

## Stevens Square Community Organization

(612) 874-2840

<http://www.sscoweb.org>



### Safety Committee minutes – May 28, 2009, 6:00 p.m. 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 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct; Lisa Godon, City Attorney’s office; Taryn Runck, Restorative Justice Community Action; Molly McCarthy, Stevens Supportive Housing; Arlene Storandt, John Ryser, Leeann Phillips, Jerry Paulson, Barb Jacobs, Robert Fischer, Eddie Chambers, Charles Rosensteel, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoeye ([dave\\_sscoweb@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_sscoweb@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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clean Sweep, 5/30</li> <li>▪ Red Hot Art festival in Stevens Square Park, 6/6 &amp; 6/7</li> <li>▪ Cinema &amp; Civics in Stevens Square Park, every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. from 6/10 to 7/15.</li> <li>▪ SSCO annual meeting, 6/13, 10:30 a.m., Plymouth Church (use the LaSalle Ave entrance)</li> <li>▪ Stevens Square Farmers Market, Wednesdays starting in July in the Plymouth Church parking lot at Franklin &amp; Nicollet.</li> </ul>	Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 6/25, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.
Community Prosecutor report – Assistant City Attorney Lisa Godon	Lisa Godon distributed copies of the 5 <sup>th</sup> Precinct CLEAN sheet, which is at <a href="http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/docs/Pct5CLEAN.pdf">http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/docs/Pct5CLEAN.pdf</a> . Godon is being promoted to a supervisory position in the Criminal division downtown on June 1, and will leave it up to Chris Dixon, the new 5 <sup>th</sup> Precinct community prosecutor, to decide on any changes to the list of CLEAN offenders. Dixon will introduce himself at the 6/25 Safety meeting. Godon thanked the committee, which she characterized as the most organized group in the 5 <sup>th</sup> Precinct, for the great participation which produced very good results in the prosecution of chronic offenders.	
Community Probation report – Probation Officers Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen	Jean Schwalen reported that she will be supervising CLEAN sheet offender Maurice Patterson when he is released from the workhouse on 5/31. Bobbi Harrington reported that a high-profile client on her caseload who was a fugitive was captured recently thanks to a citizen calling 911 to report a suspicious person. Leeann Phillips spoke about an incident in which she and a companion were assaulted by four intoxicated persons as they crossed the Nicollet Ave bridge over I-94, and advocated for tougher laws to protect women and children from becoming victims of assault.	
Minneapolis Police report – Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams	Adams provided a map and list of Part 1 crimes reported in the neighborhood during April. There were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 robberies of person, one in 20 Groveland Ave on 4/23 in which a suspect cornered the victim in a stairwell of this apartment building and stole money and a cell phone – the victim later changed his story and became uncooperative with an investigator; the other at 102 East 19<sup>th</sup> St, in which a suspect approached a victim who was going to this apartment building, implied that he had a gun, and took the victim’s keys.</li> <li>▪ 1 attempted apartment burglary, at 1915 Clinton Ave on 4/19, in which the victim saw a suspect try to peel back a window screen and enter the apartment.</li> <li>▪ 3 motor vehicle thefts, at 1900 1<sup>st</sup> Ave on 4/11, 520 Ridgewood Ave on 4/24, and 1800 Stevens Ave on 4/24 which involved suspects at Stevens Square Park who stole a pizza delivery driver’s car.</li> </ul>	Contact SSCO to receive printed or e-mailed copies of the Google maps, which are updated weekly.

