



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC Meeting began at 7:00 p.m., with Curtis Gehrke presiding.

Topics covered:

I. Special Presentation Speaker: Christopher Williams, Acting Superintendent Seattle Parks

Superintendent Williams has been with Parks Dept for 20 years. Park land makes up 10% of Seattle's land mass. There are 438 parks: 25% of residents live within 50 feet of a park, 13,000 homes are adjacent to parks, and 50% of Seattle's trees are in parks. The department's budget is \$120 million. Volunteers contribute \$350 million worth of labor in the parks. Parks continues to acquire property to make new parks, building a legacy for future generations. Dense cities need open space. Pocket parks create open space in neighborhoods. Magnuson Park is an example of a park that is being transformed from a local park into a regional park with many amenities for the whole city.

Citizen perception of safety in parks is important. Safety principles include:

- Maintenance – clean and tidy parks are seen as safer
- Positive activity – having play areas, things to do
- Enforcement of rules – there are 68 rules on parks in RCW, and there is a code of conduct (see seattleparks.gov) that Parks personnel enforce
- Design – good lines of sight, trimmed shrubs, few places to hide

Citizen role in parks safety is to be vigilant: call 9-1-1 or non-emergency police number if you see bad behavior in a park. Citizens may also be involved in other ways, such as being forest stewards, joining advisory councils, joining Friends of <Your Favorite Park> , working with Green Seattle Partnership (GSP) to rid parks of invasive plants, and many other volunteer activities.

There are six park rangers, but they can only work downtown and at Cal Sanderson Park.

Given current budget constraints, across the country the trend in park management is to form partnerships with private businesses, sell naming rights (sponsorships), and allow commercial activities in the parks, such as sports arenas and food venues. Seattle is a little behind the curve to embrace these, but some opportunities are being taken or explored, such as tasteful plaques, food venues. This may cause citizen growing pains/resistance, but the intent is to always have public benefit in mind.

II. Precinct Update: Lt. Ron Rasmussen

- a. Detective Unit Supervisor Jeff Durden reported: Extra police patrols and detective investigations are targeting a rash of nighttime occupied home burglaries in NP. Many are not forced entry – lock your windows and doors! Don't store your car keys by the door; they are stealing cars as they leave. There are probably multiple perpetrators. Help the police by being vigilant and call 9-1-1 if you see something suspicious.
- b. February was a busy month
 - i. KMart armed robbery, where manager was shot, but restrained the robber
 - ii. Homicide in Woodland park – two South Seattle residents in a tussle
 - iii. Arrested three burglars (unrelated to the pattern cited above)
 - iv. Officers cruise by clubs on the weekend, establish relationships with owners
 - v. Caught U District sex offender who broke in and tied up 8 UW female students

III. Crime Prevention Report: Terrie Johnston

Very busy sending out burglary alerts, doing home security audits, and block watch talks. She also participated in a UW sorority night walk.

IV. City Attorney's Office: Jana Jorgenson

- a. Re: graffiti, take a photo and send it, along with the location and description of the problem, to customer service at 311@seattle.gov
- b. Jana can answer legal questions about medical marijuana dispensaries
- c. Office is working on some liquor sales issues to do with the restrictions on sales of higher octane beverages and the new privatization of liquor sales

V. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent

- a. Arrested a gun-toting meth dealer in Ballard
- b. Arrested a man trying to lure kids off the bus
- c. Caught a heroin addict/residential burglar after a foot chase in Tangletown

VI. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom

- a. Handed out a basic first aid kit list
- b. After show of hands in support, Dianne will try to get our NP picnic in July as usual, instead of the SPD planned August picnic date for all the precincts. Seems like the latter would make it hard to get the popular units to all five picnics.
- c. Saturday, March 10 is the Mayor's Wedgwood town hall, 10am – 12 pm at Wedgwood Presbyterian Church. See announcement [here](#) (note it says 11 am - 12 pm)
- d. Introduced CPT Officer Scott McGlashan

VII. Liquor Control Board: Judy Lewis – absent, no report

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Issues: Doug Thiel - absent, no report
- b. Membership: Dick Hillmann - please give him any roster changes. If you have an email address change, talk to him after the meeting or phone him as well as putting it on the attendance sheet.
- c. Secretary: Nancy Rauhauser – minutes and agendas will be mailed to you from spd.npac@gmail.com, so please make sure your email spam filter allows it (mark it as safe)

IX. Old Business - none

X. New Business

- a. Liquor Control Board extended hours hearing is March 12, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm in Bertha Knight Landes room, City Hall. See more info [here](#).
- b. Visit Dunn Gardens for free March 18, 2-4 pm. RSVP and tell them you're Gloria Butts' guest. You can RSVP [here](#).

XI. Next Month's Agenda

- a. Mayor Mike McGinn will be the special presentation speaker
- b. We will be back in our normal room #1360 off of the cafeteria

XII. Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.