

**Stevens Square Community Organization**

**(612) 874-2840**

<http://www.sscoweb.org>



**Safety Committee minutes – November 12, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.**

Present: Ken Strobel and Michele McGaughey, co-chairs; Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen, Hennepin County Community Probation; Michael Friestleben, Jessica Bartholomew, Jeffrey Mercill, Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct; Chris Dixon, City Attorney’s office; Taryn Runck, Restorative Justice Community Action; Molly McCarthy, Stevens Supportive Housing; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Arlene Storandt, Eddie Chambers, Mary Gunderson, Charles Rosensteel, Howard Penas, Ray Ferris, Jerry Paulson, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoye ([dave\\_ssc@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_ssc@yahoo.com) or 612-874-2840)

Meeting agendas and minutes are at [http://www.sscoweb.org/What\\_We\\_Do/Community\\_Safety/Agendas\\_and\\_Minutes/](http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Agendas_and_Minutes/)

Agenda item	Notes/decisions	Follow up
Announcements – contact SSCO to volunteer or for more info	▪ The Safety committee has changed its schedule due to the upcoming holidays and will meet on 12/10.	Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 12/10, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.

Community  
Prosecutor report –  
Assistant City  
Attorney Chris  
Dixon

Chris Dixon distributed copies of the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct CLEAN sheet, which is at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/docs/Pct5CLEAN.pdf>, and provided updates on some Stevens Square offenders.

- In the workhouse: Pamela Beaulieu (11/20 release), Pamela Cobenais (11/27 release).
- In jail: Joseph Conklin; Judy Peters, who will be sentenced on 11/30 for 4<sup>th</sup> degree felony assault of a police officer.
- Recently released from custody: Curtis Batton (domestic assault charge dismissed today, but due back in court on 12/9 for five other cases, including a felony); Anthony Ford.
- Tammie Houle is in Mental Health Court.
- There is an active warrant for Jessica Matt, who failed to report to the workhouse on 11/9.
- Kenneth Nickaboine pled guilty to gross misdemeanor trespassing and was sentenced to 365 days, stay 185 days, serve 180 days with furlough to an in-patient treatment program, with supervised probation and conditions of no alcohol use or violations for two years. Probation Officers Harrington or Schwalen will take his case.
- Larry Harper received a 90 day stayed sentence for trespassing, which is a bad result considering his history. The top offender team prosecutor happened to be out sick the day the case was settled.
- An open bottle case against Earlis Robinson was dismissed and his probation was revoked for a previous offense, which resulted in a sentence of 30 days, with credit for 30 days already served. This is another poor outcome.

The community prosecutor and SSCO are conducting an experiment to try to stop the “catch and release” process when it comes to certain chronic offenders who are 1) listed on the CLEAN sheet, 2) frequently arrested in the area, and 3) often given lenient sentences after accumulating a number of open cases over a period of months. The project involves 1) arranging to hold five top offenders (Darryl Brooks, Anthony Ford, Ronald King, Rick Martinez, Earlis Robinson) in custody on bail every time they are arrested in the neighborhood and until the case is resolved, and 2) submitting a same-day community impact statement asking for quick resolution and immediate consequences. The goal is to find out whether quick action on cases leads to better outcomes. The first test case was a success and led to the conviction of Ronald King for littering on 10/30, with a sentence of 30 days, 27 days stayed, serve 3 days, with credit for 3 days served, with conditions of release including no alcohol violations for one year. In the second test case, Earlis Robinson was booked on 11/10 for consuming alcohol in public and then mistakenly released by the jail without bail required; this case is set for court on 11/25. Copies of SSCO’s community impact statements for King and Robinson were passed around. In regard to this project, Lt Marie Przynski in another meeting had expressed concerns about the cost of housing these offenders in the jail pending resolution of their cases – and whether the City, the Police department, or the County were liable for the expenses – and suggested that further study was needed.

There was a question about why some offenders at sentencing were ordered to report to the workhouse at a future date instead of being incarcerated immediately. Dixon said that this practice 1) allows prosecutors to get a higher sentence when the offenders don’t comply and 2) makes the offenders more willing to plead guilty since the consequences are not immediate.

