

**Next SSCO Safety Committee meeting:
Thursday, November 20, at 6:00 p.m.
Loring Nicollet Center, 1925 Nicollet Ave
For more information, visit www.sscoweb.org or call Dave at (612) 874-2840.**

**SSCO SAFETY COMMITTEE
Notes from the meeting of October 23, 2008, at 1925 Nicollet Ave.**

PRESENT Michele McGaughey and Ken Strobel, co-chairs; Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen, Hennepin County Community Probation; Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police 5th Precinct; Lisa Godon, City Attorney's office; Molly McCarthy, Stevens Supportive Housing; Don Lepper, Lydia Apartments; John Martin, UPi Property Management; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Jeanne Krueger, Charles Rosensteel, John Ryser, Bonnie Bona, Judy Austin, Arlene Storandt, Mary Gunderson, Melinda Langer, Laura Blue Bird, Eddie Chambers, Betty Winston, Jerry Paulson, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoye

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The City is seeking applicants for seven appointed positions on the new Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission. Applications were distributed. The application deadline is November 19.
- Fall Clean Sweep, part 2, October 25, 10 a.m. to noon, meet in Stevens Square Park.
- City Attorney Susan Segal will attend the committee meeting on November 20.
- SSCO community meeting, November 22, 10 a.m. to noon, Plymouth Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave. On the agenda: shifting NRP program income dollars to community strategies to keep SSCO fiscally viable and continue to fund neighborhood programs.
- Long-time Stevens Square day beat Officer Jeff Hall is transferring to the 1st Precinct. Committee members acknowledged his contributions to the neighborhood and signed a "thank you" card. Officer Deb Hubert will remain on the Stevens Square beat and will be joined by Officer Jodene Malloy.

COMMUNITY PROSECUTOR REPORT – Assistant City Attorney Lisa Godon

Godon distributed copies of the CLEAN sheet, a list with mugshots of the 5th Precinct's top 30 offenders which is updated weekly with court conditions, appearance dates, and warrant and custody information. The CLEAN sheet is available at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/docs/Pct5CLEAN.pdf Godon said that about five changes will be made to the list by the next committee meeting. She updated the group on a number of CLEAN offenders, including Theoplias Howlett, Pamela Beaulieu, and Whittier offender Kaisar Nur, who is in custody on \$350,000 bail on charges of 2nd degree murder, aggravated assault, and aggravated robbery of person. The coordinator said that, in a follow-up to last month's discussion, CLEAN offender Earlis Robinson received the maximum 90-day sentence for a charge of consuming alcohol in public, which met the request made in SSCO's community impact statement. Robinson will be released from the workhouse on December 5. The coordinator passed around copies of SSCO's community impact statement regarding CLEAN offender Kyle Kawakami, who was arrested five times in the neighborhood during a two-month period this year. Kawakami goes to court on November 19. Godon spoke about the A&E network TV show "The First 48", which recently featured a story about the Minneapolis police investigation of a June homicide – the victims were a mother and her son – in the Kingfield neighborhood in which two juvenile males have been charged.

COMMUNITY PROBATION REPORT – Probation Officers Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen

Harrington reported that she's been in court a lot lately, and that about 90% of her clients are facing felony charges for violent offenses such as aggravated robbery, 1st degree burglary, and aggravated assault. In response to a question, Schwalen said that their caseloads have increased recently by about ten clients each, although most end up in custody.

MINNEAPOLIS POLICE REPORT – Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams

Adams said that the following violent crimes were reported in the neighborhood in September:

- 1 rape, which proved to be unfounded.
- 2 robberies of person, one on September 10 at about 9 p.m. at 18th & Stevens, in which a suspect demanded money and hit the victim on the head with a wooden stick, escaping with a bag of groceries; the other on September 13 at about 5:55 p.m. at the BP Station, 2000 3rd Ave, in which two suspects, implying that they had a gun, robbed a victim who was pumping gas.

