SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES May 7, 2014

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC meeting began at 7:05 p.m. with Ruedi Risler presiding.

Topics covered:

- 1. Special Presentation Speaker: Captain David Emerick
 - a. Discussed the results of the survey we took to our neighbors asking them about their concerns and fears. Probably 60% of crimes are reported, leaving 40% unreported. Another way to supplement SPD knowledge of what is going on and what to focus on is to do surveys like this.
 - b. Top five most mentioned crimes:
 - i. Residential burglaries
 - ii. Car prowls
 - iii. Drug use
 - iv. Graffiti
 - v. Traffic violations/pedestrian safety/speeding
 - c. Top five most mentioned fears:
 - i. Dark streets
 - ii. Lack of police presence; long response time; release of repeat offenders
 - iii. Noise from bars, parties
 - iv. Personal safety
 - v. Transients
 - d. The greatest concern for UW students is feeling unsafe at night around campus.
 - e. Outcome of the survey will be to initiate a collaborative project between SPD, NPAC and city services, to select, prioritize and tackle specific problems in our neighborhoods.
 - f. There will be four teams, each handling an issue:
 - i. Traffic safety
 - ii. Street lighting
 - iii. Human services
 - iv. Drugs/anti-crime
 - g. Each issue will be coordinated by a NPAC member and a SPD lieutenant. The NPAC member will work with other council members to choose neighborhood problems to work on. The lieutenant will coordinate SPD activities to deal with the problem. SPD may conduct a 1-2 week focus on the area, or help NPAC solicit help from a city service (such as getting a street light).

h. To gauge success, the NPAC member will solicit feedback from the community and the SPD lieutenant will collect data on actions taken (e.g. tickets issued, streetlights added)

2. Precinct Update: Captain David Emerick/Lt. Lesley Cordner

- a. New North Precinct building still in pre-design phase
 - i. May 8-9 are artist interviews for artwork for the site (% for art ordinance).
 - ii. May 15 design team updates the Seattle Design Commission on its progress.
 - iii. Awaiting the report of a consultant hired to study possible co-location for other uses on the property.
- b. Crime statistics (note that due to a data glitch, residential burglary, car theft and car prowl are not included this month)
 - i. In all but one category, crimes are down compared to YTD last year.
- c. Marijuana -
 - Legalization of recreational marijuana is making it harder to get marijuana sellers off the street, like on the Ave. Have to apply different laws for different quantities, there is more paperwork, etc. People may resell marijuana they buy at legal retail stores.
 - ii. Feds are mostly interested in keeping marijuana business out of the hands of organized crime, and keeping minors from getting marijuana.
 - iii. SPD can focus on hot spots, but sellers just move around and come back later.
 - iv. Citing for DUI of marijuana is difficult right now because not all officers are trained in drug recognition.

3. Crime Prevention Report: Elizabeth Scott

- a. Elizabeth finished transitioning from old job, took out-of-state training, and is starting to work on the backlog of requests collected while the position was vacant.
- b. Burglaries go up in summer, due to people leaving doors and windows open, more people being out and about, and more construction.
- c. Burglars look for easy access, so lock those windows, put ladders away, don't leave bricks by windows that they can use to break them, etc.
- d. Keep your eye on the neighborhood and if you see something, say something.

4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy

- a. Marijuana background checks and other verification is being done on those who won the lottery for marijuana retail stores. Ten are in the North Precinct, mostly along Aurora, and none in Lake City nor the U District. The entire list is at https://lcb.app.box.com/updated-retail-lottery. One can voice location concerns to the Liquor Control Board (though I couldn't find where on their website).
- b. Ballard Bridge encampments CAO is working with SDOT on trespassing signage and no-parking hours, which will give tools to SPD to deal with the problem.

- c. Sisley properties by Roosevelt High court will be ruling in 60-90 days on their large judgements and fines that are in arrears.
- d. Prostitution reviewed again the new Community Court track that prostitutes can take to get their cases dismissed. Next month's NPAC guest speaker will have more details on this.

5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Deputy Prosecutor Mari Isaacson

- a. In March a bill was passed to make it a felony to possess a firearm when you are in the middle of a domestic violence investigation, not just after you are convicted.
- b. Danford Grant pleaded guilty on five counts of rape in the 3rd degree of Chinese masseuses, so this will not have to go to trial. He will get 25 years in prison.
- 6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent no report
- 7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
 - a. This month's handout is a list of non-police public safety contact numbers.
 - b. CPT Officer Mike Lanz introduced himself. He's been on SPD 15 years, mostly 3rd watch, half of it downtown. Transferred to NP in 2006, and now he's in the U District.
 - c. There won't be a precinct picnic this year. When a new SPD Chief arrives, Seattle Police Foundation will work with him/her to decide on community outreach efforts.
- 8. Liquor Control Board: Dean Lambert
 - a. We welcomed Dean to the meeting. He is covering Judy Lewis' old territory in U District Wallingford and Fremont.
- 9. Committee Reports
 - a. Issues: Doug Thiel
 - b. Membership: Inga Manskopf please give Inga any roster changes.
- 10. Member Organization Profile Broadview, by Katy Dwyer
 - a. Broadview stretches from NE 105th to NE 145th, and from Aurora to Puget Sound and was named for its broad views of the Olympic Mountains. It is also known for its many tall trees. It was settled after the great fire of 1889.
 - b. Carkeek Park is an over 100 year old jewel. Another Broadview treasure, Dunn Gardens, was designed by the Olmstead Brothers. Washelli Cemetery is also in its boundaries. There is a Broadview Historical Society.
 - c. Its partnership with the North Precinct goes back a long time; it procured a grant to hire the very first Crime Prevention Officer.
 - d. Broadview is very diverse; Aurora is a heavy influence.
 - e. Sidewalks are on Broadview's wish list.

11. Old Business

a. The council voted unanimously to send a letter to city officials declaring NPAC's

opposition to co-location for other uses on the new North Precinct building property. The president will send it May 8th.

12. New Business

- a. In May and June we take nominations for President, Vice-President and Secretary. All 3 officers are willing to serve another year, but we encourage you to volunteer or nominate someone. To do so, please send email to spd.npac@gmail.com. We will vote in June.
- b. The Executive Board is drafting a change to the bylaws to increase the Board to include the Membership Chair, the Issues Chair, and up to four at-large council members. We will present the proposed changes in June.
- c. There WILL be a NPAC meeting in July; this is a change from last year.

13. Next Month's agenda

a. Guest speakers will discuss the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program that can divert low-level drug and prostitution offenders into community-based treatment and support services, instead of processing them through traditional criminal justice system avenues.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.