Dixon asked committee members to please fill out a survey he distributed about the value and performance of the community prosecutor. The survey responses will help the City Attorney determine whether funding the position is worthwhile and what can be done to further assist community members. A community prosecutor has been assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct for the past four years. A committee member commented that the community prosecutor

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<p>Minneapolis Police report – CPS Chelsea Adams, Sgt Mike Friestleben, Officers Jessica Bartholomew and Jeff Mercill</p>	<p>Chelsea Adams provided a map and list of Part 1 crimes reported in the neighborhood during October. There was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 homicide: 10/26, 1 a.m., at Groveland &amp; Nicollet, in which a victim was shot and pronounced dead at the scene.</li> <li>▪ 2 sexual assaults: 10/12 on the 200 block of Ridgewood Ave involving a mentally ill victim in which Jorge Oscar Otero (3/6/60) was arrested and charged with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree felony criminal sexual conduct; 10/28 at an address on the 1800 block of Stevens Ave in which a victim met with a suspect (whom the victim may have known previously) at a bar, returned to the suspect’s apartment, and was sexually assaulted.</li> <li>▪ 4 robberies of person: 10/4, 10:25 p.m., at 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> in which a suspect grabbed a victim from behind and took keys from the victim’s pocket; 10/16, 5:05 a.m., in an apartment at 1920 Stevens Ave in which a victim claims to have gone with suspects to smoke marijuana and to have been robbed at gunpoint; 10/17, 9:25 p.m., at 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; Nicollet in which a suspect struck a victim on the back of the head and stole his bag; 10:26, 2:05 a.m., at Franklin &amp; Lyndale in which two suspects hit a victim in the face with an unknown object and stole cash.</li> <li>▪ 4 burglaries: 10/30 &amp; 10/31, three garage burglaries at 1828 Clinton Ave in which bikes were stolen; 10/30 at 1901 Stevens Ave in which a screen was removed from the window of a condo but no entry was gained.</li> <li>▪ 1 motor vehicle theft: 10/28 at Franklin &amp; Lyndale.</li> <li>▪ 9 thefts from motor vehicles: At scattered locations throughout the neighborhood over the course of the month.</li> </ul> <p>Between 10/20/09 and 11/9/09, 119 incidents of theft from motor vehicle were reported in the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Items stolen include GPS units and laptop computers. Call 911 to report suspicious persons or activity. <a href="http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/PrevAutoTheft.pdf">http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/PrevAutoTheft.pdf</a></p> <p>A police-sponsored personal safety workshop is scheduled for 11/21, 10 a.m., at Northeast Middle School, 2955 Hayes St NE. To sign up, call Carol at 673-2874. Police issued a crime alert on 11/5 regarding a sexual assault in an apartment building in Loring Park in which a suspect attacked a victim in a laundry room. The Family Dollar Store at 1816 Nicollet Ave was robbed at gunpoint at 7:45 p.m. on 11/9.</p> <p>SSCO’s Google maps and lists of arrests in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, I-94 to 24<sup>th</sup> St, from 10/19/09 to 11/8/09 showed 9 alcohol-related arrests (18 in 2008), 9 narcotics-related arrests (6 in 2008), and 7 prostitution-related arrest (6 in 2008). Year to date: 357 alcohol-related arrests (341 in 2008), 129 narcotics-related arrests (152 in 2008), and 33 prostitution-related arrests (23 in 2008). For the period from 10/19/09 to 11/8/09, SSCO’s Google maps showed 16 police reports for the Clinton sector (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave to 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave). The map for the Nicollet corridor (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, I-94 to 24<sup>th</sup> St) was not available. Information in text format is at <a href="http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Crime_Information/index.htm">http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Crime_Information/index.htm</a></p> <p>Six of the seven prostitution-related arrests in the past month resulted from a successful john detail conducted by Sgt Friestleben’s directed patrol team on 10/23 at 22<sup>nd</sup> &amp; Nicollet.</p>	<p>Contact info: Chelsea.Adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2819</p> <p>Contact SSCO to receive printed or e-mailed copies of the Google maps, which are updated weekly. The e-mailed versions now include links to mugshots of chronic offenders.</p>
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<p>Priority concerns, hot spots, chronic offenders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1912 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave – There are reports of drug dealing at this apartment building. <a href="http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/drughouseinfo.pdf">http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/drughouseinfo.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ Bike thefts – Over the past two weeks, there have been reports of bike thefts from condo garages at 1828 Clinton Ave, 15 East Franklin Ave, and 1829 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. <a href="http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/BikeTheft.pdf">http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/BikeTheft.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>SSCO’s monthly chronic offender update featured cases involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Larry Harper: 6/28/09 trespassing at 1721 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.</li> <li>▪ Jessica Matt: 3/14/09 consuming alcohol in public at Franklin &amp; Clinton.</li> <li>▪ Earlis Robinson: 10/13/09 open bottle at 22<sup>nd</sup> &amp; Clinton.</li> <li>▪ Earlis Robinson: 11/5/09 public urination at 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; Nicollet.</li> <li>▪ Krissy Stillday: 3/24/09 tampering with a motor vehicle at 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; Clinton; 6/11/09 loitering with intent to buy or sell narcotics at 2200 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.</li> <li>▪ Ronald King: 10/28/09 littering at 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; Nicollet.</li> <li>▪ Kenneth Nickaboine: 7/31/09 trespassing, disorderly conduct, probation violation at 1931 Nicollet Ave; 8/7/09 consuming alcohol in public at 1706 Stevens Ave; 8/12/09 trespassing at 1900 Nicollet Ave; 9/9/09 consuming alcohol in public at Franklin &amp; Nicollet.</li> </ul>	<p>Contact SSCO to receive a printed or e-mailed copy of the monthly chronic offender update, which features the outcome of court cases resulting from arrests in the area along with the names of the sentencing judges and mugshots of the offenders.</p>
<p>Restorative Justice Community Action report – Community Coordinator Taryn Runck</p>	<p>Taryn Runck provided a summary of program results in south Minneapolis from July to September. 13 people participated in conferences which resolved 12 cases, including four from Stevens Square-Loring Heights. Runck thanked the neighborhood beat officers for referring offenders to the program and thanked SSCO for helping to start the program and continuing to support it. Staff read aloud a letter of apology from an offender who was cited for littering in the neighborhood. Information about the program is at <a href="http://www.rjca-inc.org/">http://www.rjca-inc.org/</a></p>	<p>Contact info: Taryn Runck TRunck@rjca-inc.org 746-0784</p>
<p>Block Patrol report – Arlene Storandt</p>	<p>Arlene Storandt reported that, from 10/23 to 11/11, 10 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 10 shifts, contributing a total of 46 hours. One shift was cancelled. Block Patrol organized two “get out the vote” shifts on Election Day, 11/3. Teams held “Vote Today” signs and directed voters to the polls. Block Patrol will participate in a “meet and greet” event in Stevens Square Park on 11/21 from 2 to 4 p.m. to recruit new volunteers.</p> <p>The Block Patrol guidelines and application are at <a href="http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Block_Patrol/">http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Block_Patrol/</a></p>	<p>Contact SSCO to join Block Patrol.</p>

