



**Stevens Square Community Organization**  
 (612) 874-2840  
<http://www.sscoweb.org>

**Community Safety meeting minutes – November 30, 2017, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.**

Present: Corwin Morton and John Littlejohn, co-chairs; Eric Dison, Minneapolis Police department; Matt Wilcox, City Attorney’s office; Drew Kirch, Hennepin County Neighborhood Probation; Malcolm Williams, Plymouth Congregational Church; Annie Kackman, Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Jerry Paulson, John Ryser, Paul Soderquist, Jill Ferguson, Devin Ross, Josie Shardlow, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoye ( dave\_ssco@yahoo.com )

**Note: A sheet with some of the printed information presented at this meeting is available at this [link](#) or upon request.**

Agenda item	Notes/decisions	Follow up
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next Community Safety meeting: 12/21 at 6 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring refreshments to share with the group for a holiday celebration.</li> </ul>	Next Community Safety meeting: Thursday, 12/21, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave
Updates from law enforcement partners – 5 <sup>th</sup> Precinct Sgt Eric Dison, Community Attorney Matt Wilcox, Probation Officer Drew Kirch	<p><u>Presentation</u> by Community Attorney Matt Wilcox about cases from the area involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robert Lee Johnson (7/9/58): terroristic threats on 10/3/16 at 2001 Nicollet Ave. Probation Officer Drew Kirch reported that Johnson, who is categorized as a chronic high risk offender and is on supervised probation, is in jail for a new offense and for violating his conditions of release. Johnson has already served part of a 33-month sentence and is ordered to stay three blocks away from CVS, 2001 Nicollet Ave.</li> <li>Ned McDonald (11/24/61): open bottle on 7/26 at 2110 Nicollet Ave. Pled guilty to a trespassing case from 8/24 and is participating in HOMES Court.</li> <li>Lamar Lee Jones (4/16/78): public urination on 10/7 at 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; Nicollet. Pled guilty to 5<sup>th</sup> degree assault from 6/30 and was sentenced to 90 days, stayed for one year.</li> </ul> <p>Wilcox said that for misdemeanors, prosecutors often aim for guilty pleas to crimes (such as trespassing and 5<sup>th</sup> degree assault) which can result in enhanced sentences (for example, 365 days instead of 90 days) under certain conditions. Wilcox also provided updates regarding some Stevens Square offenders who are on the <a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> Precinct CLEAN list</a>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David Brenner (7/5/75) has two warrants for probation violations.</li> <li>Ellery Charging Thunder (2/20/54) has been found mentally incompetent to stand trial and all of his pending misdemeanor cases have automatically been dismissed per State law. His geographic restriction from the area is now void.</li> </ul> <p>Kirch also provided updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>William Ernst (11/22/65) will complete his sentence for 4<sup>th</sup> degree assault of hospital personnel and be released from prison on 12/10.</li> <li>Corey Harges (12/27/90) will be released from the workhouse on 12/9 and remain on supervised probation for robbery and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burglary until 2/1/20.</li> </ul> <p>There was a question about peddling without a license. Wilcox said that anyone selling merchandise or services door-to-door must be licensed by the City.</p>	<p><a href="#">Crime Prevention Resources</a></p> <p><a href="#">911 / 311 information</a></p> <p>Crime Prevention Specialist            Jennifer.Neale@Minneapolismn.gov</p> <p>Matthew.Wilcox@Minneapolismn.gov            673-5402</p> <p><a href="#">CRT</a> line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716</p>

