



## SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

*Expanding Communication between the Police and Community*

### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

April 4, 2018

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

Please share this information with your neighborhood and business organizations.

The monthly NPAC meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with Steve Dougherty presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: He cancelled
2. Precinct Update: Lt Abram Barker
  - a. Don't give up on calling SPD. Do call 911 if you see suspicious activity. It's true that if there aren't enough officers available, there can be a delay to get someone there. And even after calls are triaged, new calls coming in may be higher priority and bump your call down in priority. The importance of calling, besides getting police to respond, is to log the problem in the database so the precinct can see what's going on around the neighborhoods. It uses data to allocate patrols and assign temporary special emphasis efforts. So even if you've had a crime that is unlikely to be solved, such as a car prowl, call it in so statistics on car prowls are more accurate. Or in that case, reporting it on-line would work, so you don't have to wait for an officer to come out to take the report.
  - b. Narcotics Unit is currently concerned about a rapid rise of use of hard street drugs. Methamphetamine is half the price it was five years ago, and use is spiking. Cocaine use is going down, apparently because users are transitioning to cheaper meth. To date this year, SPD has seized more meth than it did all last year. Heroin use is also rising.
  - c. North Precinct continues to focus on reducing property and person crimes and addressing ongoing community public safety issues. It was giving extra budget to allow an extra 300 overtime hours for April. It is being divided into three 100 hour emphasis efforts. Will compare statistics this April to last April to see if the efforts helped.
    - i. Northgate Mall area - targeting Metro Transit station, car theft, car prowl, trespass
    - ii. Aurora & 85th area - tracking down outstanding warrants, etc.
    - iii. Foot beat in Ballard area, especially the Commons
  - d. There have been some street robberies; are working on addressing. They are not

particularly clustered in any one area. Though there have been some north of the fraternities in U District, around 19th & 53rd, and near University Village shopping mall. YTD there have been 128 robberies in NP; some are shoplifts gone bad (a scuffle).

- e. The Mayor's Crimes Task Force has been to the North Precinct twice about retail theft issues. The 10th most active store is Home Depot. Fred Meyer in Ballard is a problem, too.
  - f. On April 3rd SPD took precautions to a handbill circulating that advocated doing harm to Muslims. CPT Officer Kennedy was put on point to address security at Idris Mosque, and all officers were informed of the potential issue at roll call.
  - g. Idris Mosque is aware of frequent picketing by a man on Friday afternoons. They are not concerned about him and understand his right to free speech. They do ask that people refrain from calling them to tell them about him, as they know he's there.
  - h. Q: There is some indication that meth is being produced in vehicles in Fremont. Please tell SPD if you see it (911)! For ongoing concerns about it, contact the Community Police Team in your area. It can get the Narcotics Unit involved if it's warranted.
  - i. Q: Can a drug sniffing dog detect a meth vehicle? Yes.
  - j. Q: Is the Jackson Lone memorial playground being cleaned up? Yes.  
<https://blog.seattlepi.com/educatingmom/2006/08/25/memorial-playground-for-fallen-spd-officer/>
3. Crime Prevention Coordinator: Mary Amberg
    - a. National Prescription Drug Take-back day is Saturday, April 28, from 10 am to 2 pm. Take your unused drugs to the North Precinct, 10049 College Way N. *Poster attached.*
  4. City Attorney's Office: Meagan Westphal
    - a. Settled the lawsuit about the illegal skateboard park built on Duck Island in Greenlake. \$30,000 was paid to fix the damage.
    - b. Public comment period is soon over for Alcohol Impact Areas. NPAC sent in a letter of support of continuing. <https://lcb.wa.gov/licensing/alcohol-impact-areas>
    - c. City is appealing the judge's ruling that a man living in his truck is not liable for towing and impounding fees.
  5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: Gavriel Jacobs
    - a. Due to lack of staffing (budget) a small segment of low-level misdemeanor cases are being dismissed. In Seattle this doesn't have a lot of public safety impact since Seattle Municipal Court handles those types of crimes, not the county. Some that are being dropped involve the highways, bus crimes, Metro properties, UW Police Dept. DUI and assault are still a focus.
  6. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom

- a. The North Precinct picnic will be August 18th at the North Precinct, 10049 College Way N.
  - b. National Night Out in Seattle is the first Tuesday in August (August 7). Note that you can get a Small Sparks Grant to fund activities at your event. Application for a grant begins even before registration for the event. Keep your eye out for information. <https://www.seattle.gov/police/community-policing/night-out>
7. Committee Reports
- a. Membership: If you come regularly and would like to be on the member sign-in checklist instead of the visitor's list, please email [spd.npac@gmail.com](mailto:spd.npac@gmail.com).
  - b. Issues: Curtis Gehrke
8. Business, Old and New
- a. At the May meeting we'll take nominations for NPAC officers. And we are looking for a volunteer to be membership chair.
9. Next Month's Agenda
- a. Sgt Richard Welch, our guest speaker who had to cancel for this meeting, will speak at the May meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.