Other business	<p>Ken Strobel reported that he attended the 11/2 Outreach &amp; Events committee meeting to discuss ways to promote Block Patrol and recruit more volunteers. There was a suggestion to emphasize aspects of Block Patrol which would appeal to a wider range of residents, such as the opportunity to walk one's dog, keep fit, and get to know one's neighbors. Katie Dailey offered to help create a new marketing piece for Block Patrol. There were suggestions to call and reconnect with members who are no longer active, invite new contacts to walk along as guests on a shift to see if they find Block Patrol appealing, and ask neighborhood businesses to provide some kind of incentive or reward for those who participate in Block Patrol.</p> <p>Safety committee members provided other ideas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ asking volunteers what shift dates and times would be best for them in the upcoming month, and then scheduling shifts to coincide with those dates as much as possible;</li> <li>▪ posting flyers in apartment buildings to publicize Block Patrol;</li> <li>▪ making Block Patrol's monthly schedule visible to some extent to prospective recruits to give a better idea of how often and when Block Patrol shifts take place; right now, this information, and especially the contact information for the shift leaders, is confidential and not accessible to the public;</li> <li>▪ making it clear how much territory Block Patrol covers and how much walking is involved, especially for recruits who have difficulty getting around.</li> </ul> <p>Strobel asked anyone with additional ideas to contact SSCO. He will continue to meet with the Outreach &amp; Events committee to work on this project.</p>	
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*Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.*

*Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.*