcomed Clare Aronow and David Gresham, representatives from the Washington Square Village Affiliate Tenants Association. This group is scheduled to have their first meeting later today (Thursday, November 10, 2016). Both Aronow and Gresham live in 3WSV with their families. They shared that the motivation for creating this Tenants Association was generated in response Maslon’s outreach and to establish a group for WSV affiliates to be represented and have their voices heard by the University. A small group of affiliated WSV residents met last year to discuss the need for a group of this nature. A vote was held that night to organize a more formal tenant association for NYU affiliates. The first meeting agenda includes a discussion about ideas for means of operation and the group plans to formalize processes at a second meeting in December. Banoub and Donnelly will be present at the meeting. Maslon and Banoub will bring copies of the Committee’s Quality of Life report to be distributed at the meeting.

2. Discussion of Ways to Engage the Tenants Associations and tenants in SSAC Proposals
Maslon requested the Committee jump to the last agenda item so the group would have time to discuss how SSAC proposals could be shared with the tenants associations and residents and feedback absorbed. Brown recommended an Open House be held to present the ideas and rationale developed by the SSAC thus far. Brown and Maslon discussed and recommend this open house be held on Wednesday, November 30. The Committee agreed and recommended the event take place from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, with two presentations, one at 5:30pm and a second at 6:30pm. The Office of Faculty Housing will send invitations to the Tenants Associations and Residents. Brown recommended
that the agenda cover: policies for the blocks and the Committee’s plan for superblock open space usage; a display of the digital lobby screen prototypes; and an informational update on the urban farm. Brown recommended the urban farm stakeholders also be invited to this event. Brown added that this would be a good opportunity for the community to meet Erin Donnelly and there could be a discussion about programming ideas. While unanimity is not expected, Brown said the feedback would provide Faculty Housing and University Administration with input to back up the policies. Brown said the feedback would be particularly helpful for the programming, policy and procedure portion of the discussion. For the digital lobby screens a decision will need to be made on whether or not to move forward. There is not much room for input on the urban farm. Belsky will share the process that took place and provide an update on the application next steps with the Landmark Preservation Commission (LPC).

Sacks recommended that signage be installed to explain what is happening at the urban farm. Brown said Belsky can work with the urban farm stakeholders on signage following a decision from the LPC.

Given its success, Maslon asked if there are take-aways from the Apartment Improvement Program that can be used at this Open House and moving forward as the SSAC rolls ideas out to the tenants associations and residents? E. Lynch said having the different options available in a vacant apartment for residents to see was very well received, so she thought having the Open House would help residents to see and understand the lobby screens and the other policies recommended. Brown and E. Lynch also said the Program received positive feedback about the clarity of the communications distributed to residents to learn about and engage with the program.

Mincer recommended the SSAC history be shared that the Open House. Maslon agreed it would be helpful to share with residents that may not know about the Committee’s formation. Another member recommended the information shared at the Open House be posted on a website for residents to access if they cannot attend. Maslon asked if the presentation can be recorded and posted as well. Brown said her team could look into this.

3. Updates
   a. Mercer Street Construction
   Banoub reported that demolition within the building interior, on the rooftop and the plaza continues, as the team awaits the structural demolition to grade permit, which is expected as early as the week of November 14, 2016. Structural demolition to grade is expected to continue through February and will require a crane to lift mechanical equipment onto the roof and into the building. This phase of work is scheduled to begin with cutting and lowering portions of the roof into the building interior. A Committee member asked why most building materials and debris will be relocated to the lower levels of the building. Belsky said the materials are being used as fill to shore up the foundation during the demolition.
   b. Open Space Enhancements
   Belsky passed out the latest version of the open space enhancement progress tracking sheet and let the Committee know that the new fences for the lawn behind Bareburger, the Community Agriculture Club lawn, and the Key Park have been ordered. The installation at the Bareburger and Club lawns is expected to begin as early as next week. The Key Park installation is scheduled to take place after Thanksgiving. The signage for the Oak Grove has also been ordered. Mincer said he did not think the signs would successfully change behavior. Brown said the signage is a start and the team would be assessing its impact on behavior. Sacks recommended there be scheduled “open community time” at the lawn behind Bareburger so it is not always reserved for events.
c. **LPC Update: Urban Farm and New Path**

Belsky shared that the applications for the urban farm and new path have been submitted to the LPC and the team awaits a public hearing date.

4. **Next Meeting**

Brown reminded the Committee of the next meeting on Thursday, December 1, from noon to 1:30pm. The architects and Linda Chiarelli will provide an update on the Mercer Street programming and design. Brown let the Committee know that the architects would be presenting the building’s programming and design to the Senate on Thursday, December 8, 2016, and the update would then be rolled out to the University community. There is an open house scheduled for later that afternoon where the University community can meet the architects and ask questions. The Open House space in WSV will officially open in the new year.

Maslon asked Brown for an update on Karen Gulino’s new role. Brown reported that Gulino has been appointed by the Provost to be Associate Vice Provost and Chief of Staff to the Provost. As Faculty Housing reports to the Provost’s office, Gulino will be part of the mix in Faculty Housing.

Maslon asked for an update on Gulino’s idea for a community policing public safety effort around WSV and ST. Brown said Marlon Lynch is reviewing Gulino’s idea. Marlon said once there are policies and signs in place, it will help Public Safety with enforcement. Brown and M. Lynch agreed to revisit this in the spring after M. Lynch has had time to assess the community policing idea.