



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 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: Sgt Richard Welch, North Precinct Burglary/Theft Investigations Team
 - a. Lt Barker presented Sgt Welch with a 35 year award.
 - b. The Burglary/Theft Investigations Team investigates property crimes and crime committed by minors within each precinct. Being located within each precinct allows for closer communication with patrol, and more direct follow-up with property crime victims.
 - c. North Precinct has the highest volume in the city (it is the largest precinct). 16,000 crime reports are reviewed each year; that is about 1,300 a month.
 - d. The sergeant reviews all these reports having to do with burglary; theft; organized retail theft; property damage; pawn shops; dog bites; juvenile cases.
 - e. The sergeant triages the reports; that is, evaluates them to pick out the ones that have the kind of information/evidence/leads that the team can use to investigate and follow up on. Due to staffing (and they'd love to have more investigators), only about 10% of the cases are investigated. The victim is not notified if their crime is not going to be investigated. Admittedly, the unit could do a better job informing those whose cases are assigned for investigation.
 - f. The sergeant assigns the chosen cases to an investigator. The investigator follows leads, examines videos, etc., trying to solve the crime. With the right information, the investigator may write up a crime notice and send it out to the street patrols to keep a lookout.
 - g. Videos are very useful to investigations; if a report has a good video, usually some effort can be put into the case. When people give videos to media before giving them to the police, and they are broadcast, investigation is tainted, and a critical window can be lost because it can take days for SPD to get the video.
 - h. Tips:
 - i. Do not leave valuables in sight in your car. The team reads lots of car

prowl reports where valuable electronics, purses, etc. were stolen. And there are a lot of reports of unsecured guns stolen from cars.

- ii. Do not confront a car prowler - call 911. Even officers don't confront by themselves; they call for backup. A thief could have a gun. A thief could remember where you live and take revenge. At most, yell from a window and then call 911.
- iii. Consider hiding your car registration in the car; there is a trend toward thieves taking registrations from the glovebox as further ID proof (not useful as primary).
- iv. Secure garages such as at apartment buildings are not really secure. Take precautions.
- v. Record the serial number of your bike and take a photo of the bike. You can register it at bikeindex.org, a national database.
- vi. Photograph valuable jewelry and get appraisals if possible. By law, pawn shops must keep jewelry 30 days, then they melt it down. SPD sends photos of stolen jewelry to pawn shops in the area.
- vii. Property moves quickly once stolen. Thieves trade stuff around - bikes go to thieves dealing in bikes, etc. So reporting stolen goods quickly with as much information as possible is important. And remember that the more info you have, the more likely your report will be assigned to an investigator for follow-up.

2. Precinct Update: Lt Abram Barker

- a. Reinforced the tip to NOT confront car prowlers. Some criminals have nothing to lose, and you could get hurt or worse.
- b. Crime statistics, last 28 days, compared to same period last year:
 - i. These crimes are down:
 1. Sex offense: -29% (from 21 to 15)
 2. Robbery: -17% (30 to 25)
 3. Residential burglary: -12% (164 to 145)
 4. Commercial burglary: -10% (62 to 56)
 5. Car prowler: -30% (398 to 278)
 - ii. These crimes are up:
 1. Aggravated assault: 36% (25 to 34)
 2. Arson: 200% (1 to 3)
 3. Larceny-theft: 8% (267 to 288)
 4. Car theft: 9% (78 to 85)
- c. Last month he described three emphasis areas: Northgate, Licton Springs and Ballard. Improvement was noted in Northgate, but no movement in Licton Springs yet. The Ballard extra foot patrol is still underway.
- d. Emphasis money will be redirected in summer to troublesome parks. Magnuson Park and Golden Gardens will get extra patrol officers on Friday and Saturday nights. Magnuson will get 4 and Golden Gardens will get 5 and a supervisor.

- e. To report streets/intersections with high number of crashes or hazardous conditions, call the Traffic Division at 206-684-8757. It can monitor the street. But traffic signage issues go to Seattle Department of Transportation.
3. Crime Prevention Coordinator: Mary Amberg - no report
4. City Attorney's Office: Meagan Westphal
 - a. Update on Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) coming to North Precinct: Meetings have been held, training is coming in May, looking at office space at NP for the additional attorney.
 - b. Joint Enforcement Team (for nightlife issues) has targeted a few establishments that may be problematic. If you know of some with chronic problems, please let Meagan know, at meagan.westphal@seattle.gov
5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: Amanda Froh
 - a. There are four prosecutors who work on high-pro (highly prolific) criminals' prosecutions. They work to get the highest possible sentences, coordinating with other counties, etc.
 - b. Feel free to contact Amanda with any questions or concerns, especially in her specialty area, which is elder abuse. amanda.froh@kingcounty.gov
6. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
 - a. May is ride your bike to school month, so as drivers, be aware there may be more kids out riding. Especially note May 9th, Bike to School Day.
 - b. See attached flyer: Bicycle Theft Prevention Bulletin
 - c. Crime prevention tip: lock your doors and windows, even when you are in the backyard. Do not leave valuable electronics in sight through open windows; it's easy to slit a screen and grab the goods quickly.
 - d. Socks for the sock drive are always welcome. Bring them to the NPAC meeting or drop them off at the North Precinct.
 - e. Save the date: Saturday, August 15 is the precinct picnic at the precinct building. More info eventually will be here:
<http://www.seattlepolicefoundation.org/events/precinct-picnics>
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.
8. Business, Old and New
 - a. Elections:
 - i. Nominations are open for the three NPAC officers for next year: September to June. Katy Dwyer was nominated for president, Andrea Perr was nominated for vice-president, and Nancy Rauhauser was nominated

for secretary. If you have more nominations please send them to spd.npac@gmail.com

- ii. If you'd like to be more involved in NPAC by being an at-large board member, let us know at spd.npac@gmail.com.
- iii. The board is also looking for a membership chair. If you'd like to volunteer to be considered, please contact NPAC at spd.npac@gmail.com.
- iv. Elections for the officers will be held at the June meeting.

b. Secure prescription drug take-back

- i. Aside from the occasional SPD take-back event, King County has a program. Find collection locations near you at <https://kingcountysecuremedicinereturn.org/>.

9. Next Month's Agenda

- a. We are trying to get City Council members representing the north precinct.
- b. The June meeting will be the last one until September.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.