

Safety Committee minutes – July 28, 2011, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave



Present: Ken Strobel and Michele McGaughey, co-chairs; Robert Lilligren, Ward 6 City Council; Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen, Hennepin County Community Probation; Matt Clark, Chelsea Adams, and Aimee Colegrove, Minneapolis Police 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct; Deb Loveland, Minnesota Teen Challenge; Malcolm Williams, Plymouth Church; Rob Helmerich, Rand Management; Ray Alex Perry, Larry Borg; Dave Hunt, Kassie Edwards, Arlene Storandt, Randall Chevront, Maureen Wells, Judy Austin, Aaron Szczech, Sue Bergman, Jeanne Krueger, Rochelle Peyton, Chris Landwehr, Michael Kuppich, Carla Andersen, Jerry Paulson, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoe (dave\_ssc@yahoo.com or 874-2840)

Agenda item	Notes/decisions	Follow up
<p>Announcements</p> <p>Contact SSCO to volunteer or for more info.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Red Hot Art, 7/30 and 7/31 in Stevens Square Park.</li> <li>▪ Minnesota Teen Challenge will sponsor a barbecue in Stevens Square Park on National Night Out, 8/2.</li> <li>▪ Cinema &amp; Civics in Stevens Square Park, final event of the season on 8/3.</li> </ul>	<p>Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 8/25, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.</p>
<p>Minneapolis Police report – Inspector Matt Clark, CPS Chelsea Adams, Officer Aimee Colegrove</p>	<p>Matt Clark reported that drug-related foot traffic is increasing in the neighborhood due to the push by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct to clean up Peavey Park and Franklin &amp; Chicago. Part 1 crime in the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct is up 0.5% compared to last year. Robberies have increased by 9%, partly due to the string of incidents in Uptown and a number of business robberies. There were 12 robberies in the precinct during the week of 7/18, and three suspects were arrested for four of those crimes. Aggravated domestic assaults are up by 40%, partly due to improved reporting and investigation procedures.</p> <p>The 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct and Crime Stoppers have teamed up to seek information from the public to help solve the 6/7 aggravated assault and burglary at an address on the 300 block of East 18<sup>th</sup> St. The suspect is described as a black male, about 30 years of age, about 5'10" tall with a stockier build and a nearly shaved head. At the time of the attack, the suspect was wearing a white t-shirt and either shorts or pants. The suspect had a butcher knife with him when he fled. There is a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information vital to this case. To provide information, contact Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-8477. All callers are given a unique identifier and no names are used. This case is a priority for the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct and there has been some success in collecting evidence.</p> <p>Chelsea Adams distributed a map and list of Part 1 crimes reported in the neighborhood during June. There were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 robberies of person: 6/20, 2:30 a.m., at Groveland &amp; LaSalle in which two suspects approached two victims, displayed a gun, and demanded money, for which Devounteono Lavance Tyson (3/20/90) was arrested; 6/27, 10:55 a.m., at 2001 Nicollet Ave, CVS Pharmacy, in which a victim was robbed of prescription medications by two male suspects in the parking lot of this business.</li> <li>▪ 1 incident of criminal sexual conduct: 6/20, 2:30 a.m., in an alley on the 1800 block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, in which a victim was assaulted by three male suspects.</li> <li>▪ 2 aggravated assaults: 6/7, 1:30 p.m., at an address on the 300 block of East 18<sup>th</sup> St in which a burglar stabbed a victim and fled after the victim fought back – see the Crime Stoppers info above; 6/9, 4:35 p.m., at 12 East Franklin Ave, in which a victim stated that a suspect pulled a knife and threatened to kill her, although the suspect was not arrested due to conflicting stories and insufficient probable cause.</li> </ul>	<p>Chelsea.Adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2819</p> <p><a href="#">CRT</a> line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716 or contact Sara.Metcalf@ci.minneapolis.mn.us</p> <p><a href="#">Crime Prevention Resources</a></p> <p><a href="#">911 / 311 information</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 apartment/condo burglaries: 6/7 at an address on the 300 block of East 18<sup>th</sup> St – see the Crime Stoppers info above; 6/13 at 1815 1<sup>st</sup> Ave; 6/13 at 1900 Clinton Ave; 6/15 at 1818 LaSalle Ave.