	<p>Adams presented neighborhood crime statistics for the first four months of the year. The total number of Part 1 crimes dropped 56%, from 91 in 2008 to 40 in 2009.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Rape</td> <td>4 in 2008, 0 in 2009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robbery</td> <td>8 in 2008, 4 in 2009 (-50%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aggravated assault</td> <td>18 in 2008, 4 in 2009 (-78%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglary</td> <td>10 in 2008, 8 in 2009 (-20%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Motor vehicle theft</td> <td>9 in 2008, 9 in 2009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other theft</td> <td>42 in 2008, 14 in 2009 (-67%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Arson</td> <td>0 in 2008, 1 in 2009</td> </tr> </table> <p>There have been fewer crimes reported in Stevens Square-Loring Heights than in all but two neighborhoods (Cedar Isles Dean and Kenwood) in the precinct north of Lake St. In response to a question about whether difficult economic conditions usually produce an increase in crime, Adams said that evidence indicates that most of those who commit crimes are active regardless of whether the unemployment rate rises or falls.</p> <p>Officer John Grove has joined the Stevens Square-Whittier day beat; his first project is to make contact with all the business owners and managers in the area. Grove had been assigned recently to the property crimes investigation unit as part of a career enrichment program. Officer Deb Hubert continues on the day beat, working in a separate squad. Schwalen thanked Adams for the great job she did in organizing the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct open house.</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 4/20 to 5/25 showed 65 alcohol-related arrests (45 last year), 18 narcotics-related arrests (24 last year), and 3 prostitution-related arrests (1 last year). Year to date: 141 alcohol-related arrests (121 last year), 57 narcotics-related arrests (85 last year), and 5 prostitution-related arrests (15 last year). For the same period, SSCO's Google maps showed 23 police reports for the Clinton sector (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave to 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave) and 65 for the Nicollet corridor (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, I-94 to 24<sup>th</sup> St). Information in text format is at <a href="http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Crime_Information/">http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Crime_Information/</a></p>	Rape	4 in 2008, 0 in 2009	Robbery	8 in 2008, 4 in 2009 (-50%)	Aggravated assault	18 in 2008, 4 in 2009 (-78%)	Burglary	10 in 2008, 8 in 2009 (-20%)	Motor vehicle theft	9 in 2008, 9 in 2009	Other theft	42 in 2008, 14 in 2009 (-67%)	Arson	0 in 2008, 1 in 2009	
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<p>Priority concerns, hot spots, chronic offenders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1826 LaSalle Ave – Complaints about suspicious traffic to an apartment in this building have decreased.</li> <li>▪ Stevens Square Park – 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct and Park police are working to resolve problems in the park during late afternoons and evenings. Call 911 to report any suspicious activity in progress.</li> <li>▪ 1811 1<sup>st</sup> Ave – There is a complaint about ongoing rowdy and noisy behavior at an apartment in this building. Neighbors are encouraged to call 911 to report “noisy party” complaints between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.</li> </ul> <p>SSCO's monthly chronic offender update featured cases involving Ronald King (4/14/09 trespassing at 9 West Franklin Ave), Robert Littlewolf (9/15/08 trespassing at Franklin &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup>), Darryl Brooks (12/16/08 gross misdemeanor assault, disorderly conduct, obstructing the legal process at 2011 Pillsbury Ave; 3/11/09 consuming alcohol in public at 22<sup>nd</sup> &amp; Nicollet; 3/18/09 consuming alcohol in public at Franklin &amp; Nicollet), Kenneth Nickaboine (4/17/09 consuming alcohol in public at Groveland &amp; Nicollet), and Krissy Stillday (5/6/09 possession of liquor in a park at 2200 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave; 5/7/09 loitering with intent to commit prostitution and possession of drug paraphernalia at Franklin &amp; Clinton).</p>	<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.</p>														

Restorative Justice Community Action report – Community Coordinator Taryn Runck	Taryn Runck announced a Restorative Justice Community Orientation at 5:30 p.m. on 6/2 at Dunn Bros. Coffee on Loring Park: learn how to participate in the program which brings community members and offenders together to decide how to make amends to the neighborhood. A community conference dealing with four Stevens Square cases – open bottle (2), public urination, possession of liquor in a park – plus four Whittier cases is set for 6/11 at 5:30 p.m. Call Taryn at 746-0784 if you would like to participate.	
Block Patrol report	Arlene Storandt reported that, from 4/24 to 5/27, 8 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 19 regular shifts, contributing a total of 71 hours. Three shifts were cancelled. In addition, 6 volunteers contributed 28.75 hours during the Minneapolis-St Paul Home Tour on 4/25 & 4/26. Block Patrol teams attended the 5 <sup>th</sup> Precinct open house on 5/14. For the previous reporting period, 16 volunteers contributed 112 hours at the SSCO rummage sale on 4/18 & 4/19. Storandt shared stories from the Block Patrol log. 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>	Contact SSCO to join Block Patrol.
Safety coordinator report	SSCO’s application for a matching grant from Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling for a graffiti reduction project was denied due to the relatively small amount of graffiti in the neighborhood. Other neighborhoods which have greater need for the resources will be funded instead.  The Alcohol task force will not schedule a follow-up meeting until a number of action items from the 4/1 meeting are addressed, including the completion of the feasibility study for a police security camera system along Nicollet Ave.  At the suggestion of a volunteer, the committee decided to ask Minneapolis 311 to make a presentation at the 6/25 Safety meeting with the intent of educating community members about how to use 311 effectively to help solve problems in the neighborhood.  Charles Rosensteel reported that the city Bicycle Advisory Committee has agreed to use federal economic stimulus funds to produce and install signage indicating that riding bikes on sidewalks in commercial districts is prohibited. This will happen after the planned bike paths in the city are completed. Michele McGaughey and Barb Jacobs suggested that a representative of the Advisory Committee be invited to make a presentation about bike plans for the neighborhood at an upcoming Safety or Neighborhood Development committee meeting.  Jacobs invited everyone to attend the SSCO annual meeting meeting on 6/13 at 10:30 a.m. at Plymouth Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave (use the LaSalle Ave entrance). Registration begins at 10 a.m. The agenda includes the election of Board officers (vice chair and treasurer) plus two at-large directors, committee reports, and proposed amendments to the SSCO bylaws.	

*Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.*