



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

September 5, 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 Katy Dwyer presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speakers: Be SMART, with Janette Ambauen & Barbara Leigh
 - a. BeSmart is a campaign by Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America to reduce child gun deaths. See BeSMARTforKids.org.
 - b. It does presentations to many groups about responsible gun ownership. Politics aside, and laws aside, it offers commonsense solutions to gun violence.
 - c. The premise is that everyone agrees that:
 - i. We all want kids to grow up safe
 - ii. We each have the right to decide how to protect our families and whether to keep guns in our homes
 - iii. It is our responsibility to prevent kid gun deaths
 - d. Every year almost 300 kids 17 and under in the US gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else.
 - e. Kids are 11 times more likely to die by shooting than in the other developed countries. An average of 1300 lives a year of those 17 or under die by gun violence. Almost 500 kids a year die by suicide via guns.
 - f. **SMART** is an acronym for steps you can take to make kids safe from guns
 - g. **S = Secure** all guns in your home and vehicles. They should be locked, unloaded and stored separately from ammunition. Hiding a gun is not secure; curious kids can find them - 70% of kids under 10 know where their parents store their guns. The majority of school shootings use guns from the home. 4.6 million kids live in homes with guns loaded & unlocked.
 - h. **M = Model** responsible behavior around guns. Be sure all adults in the home are trained in gun use. Model safe handling, such as pointing guns in a safe direction, always treat them as loaded, don't rely on the gun's safety lock.
 - i. **A = Ask** about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes your kids go to. Talk to family and caregivers. Volunteer information about guns in your home.
 - j. **R = Recognize** the risks of teen suicide. Suicide is an impulsive act & unlikely to

be tried again. Gun suicide attempts result in death 85% of the time. Unsecured guns in the home are a risk factor for suicide. Signs of risk are changes in mood or behavior, talking about wanting to kill oneself, and feeling helpless. The national suicide prevention lifeline is 1-800-273-TALK.

- k. **T = Tell** your peers to be SMART. Talk to family, friends, and neighbors about gun safety. Volunteer to be a BeSMART presenter. Since May 2005 over 2000 volunteers have trained to present the program.
 - l. King County has a Lok It Up website about safe gun storage:
<https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/violence-injury-prevention/violence-prevention/gun-violence/LOK-IT-UP.aspx>
 - m. Seattle's responsible storage legislation will go into effect February 13, 2019.
<http://durkan.seattle.gov/2018/07/mayor-jenny-durkan-signs-her-safe-storage-legislation/>
2. Precinct Update: Captain Sean O'Donnell
- a. Acknowledged appointment of Carmen Best to Chief of Police. See other command staff changes at
<https://www.seattle.gov/police/about-us/about-the-department/command-staff>
 - b. Though 911 has triaged and prioritized calls as usual, over the busy summer there have been some call backlogs during shift changes.
 - c. North Precinct priorities:
 - i. Reduce person crimes and continue to focus on property crimes
 - ii. Use data from 911 calls (data driven policing)
 - iii. Focus on homeless and RV issues, including responses related to service needs of this population
 - d. With summer over, some emphasis patrols at Golden Gardens and Magnuson Park are being shifted to the Aurora corridor (8000 - 10000 blocks and Licton Springs neighborhood), Northgate, and lower Ballard & Fremont.
 - e. Statistics
 - i. Year to date 911 calls have increased in North Precinct 4.88% from 2017 YTD. Crime overall has decreased 3%, which is 290 incidents less. Person crimes are up 2% overall while property crimes are down 3%.
 - ii. Sex offences are down 9%
 - iii. Robbery is up 6%. Over 88% of them are shoplifts gone bad, in that a shopkeeper tries to stop a thief and assault occurs.
 - iv. Aggravated assaults are up 8%. These are hard to proactively prevent; trying to look for patterns.
 - v. Aggravated domestic violence is down 7%
 - vi. Residential burglary is same as last year YTD
 - vii. Commercial burglary is up 13%
 - viii. Arson is down 42% since they caught one guy
 - ix. Larceny is up 2%
 - x. Car prowls are down 14%

- xi. Auto theft is up 10%. There are now 3 patrol cars fitted with license plate readers, an effective tool for finding stolen cars.
 - f. The new women-only authorized encampment at 8000 block of 15th NW is full, with 14 people.
 - g. The encampment at Licton Springs has 60 people, near 8600 Aurora.
 - h. There is also a Northlake authorized encampment.
 - i. SPD tries to offer these folks services with the goal of getting them housed. SPD also takes action if criminal activity is seen. Navigation Team is a cross-department team dedicated to addressing homelessness.
 - j. Citywide, crisis calls are up 25% over last year. They are a significant part of SPD's workload. Only 2% of crisis call responses involve use of force, a testament to SPD's increased officer training and policy changes.
3. Crime Prevention Coordinator: Mary Amberg
- a. Stats for the 2018 Night Out registered neighborhood events by precinct:
 - i. East - 101
 - ii. South - 133
 - iii. West - 141
 - iv. Southwest - 309
 - v. North - 842 NP is twice as big as the others, but still!
 - b. Mary has been doing pea patch safety meetings that include crop theft prevention
 - c. Be on the lookout for phone scams. There's one going around that is using SPD's burglary detective phone number. Hang up and call SPD. A letter and email scam is also going around, saying they have a bad secret of yours and asking for hush money to be paid in bitcoin. Call Mary if you get a scam.
 - d. The Micro Community Policing Plan intern Mike Sowby is graduating. Thanks for all your outreach! He introduced new intern Anastasiya Shevchuk.
4. City Attorney's Office: Meagan Westphal
- a. CAO has been prosecuting two north end cases over the summer.
 - i. Scantily clad man around Green Lake offering hugs and photographing young women has 2 counts of misdemeanor assault for pepper spraying a man and his small child, and another charge for brandishing a sword.
 - ii. A woman at Ballard Community Center pushed and injured a 4 year old. She fled, and SPD found her and arrested her for assault. She is going through mental health court.
5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: Gavriel Jacobs
- a. There is a focus on repeat property crime offenders and crime rings with the goal to get extra jail time for them.
 - b. In answer to a question about prostitution -
 - i. King County handles felonies, such as pimping, promoting prostitution.
 - ii. Seattle handles misdemeanors such as prostitution and patronizing

prostitutes.

- iii. The SPD Vice Unit is in plainclothes so you won't often recognize that SPD is out there where prostitution is going on, like along Aurora. The focus is on the demand side (johns & pimps); rarely are prostitutes arrested any more. When you see a pimp, call 911.

6. Community Police Team: Office Mike Lanz

- a. Sgt Dianne Newsom fractured her elbow on 4th of July duty; Mike Lanz is filling in for her.
- b. Question about the illegal encampment and public urinating and defecating near the Lake City post office: SPD is aware of it. If the people are caught sitting or lying on public property (as opposed to the private parking lot) officers can write up violation reports. If they accumulate unpaid, they can be referred to the City Attorney's Office to prosecute. SPD is also trying to offer them services. There is a notification process that the Navigation Team has to abide by before an encampment can be removed and cleaned up.

7. Business/Announcements/Questions

- a. Ballard District Council is having a presentation on Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) on Wednesday, September 12, 7-8:30 pm at Sunset Hill Community Association Clubhouse, 3003 NW 66th St.
- b. Are crime statistics counted from both 911 and non-emergency calls? Yes.
- c. Commendation: SWAT did a great job at a call in Whittier Heights.
- d. Feedback on NPAC's new venue: the school front door was locked for a late-comer. The Captain will follow up about that.
- e. Encampments on I-5 freeway exits are on WashDOT property.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.