	<p>There was a question about the City's plan for the Super Bowl and how it will impact the neighborhoods just outside of downtown. Sgt Eric Dison said that the City will communicate with any affected neighborhoods and that the public should anticipate traffic delays and disruptions into and out of downtown during the event. Wilcox said that the security plan for the event, which involves MPD, will not be shared with the public.</p> <p>Dison announced that on 12/10 he will be promoted to lieutenant. He will likely be assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct late night shift but should still be available to attend SSCO Safety meetings. The new sergeant supervising beat officers will start in February.</p>	
<p>Neighborhood-related safety ideas and concerns</p>	<p><u>Community concern</u> Sunday, 11/26, 6:15 a.m., aggravated robbery of person at 1828 Clinton Ave. A resident of a unit in this condo building went out the back sliding door to let his dog out. When the resident returned, he found a suspect inside with a gun. The suspect demanded money at gunpoint. The suspect left with the person's bank card and cell phone. There were questions about who perpetrated this crime, whether this address was specifically targeted, and whether any similar incidents had occurred recently. Dison said that he knows of no other home invasions in the area recently. Wilcox said that the case has been assigned to an investigator who is gathering information and evidence, including surveillance video from the ATM at the BP Service Station, 2000 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, where the suspect tried to use the victim's cash card immediately after the incident. SSCO will track this case if a suspect is arrested and charged.</p> <p>Other violent crimes reported in the Clinton sector (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave to 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave) in the past month include two incidents at the Third Avenue Market, 1905 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave: aggravated assault on 10/24 and robbery of business on 11/26. Year to date, in the larger area from Lyndale Ave to 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, I-94 to 24<sup>th</sup> St, there have been 39 narcotics-related arrests compared to 41 in 2016. Alcohol-related arrests in the same area are down 42.2%, from 76 in 2016 to 44 this year. The number of motor vehicle thefts reported in the neighborhood through October is up 115.3% compared to last year, from 13 in 2016 to 28 in 2017. A number of these vehicles were left unlocked with the key in the ignition or a spare key hidden inside, making them easy targets for thieves.</p> <p><u>Community concern</u> There is surveillance video of a suspect on a bike searching through cars parked behind an apartment building on the 1900 block of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. The suspect was startled by a person walking by and then left the area. No one has made a police report about the incident.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u> There was a question about how to deal with a panhandler who is using children to solicit money. Wilcox said that the City no longer enforces its ordinance prohibiting aggressive panhandling due to a Supreme Court ruling which overturned a similar ordinance elsewhere. One could call 911 and ask that police respond and check on the welfare of the children. If the behavior involves obstructing traffic, trespassing, or disorderly conduct, police could respond and enforce those laws.</p> <p>A community member said that the trends in the neighborhood are positive and that things are getting better because residents are working together and with the City to clean things up, pick up trash and litter, and stop those who commit crimes in the area. This needs to continue, and the new mayor needs to look at what's happening and provide whatever resources are available to help neighborhood residents with their work.</p> <p>A community member congratulated SSCO for its very successful Halloween event in the park. This kind of get-</p>	

	<p>together needs to happen more often. Thanks to Kayla for organizing the project!</p> <p>A community member suggested that the committee celebrate the holidays at its 12/21 meeting by inviting attendees to bring refreshments to share – snacks, desserts, cookies, beverages, etc. SSCO staff will get the word out and contact regular attendees about participating.</p>	
<p>Block Patrol news – SSCO safety coordinator</p>	<p>From 10/27 to 11/30, 13 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 23 shifts, contributing 56 hours.</p> <p>On Election Day, 6 Block Patrol volunteers, carrying "Vote Today" signs, led SSCO's effort to get out the vote and helped 15 voters find their polling place over the course of five hours. The volunteers noted that there were no lines at the polls and no one campaigning on the streets.</p> <p>During the past month, Block Patrol teams: spoke with dozens of community members on the streets; spoke with our Franklin Nicollet beat officers; frequently patrolled the park, bus stops along Nicollet Ave, Groveland Ave by Plymouth Church, and the area around 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup>; picked up trash and litter; harvested carrots at LaSalle community garden; saw a mayoral candidate campaigning at the Public Housing high rise on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave; noted that the biff had been removed from the park, which is a sure sign of winter; enjoyed the first snow of the season on 11/3; encountered a hyperactive window washer who appeared to be under the influence of a controlled substance; reported that the Franklin Ave bridge project is still not completed; watched a Nicollet Ave Service District crew cleaning the sidewalks using leaf blowers, moving the litter into the street where it belongs.</p> <p>On 11/7, Election Day, teams encountered a number of people who wanted to explain why they chose <u>not</u> to vote. One, a male dressed in shorts and a t-shirt on a cold and windy day, said that he was busy tracking down criminals and "reporting them to the feds" – he was on his way to 30<sup>th</sup> Ave. Chronic offender A. D. asked a team to check on "an old guy who's a friend of mine who's too drunk to vote and wants to go to detox." And then there was the male who was only interested in two issues: "Making it legal to bitch-slap rude people and taking away the licenses of idiots who can't drive."</p> <p>On 10/30, a team conducted an inventory of streetlights out in Loring Heights: 13 were reported to 311. Four weeks later, a team checked the area again and found that only 3 of the lights had been repaired. SSCO staff has followed up with Ward 6 and Ward 7 City Council members and staff regarding these problems.</p>	<p>Join Block Patrol – it's an easy and fun way to get to know people in your neighborhood and find out what's happening here. Contact: Dave at 874-2840 or dave_ssco@yahoo.com</p>

Meeting adjourned at 7:08

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.