



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2017

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with Inga Manskopf presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation: findings and final recommendations of the Seattle and King County Heroin & Prescription Opiate Addiction Task Force (PowerPoint attached)
 - a. Speakers:
 - i. Brad Finegood, Assistant Director, King County Behavioral Health & Recovery Division
 - ii. Dr. Jim Walsh, addiction specialist, Swedish Hospital
 - iii. Thea Oliphant-Wells, Social Worker, King County Public Health
 - iv. Kris Nyrop, Public Defenders Association
 - v. Sgt. Sean Whitcomb, Seattle Police Department
 - b. Two of the speakers had brothers who died of overdoses, and one speaker is a recovering user.
 - c. Task force had over 40 participants from many organizations related to the issue, as well as former addicts and people who lost relatives, so it was a broad coalition that could look at the problem from many angles.
 - d. Heroin and opioid use is at crisis level. There are more overdose deaths than deaths by car crashes. It is estimated that 1% of population of King County are injection drug users (23,000). Part of the increase in heroin use came because a few years ago laws made it harder to get prescription opioids.
 - e. Mayor Murray and KC Executive Constantine called for the task force. It was convened for 6 months to come up with recommendations for short and long term strategies to prevent abuse and addiction, prevent overdose, and to improve access to different types of treatment for opioid addiction.
 - f. Three workgroups were created to study
 - i. Prevention - increase awareness of possible adverse effects; educate on safe storage and disposal of medicines; work with schools.
 - ii. Treatment - increase accessibility of buprenorphine; make treatment available for all types of substance abuse disorders; alleviate artificial barriers placed on opioid treatment programs.
 - iii. User health and services - keep distributing naloxone kits to homeless

shelters, SPD, first responders, to treat overdoses; create at least 2 sites where adults can go for supervised consumption of opioids.

- g. Thea pointed out that the strategy needs to include helping people who are not ready to actually go into treatment. Stigmatizing, shaming and blaming don't help people quit. Needle exchange tells users that the community cares enough about them to help them stay healthy even if they aren't ready to go into treatment. A goal of the task force is to offer people what they need when they need it. This can mean offering safe injection sites to improve health, as well as eliminating long waiting lists for treatment.
 - h. Safe injection sites
 - i. Not only help users stay healthy (and get fast treatment if they overdose); users talking with social workers and nurses on site can start them thinking differently, and eventually open up opportunities for change.
 - ii. Will help make communities healthier and safer - reduce needles lying around, etc. So the first sites will be located where there are already big problems with overdoses, outdoor shooting up, and discarded needles lying around.
 - iii. Starting with two sites as a pilot program. Can later expand to other neighborhoods that would benefit from them. Many would be good because users aren't going to travel far to use; data shows it's about 5 blocks. None will be established in areas that don't already have problems.
 - iv. Research shows safe injection sites save municipalities a lot of money.
 - v. It does NOT mean heroin is being decriminalized. SPD will still go after dealers and prolific offenders. Data analysis will continue to find which neighborhoods to focus SPD efforts.
 - i. Addiction is the only disease model where we expect the person to give up the symptoms before getting treatment.
 - j. Strategies having public health and public safety intersect and work together on the problem. SPD directing users to services instead of just arresting them is more useful.
2. Precinct Update: Captain Sean O'Donnell/Lt. Kevin Grossman
- a. Captain Sackman has been transferred to another area. The split of North Precinct into two is on hold until facilities and funding can be procured. It is going to be a while. Lt. Kevin Grossman is the new Operations Lieutenant. He lives in Lake City.
 - b. Captain cited these NP priorities at the SPD CSTAT meeting this week:
 - i. Maintain the lowered level of crimes against persons. We have a bit lower levels than other parts of the city. Focus on priority call responses; get complete information for data driven deployment/focus.
 - ii. Focus on reducing property crimes using data.
 - iii. Continue managing homelessness - both sanctioned and unsanctioned encampments, and RV parking. This is tempered by finite resources.

- c. Emphasis patrols now on University Way, which is a hotspot for property crimes; Aurora corridor with ODs and vice; lower Ballard along the canal.
 - d. Residential burglary had a slight increase in U District and Fremont; car prowls had slight increase in Woodland Park, South Green Lake.
3. Crime Prevention Report: Mary Amberg
 - a. Has been working with condo and apartment owners to help them with crime prevention. They are having parking garage issues.
 - b. Handed out a flyer about a string of rock smash burglaries around April 2016 in high-end homes (attached). Three Seattleites were arrested in January and a lot of property was recovered. If you think you may have been a victim, contact the detective at pdpline@bellevuewa.gov to arrange to view recovered property.
4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy
 - a. He's still here! But this is his last meeting. CAO is interviewing replacements, so hopefully we'll have a new one next month. Again, best wishes to Brendan in New York.
5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - no report
6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent is still recovering, working about half time, but not here today.
7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
 - a. A couple reminders about social media site NextDoor
 - i. It is not a crime reporting tool. You won't get a police response by posting there. That said, it can be used to let your neighbors know about crimes.
 - ii. SPD doesn't respond to complaints about insults hurled on NextDoor.
 - b. Final sock count for our 2016 efforts: 4483 pairs of socks, 202 hats, 52 scarves, 96 pairs of gloves, 7 blankets, 3 coats, 6 hand and feet warmers. Attached is a tally sheet which also shows where the goods were distributed. Thank you!
8. WA Liquor & Cannabis Board: Lucy Peterson
 - a. Introduced a new LCB officer for U District, Eric Huska.
 - b. As always, complaints about compliance may be entered on their website, <http://lcb.wa.gov>.
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership: Michael Cuadra - please give Michael any roster changes. If you come regularly and want to be on the sign-in checklist instead of continuing to fill in the visitor's list, ask Michael. We'll make you a name tent, too!
 - b. Focus Groups - Social Services group has written a letter advocating SPD Crisis

Response Team expansion. Will present to NPAC in March.

- c. Issues: Curtis Gehrke
 - i. Last month Captain Sackman said that advocating for the police is useful. His wish list includes 3 more Community Police Team officers, a bike patrol for third watch, and more NP officers in general. The executive board will draft advocacy letters on these three needs. They can be templates for others to use. We'll encourage you to also write letters to city officials, both as individuals and through your community councils and other organizations. Stay tuned.

10. Business, Old and New

- a. In April we've invited the three north end city council members to be our guest speakers.
- b. Lisa Daugaard from the Community Police Commission announced that the Mayor is making the commission permanent. CPC will broaden, and would like to partner with NPAC.

11. Next Month's Agenda

- a. Dan Nelson will speak about the SPD Crisis Response Team

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.