</li> <li>▪ 1 motor vehicle theft: 6/24 at 1900 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.</li> <li>▪ 6 thefts from motor vehicles: 6/3 at Groveland &amp; LaSalle; 6/8 at 1900 1<sup>st</sup> Ave; 6/15 at 600 West Franklin Ave; 6/19 at 17<sup>th</sup> &amp; 1<sup>st</sup>; 6/23 at 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 1<sup>st</sup>; 6/25 at 2000 Blaisdell Ave.</li> <li>▪ 4 other incidents of theft.</li> </ul> <p>8/2 is National Night Out. To sign up for the quarterly 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct e-newsletter, text Spotlight to 22828 or visit <a href="http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/5th-precinct.asp">www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/5th-precinct.asp</a> Adams provided information on preventing <a href="#">bike theft, motor vehicle theft, and theft from motor vehicle</a>. In regard to bike theft, police recommend properly using locks that are less easily compromised, such as u-locks. Take measures to make a bike easily identifiable if stolen, by marking the frame, putting a note regarding ownership in the handle bars, and documenting ownership with photos of the bike. Record the serial number of the bike and report any theft to 311. There have been several incidents of bike seat theft in the neighborhood. To help prevent theft from motor vehicle, do not leave any bags, change, or valuable items in your vehicle and do not hide valuables under the seat or in the trunk after parking in case suspects are watching. Community members expressed concern about finding heroin paraphernalia including needles and kits in public places in the neighborhood. A community member spoke about an assault which occurred on the street which received a poor police response; the witness was asked to provide information to police about approximately where and when the incident had occurred so that an officer could try to find out what had happened.</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 6/20/11 to 7/24/11 showed 32 <a href="#">alcohol-related arrests</a> (42 in 2010), 2 <a href="#">narcotics-related arrests</a> (8 in 2010), and 1 <a href="#">prostitution-related arrest</a> (0 in 2010). Year to date, there were 88 alcohol-related arrests (195 in 2010), 52 narcotics-related arrests (67 in 2010), and 7 prostitution-related arrests (13 in 2010). For the period from 6/20/11 to 7/24/11, SSCO’s Google maps showed 61 police reports for the <a href="#">Nicollet corridor</a> (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, I-94 to 24<sup>th</sup> St), 10 for the <a href="#">Stevens Square Park area</a> (Stevens Ave to 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, 17<sup>th</sup> St to Franklin Ave), and 25 for the <a href="#">Clinton sector</a> (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave to 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave).</p>	<p>Contact SSCO to receive printed or e-mailed copies of the Google maps, which are updated weekly. The e-mailed versions include links to mugshots of chronic offenders.</p>
<p>Community Prosecutor report</p>	<p>Assistant City Attorney Chris Dixon was unable to attend the meeting but provided information about several cases of interest to the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Darryl Brooks</a> – the top neighborhood offender with 41 arrests in the area in the past seven years – is in custody on \$50 bail for a 7/22/11 arrest for disorderly conduct at Franklin &amp; Nicollet with a court date set for 8/5.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Lynn Love</a> was scheduled to appear in court today on seven cases, including a 6/28/11 arrest at Franklin &amp; Nicollet for consuming alcohol in public and open bottle. SSCO submitted community impact statements for these cases.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Michael Haedtke</a> pled guilty on 6/1 to a 2/20/11 gross misdemeanor assault at 1905 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, the Third Avenue Market. Haedtke was conditionally released to treatment and was sentenced on 7/25 to 365 days, 335 days stayed, with credit for 23 days served.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Jessica Matt</a> was arrested for five warrants on 7/23, including two for cases in the neighborhood: 3/9/11 criminal contempt of court and possession of drug paraphernalia at Franklin &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4/12/11 criminal contempt of court at Franklin &amp; Clinton. Matt is scheduled to appear in court on 7/29.</li> </ul> <p>Copies of the <a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> Precinct Clean sheet</a> were distributed.</p>	<p>Christopher.Dixon@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-5402</p>