Adams said that no aggravated assaults were reported. She distributed information about crime prevention and law enforcement resources which are available online and via e-mail. Adams announced that a free personal safety workshop sponsored by the 2nd Precinct is scheduled for November 1, 10 a.m. to noon, at Northeast Middle School, 2955 NE Hayes St. She said that 5th Precinct SAFE is planning a home security workshop, the details of which are not yet

available. Adams asked the committee to think about what next year's neighborhood policing plan should contain; she will present more information about that in November or December. Adams said that Part 1 crime in Stevens Square-Loring Heights is down by about 21% year to date compared to 2007, with robbery of person down 59%, burglary down 30%, theft down 12%, and motor vehicle theft down 43%. She said that aggravated assault, including domestics, has increased from 15 in 2007 to 25 this year, and that reports of rape have doubled, from 3 to 6, although none of the incidents involved stranger rape.

The coordinator made available copies of Google maps and lists of arrests for livability crimes in an area encompassing Stevens Square-Loring Heights and the section of Whittier from Franklin Ave to 24th St. For the period from September 22 to October 19, there were 36 alcohol-related arrests (57 last year), 9 narcotics-related arrests (21 last year), and 1 prostitution-related arrest (1 last year). Year to date, there have been 322 alcohol-related arrests (346 last year), 147 narcotics-related arrests (181 last year), and 17 prostitution-related arrests (11 last year). The coordinator made available copies of Google maps and summaries of police reports of incidents and arrests in specific areas. For the period from September 22 to October 19, 23 reports were generated in the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave) and 54 in the Nicollet corridor (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1st Ave, I-94 to 24th St). All of these reports, updated weekly, are available in text format on the crime information page at www.sscoweb.org. To receive e-mailed or printed copies of the Google maps, contact Dave at 874-2840 or dave_ssc@yahoo.com

PRIORITY CONCERNS / HOT SPOTS / CHRONIC OFFENDERS

- 1904 1st Ave – The manager and police are working to resolve complaints about a prostitute working out of this building.
- 1912 3rd Ave – There was a drug-related aggravated robbery and 2nd degree assault with a dangerous weapon, including a shot fired, in this building on October 7.
- 1926 3rd Ave – There is a complaint about a person who doesn't belong in this building who was arrested for warrants for disorderly conduct and assault while police were investigating an apartment burglary. Options to deal with the problem included trespassing the person (via the state statute form and/or the city ordinance and sign), posting or distributing the person's photo to residents, and informing tenants in a letter that letting others into the building is a lease violation.
- It appears that the problems previously reported at 1801 1st Ave, 1801 2nd Ave, and 1807 2nd Ave have either been resolved or have subsided.
- A community member expressed concern about an incident on a Metro Transit bus which threatened to turn violent and endanger passengers. Others suggested that the bus driver should have contacted Metro Transit police to deal with the problem.
- There was a short discussion about the responsibilities of landlords to enforce crime-free lease addenda regarding tenants' guests who commit crimes or cause problems. A property manager stated that he was strongly in agreement and pointed to the successful record of his company in resolving such problems.
- Laundry room break-ins – A number of apartment building managers have reported recent incidents of laundry room burglary, damage to coin operated washers and dryers, and theft of coins from the machines. Addresses include 1926 3rd Ave, 1816 Stevens Ave, 1830 Stevens Ave, and 1900 1st Ave. Some of the crimes have produced no visible evidence of forced entry or tampering with security doors. One of the persons previously arrested for this type of crime is in prison, but another has just been released. There was a discussion of measures property managers could take to discourage laundry room break-ins, including collecting coins frequently and posting a sign to that effect; switching to machines operated by cards or tokens; raising rents and providing free use of the machines to tenants; and installing video surveillance cameras.

BLOCK PATROL REPORT – Judy Austin

Austin reported that, from September 26 to October 22, 13 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 14 shifts, contributing a total of 74.75 hours. Two shifts were cancelled. A Block Patrol team attended the 5th Precinct's personal safety workshop on October 16 at Washburn High School. Block Patrol also participated in the Fall Harvest Festival on October 18. Volunteers sold 90 cans or bottles of soda and water, making a profit of \$71.10. Austin shared some stories from the Block Patrol log.

SAFETY COORDINATOR REPORT – Dave Delvoye

The coordinator reported that Inspector Arneson informed him on October 22 that the feasibility study for the police safety/security camera system along Nicollet Ave has been delayed. The City's Business Information Services (BIS) has put the request on hold until 1) it approves a long-term strategy for video monitoring and 2) selects a vendor which will integrate all of the existing and future camera systems. The coordinator said that, once these tasks are completed, BIS will be able to provide accurate cost estimates for the proposed Nicollet Ave system.