



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

Community Safety meeting minutes – February 22, 2018, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.

Present: Corwin Morton and John Littlejohn, co-chairs; Kathy Waite, Minneapolis Police department; Matt Wilcox, City Attorney’s office; Drew Kirch, Hennepin County Neighborhood Probation; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Kim Johnson, Securitas; Jerry Paulson, Paul Soderquist, Ken Strobel, John Ryser, Devin Ross, Ruth Martin, Jill Ferguson, Leann Prottengeier, Eli Prottengeier, 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"> Next Community Safety meeting: 3/22 at 6 p.m. The meeting takes place on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. 	Next Community Safety meeting: Thursday, 3/22, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave
Updates from law enforcement partners – 5 th Precinct Inspector Kathy Waite, Community Attorney Matt Wilcox, Probation Officer Drew Kirch	<p><u>Presentation</u> by Inspector Kathy Waite about crimes reported in the neighborhood since 1/25: 2 assaults (2/7 at Family Dollar Store, 1816 Nicollet Ave; 2/20 at 18th & Nicollet), 3 motor vehicle thefts (2/5 at 229 Ridgewood Ave; 2/12 at Franklin & 3rd; 2/14 at 1707 3rd Ave), and 5 other incidents of theft. No sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries, or thefts from motor vehicles were reported. Waite reported on two kidnappings in the area, one of which involved people who knew each other – four suspects were arrested on the north side. Crime is up significantly in the 5th Precinct. The trend is being driven by an increase in property crimes, especially thefts from businesses and thefts from motor vehicles. Vehicles parked in the lots of businesses along Lyndale Ave and Hennepin Ave have been targeted by thieves who appear to be well organized and prepared. SSCO staff reported that there was only one criminal incident reported in the neighborhood during Super Bowl week, 1/29 to 2/4, the lowest number ever for a single week. The anticipated displacement of offenders from downtown to other areas – due to the strong presence of law enforcement personnel there – did not occur in Stevens Square.</p> <p><u>Presentation</u> by Community Attorney Matt Wilcox and Neighborhood Probation Officer Drew Kirch about cases of interest to the neighborhood including Kenneth Bellanger (6/2/55, giving police a false name at Starbucks Coffee, 2000 Nicollet Ave, on 11/9/17), Dashon Johnson (3/12/95, theft of MPD bait vehicle at 1920 LaSalle Ave on 8/24/17), and James McDaniel (7/17/57, 2nd degree murder at 2101 3rd Ave on 1/14/17). Bellanger, who has been arrested in this area 10 times since 2009, has 85 prior convictions in Minnesota. Update on Stevens Square offenders who are on the 5th Precinct CLEAN list: Sharee Barrett (7/10/81) is in prison for 3rd degree burglary from 9/24/16 at CVS, 2001 Nicollet Ave, until 3/8, and then is on parole until 2/7/19.; Corey Harges (12/27/90) is in jail for felony escape from custody – he failed to return to the workhouse to serve four days remaining on his current sentences for robbery and theft; on 2/23, Rachael O’Gorman (12/24/76) will complete her sentence for trespassing at Plymouth Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave, from 9/1/17 and be released from the workhouse – another trespassing case from 11/25/17 at Starbucks Coffee, 2000 Nicollet Ave, is set for court on 2/28; David Brenner (7/5/75) is on supervised probation for open bottle from 7/20/17 and trespassing from 9/25/17. Wilcox thanked the committee for continuing to invite him to present information at community meetings – the group is always welcoming, receptive, and engaged.</p>	<p>Crime Prevention Resources</p> <p>911 / 311 information</p> <p>Crime Prevention Specialist Jennifer.Neale@Minneapolismn.gov 673-2819</p> <p>Matthew.Wilcox@Minneapolismn.gov 673-5402</p> <p>CRT line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716</p>