	<p>Council Member Robert Lilligren said that the City Attorney presented a report this week about how the department tracks chronic offenders and seeks maximum sentences. The report raised questions about who is on the top offender lists and how those offenders are selected. In some cases, those causing the most problems in the community are not on the lists, and it may be necessary to check with the neighborhoods and evaluate how well the system is working for them.</p>	
<p>Priority concerns / hot spots / chronic offenders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> – There are ongoing complaints about drug-related loitering outside the market at 1905 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and at the apartment buildings across the street at 1900 and 1906 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Some of the activity occurs along 19<sup>th</sup> Street from 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave to 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and in Stevens Square Park. Police continue to watch the area and stop suspicious persons and vehicles. In certain cases, police are asking apartment rental companies to provide tenant lists at buildings where loitering and trespassing are a problem in order to make it easier for officers to enforce the law.</li> <li>▪ 110 East 18<sup>th</sup> St – There are still problems at this vacant and boarded property, including windows missing and not boarded, trash and litter in the area, and the fence unsecured (able to be lifted up) in certain spots.</li> <li>▪ Stevens Square Park, 1801 Stevens Ave – There was a complaint about flagrant drinking of alcohol among the crowds at SSCO’s Cinema &amp; Civics events this summer. In one case, a problem was pointed out to an SSCO staff member who took no action to stop it. In another incident, staff either did not notice or took no action regarding a person carrying a liquor bottle near the concession table. There was another incident in which someone on the basketball court was swearing loudly and no one intervened. There may be the perception that SSCO is acting inconsistently, willing to tolerate drinking in the park by those who attend its events but not by others, such as street drinkers. Staff said that the objective is to make sure that the events are peaceful, free of disturbances, and cause no danger to those who attend. Drinkers are typically approached during breaks in the entertainment and asked to stop, so as not to distract the rest of the crowd. Discretion is used regarding whether and when to intervene. 911 calls are made if anyone is creating a disturbance, fighting, or verbally harassing others. Depending on the circumstances, such as the size of the crowd and how dark it is, it can be difficult to safely approach people. Park police officers usually check the park before the event starts and often return during the event to see if there are problems. 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct officers are informed of the event before it starts and invited to stop by. There were suggestions that posting signs or making announcements that possession and consumption of alcohol is prohibited in the park would make enforcement easier at the events.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Graffiti</a> – Thanks to Aaron Szczech and a team of Americorps volunteers for recently spending four hours removing graffiti from public property in the neighborhood. There were complaints about an increase in graffiti on residential buildings in the area. The graffiti crimes investigator is asking victims to report the incidents to 311 and to document the graffiti and the cost of repairing the damage.</li> </ul> <p>SSCO’s monthly chronic offender update included cases involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">Zaki Sugule</a> (4 arrests in the area in a three-month period) – 2/24/11 gross misdemeanor 5<sup>th</sup> degree assault and disorderly conduct at Franklin &amp; Nicollet; 3/3/11 consuming alcohol in public and open bottle at Franklin &amp; Nicollet; 4/1/11 open bottle at 1833 Nicollet Ave.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Reginald Leachman</a> (9 arrests in the area in the past four years) – 5/2/11 disorderly conduct at 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; Nicollet.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Ahmed Haji-Mohamud</a> (5 arrests in the area in the past year) – 3/29/11 consuming alcohol in public at 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; Nicollet; 6/10/11 criminal contempt of court at 2000 Nicollet Ave.</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>Ward 6 report – City Council Member Robert Lilligren</p>	<p>Robert Lilligren reported that he is still pushing for Metro Transit to remove the northbound bus stop on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave near 19<sup>th</sup> St. City staff have followed up on the violations at 110 East 18<sup>th</sup> St reported by community members. Minneapolis made the <a href="#">Walk Score list</a> of top ten most walkable cities in the United States. During the first half of this year, violent crime in Minneapolis declined 15% compared to 2010. This is the fifth year in a row that <a href="#">violent crime has dropped</a>. The new state budget cuts \$25 million in local government aid to Minneapolis. The city has already identified and implemented reductions in its current budget to account for this. The good news is that the state agreed to allow the city’s closed pension funds to merge with others, thus saving the city millions of dollars in annual costs. The pension funds still need to approve the agreement. Minneapolis has a <a href="#">new web site address</a>, although the old address will still work: <a href="http://www.minneapolismn.gov">www.minneapolismn.gov</a> There were inquiries about installing a No Parking sign at a location between a condo driveway and an alley on 19<sup>th</sup> St between 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and Clinton Ave and about a sinkhole in the street on the 1800 block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Lilligren will check on the configuration of the new bike lane on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.</p>	<p>Robert.Lilligren@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2206</p> <p><a href="#">Ward 6 web site</a></p>
<p>Election of two committee co-chairs for the upcoming year</p>	<p>Staff explained the duties and responsibilities of the co-chairs and the election procedures, and conducted the election. There were two candidates for co-chair: Michele McGaughey and Ken Strobel. <b>On a motion by Maureen Wells, seconded by Arlene Storandt, the committee suspended the rules and elected Michele McGaughey and Ken Strobel co-chairs by acclamation.</b> The co-chairs will serve a one-year term from August 2011 to July 2012.</p> <p>The committee discussed how to choose a representative to report to the Board of Directors. The coordinator asked whether the committee wanted to conduct another election, since the person filling this position does not need to be a co-chair. Ken Strobel, who already serves on the Board, said that he is willing to report on behalf of the Safety committee. <b>On a motion by Maureen Wells, seconded by Michele McGaughey, the committee recommended that Ken Strobel report on its behalf to the Board of Directors.</b></p>	
<p>Block Patrol report – Arlene Storandt</p>	<p>Arlene Storandt reported that, from 6/24 to 7/28, 10 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 16 regular shifts, contributing a total of 61 hours. 9 Block Patrol volunteers participated in Cinema &amp; Civics in Stevens Square Park on 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, and 7/27, contributing 77 hours. Block Patrol soda and water sales at these events totaled \$285.75. 7 volunteers participated in three meetings to plan Block Patrol’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, contributing 32 hours. Total volunteer hours for the past month: 170. One new volunteer joined Block Patrol. Michele McGaughey asked anyone willing to share photos of Block Patrol to contact SSCO staff.</p>	<p>Contact SSCO to join Block Patrol. <a href="#">Application and guidelines</a> are at the SSCO web site.</p>
<p>Coordinator report – Dave Delvoye</p>	<p>The co-chairs and staff decided to postpone the discussion about changing the guidelines of the Building Safety Improvement program to include funding the purchase of surveillance cameras until the 8/25 meeting.</p>	

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.