	<p>The group of street drinkers who caused a significant amount of problems in 2017 has returned to the area: SSCO staff called Metro Transit police at 10:55 a.m. on 2/23 to report that offender Armondo Day (10/5/74) and ten others were drinking and causing a disturbance at a bus stop at Franklin & Nicollet.</p>	
<p>Neighborhood-related safety ideas and concerns</p>	<p>Community concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Narcotics-related loitering and traffic in the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave). There have been four police reports in this area in the past four weeks. Two suspects in a stolen vehicle were arrested for felony narcotics violations on 2/13 in the alley behind 1800 3rd Ave. No violent or property crimes were reported. Year to date, in the larger area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, there have been 8 narcotics-related arrests compared to 6 in 2017. There have been 2 alcohol-related arrests compared to 8 in 2017. ▪ Dog waste left on the ground in and around the park and on sidewalks and boulevards throughout the neighborhood. This is a health hazard and residents can complain to the Park Board at (612) 230-6400. Most rental property managers are cooperative and encourage residents who own dogs to behave responsibly. It's sometimes difficult to find contact information for condo associations. Call Animal Care and Control at 311 to report those who do not comply with the law requiring pet waste pick-up. The problem seems to be especially bad this winter; a lot of the waste is now buried under the snow. ▪ The City has done a poor job enforcing Snow Emergency rules this winter. Many vehicles parked illegally have not been towed, causing traffic and parking lanes on streets to be blocked with snow. 1st Ave is especially bad, and the City has not responded to complaints to 311 from residents and business owners. There was a discussion about possible ways to further notify residents of the rules, such as flyering vehicles which are illegally parked. There was a question about whether the problem might be caused by limited storage capacity at the City's impound lot. ▪ Many sidewalks, corners, and bus stops in the neighborhood cannot be used by pedestrians this winter because they are blocked with snow and ice. Who is responsible for fixing these problems? Private property owners are responsible for public sidewalks at their addresses – call 311 to report violations. Metro Transit may be in charge of clearing snow from bus stops; call (612) 373-3333 (extension 3, Customer Relations) to report problems. The City is not responsible for bus stops. ▪ Trash and litter on the streets – especially Nicollet Ave – continues to be a problem. Some individuals who have worked to clean up the neighborhood have left recently. Arrests for livability crimes involving alcohol, drugs, and prostitution in the neighborhood continue to decline: the strategies put into place over ten years ago by law enforcement agencies and SSCO have worked to reduce street crime here. Keeping the neighborhood clean needs to be a priority. There was a suggestion to bring the issue to the Neighborhood Development committee which meets on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave. There is already a volunteer clean-up group which reports to that committee. <p>Kim Johnson from Securitas, which provides security guard services to the Public Housing towers in the neighborhood (1707 3rd Ave and 1920 4th Ave), spoke briefly about the role that company plays in keeping the neighborhood safe. The towers have surveillance camera systems inside and out. Information regarding criminal activity is shared with police.</p>	
<p>Block Patrol news – Ken Strobel</p>	<p>From 1/26 to 2/22, 13 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 19 shifts, contributing 67 hours. 2 new volunteers joined Block Patrol.</p> <p>During the past month, Block Patrol teams: spoke with over 40 community members on the streets and at neighborhood businesses; picked up trash and litter, even some that was frozen to the ground; checked on construction</p>	<p>Join Block Patrol – it's an easy and fun way to get to know people in your neighborhood and find</p>

	<p>of the new Franklin Ave bridge; observed large amounts of dog waste in the park and on sidewalks and boulevards throughout the neighborhood; frequently contended with icy sidewalks and piles of snow at corners which made it very difficult to patrol the neighborhood; counted 19 streetlights still out in the area from Nicollet Ave to 4th Ave – 11 of these were first reported to the City on 4/25/17; spoke with staff from Steeple People – they plan to open their new shop at 19th & Nicollet in mid-March; encountered some people at Franklin & Nicollet who joked about "the Stevens Square Patrol kicking guys out of the neighborhood"; noticed that broken windows at two businesses on Nicollet Ave had been repaired; smelled the strong odor of marijuana inside the laundry at Franklin & Clinton; saw an incident at 19th & 1st involving the male driver of a van who was being assisted by paramedics as police searched the vehicle; watched military helicopters patrolling the area at low altitude during Super Bowl week; helped a driver push his car out of a snowbank on 19th St; door-knocked 181 units in 6 apartment buildings to publicize SSCO and recruit new volunteers.</p>	<p>out what's happening here. Contact: Dave at 874-2840 or dave_ssco@yahoo.com</p>
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Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.