



Community Safety meeting minutes – April 28, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.

Present: Aaron Szczech, co-chair; Corey Grandner and P J Bensen, Hennepin County Probation; Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police department; Nikki Appelbaum, City Attorney's office; Tonya Lenox and Sam Stoltz, St Stephen's Street Outreach; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; John Ryser, Jerry Paulson, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoe

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

Agenda item	Notes/decisions	Follow up
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Saturday, April 30 – Stevens Square Police Substation Open House, 1905 1st Ave (back door), 1 to 5 p.m., an opportunity to meet the police officers who work in our neighborhood, featuring free food, root beer floats, and fun! Thanks to our donors: Uptown Lunds & Byerlys, French Meadow, SuperAmerica, Boiler Room Coffee. ▪ Tuesday, May 17 – 5th Precinct Open House, 3101 Nicollet Ave, 5 to 7 p.m. Free fun, food, and entertainment! ▪ Saturday, May 21 – SSCO's Spring Clean Sweep, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., meet in Stevens Square Park. Compete for the prize (Boiler Room Coffee gift card) for finding the most unusual piece of trash! ▪ Thursday, May 26 – next Community Safety meeting, 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave. ▪ Saturday, June 18 – SSCO's annual neighborhood meeting, details forthcoming. 	Next Community Safety meeting: Thursday, 5/26, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave
Updates from law enforcement partners – 5 th Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams, Community Attorney Nikki Appelbaum, Probation Officers Corey Grandner, P J Bensen	<p><u>Presentation</u> by Chelsea Adams: In the past month in Stevens Square – Loring Heights, there were two robberies of person (3/27 at 19th & 3rd; 3/28 at 19th & 1st), one aggravated assault (4/8 at 1920 Clinton Ave in which two suspects were arrested), three apartment burglaries (4/2 at 102 East 19th St; 4/8 at 203 East 19th St; 4/9 at 1906 1st Ave), two motor vehicle thefts (4/8 at 203 East 19th St; 4/24 at 1818 LaSalle Ave), and six other incidents of theft.</p> <p>Adams distributed information about becoming a block or apartment leader, spring and summer safety tips, and phone apps for police tips and 311 reports. Contact Adams or SSCO for copies of the information.</p> <p><u>Presentation</u> by Nikki Appelbaum: Update on 5th Precinct CLEAN list offenders active in Stevens Square. Many of the individuals who frequently offend in Stevens Square are in custody, including Sharee Barrett (set for court on 5/3 two felonies and nine misdemeanors); Darryl Brooks (in the workhouse for gross misdemeanor trespassing until 5/13); William Ernst (set for court today for 4th degree assault). Farid Yusuf Suleiman was found incompetent to stand trial on 4/27 for a gross misdemeanor trespassing case; the next hearing for the case is set for 10/26. Probation Officer Corey Grandner reported that none of his clients are on the CLEAN list.</p> <p>Appelbaum announced that she is leaving in June to take the Community Attorney position in the 3rd Precinct. She will bring the new person who is assigned to the 5th Precinct job to the Community Safety meeting on 5/26. She has enjoyed working with community members in Stevens Square – Loring Heights.</p> <p>SSCO staff made information available about:</p>	<p>Chelsea.Adams@Minneapolismn.gov 673-2819</p> <p>Crime Prevention Resources</p> <p>911 / 311 information</p> <p>Nicole.Appelbaum@Minneapolismn.gov 673-5402</p> <p>CRT line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the outcome of cases involving offenders Darryl Brooks and Ahmed Abdulahi Mohamed; and ▪ Part 1 (serious) crimes reported in the neighborhood from January 1 through March 31: violent crime is down 60% compared to last year, and the number of burglaries (6) and motor vehicle thefts (3) is the same for both years. 	
<p>Neighborhood-related safety ideas and concerns</p>	<p><u>Presentation</u> by Tonya Lenox and Sam Stoltz of St Stephen's Street Outreach: Their outreach team works from 1 to 9 p.m.; other teams start at 9 a.m. They focus on helping those who are homeless – especially people who sleep outside – find shelter. They passed around copies of their brochure; call (612) 879-7624 for information or to request that a team be dispatched to assist someone on the street. Block Patrol teams carry the brochures and provide them to those who appear to be in need of help. Block Patrol has had success in calling Street Outreach teams to help people in certain situations, such as groups camped out on MNDOT property along I-94. Lenox plans to attend upcoming Community Safety meetings.</p> <p><u>Community concern</u> Suspicious males causing problems at and around Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge (MNTC), 1717 2nd Ave. Thanks to MNTC staff, a number of residents have joined and participated in Block Patrol in the past two months. The project is going very well and volunteers with both organizations are excited about the opportunities presented by this partnership.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the behavior of these groups of males (which can range in number from two or three to over a dozen) who have also caused problems in the park, around residential buildings, in alleys, at numerous businesses on Nicollet Ave, at bus stops, and at an alternative high school. (One of those involved, Mohamed Ahmed Farah, was recently convicted of 5th degree assault against a student on school property.) Police in the area have dealt with complaints about these males on a daily basis for the past year, but nothing has worked to deter their ongoing illegal behavior in the area. Adams announced that new Officer Mohamed Nur will soon be assigned to the 5th Precinct and may be able to help with the situation. Lenox suggested that community members call St Stephen's Street Outreach to see if outreach teams can make contact with the males when they are causing problems in the area.</p> <p><u>Community concern</u> Drug-related loitering and traffic in the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave), especially at 19th & 3rd. There were eleven police reports in this area during the past month, compared to eight in the previous month. There no arrests or citations for narcotics violations. Two violent felonies were reported – see Adams' report above. There was one theft from motor vehicle, an arrest for a bike theft, and an arrest for shoplifting at Electric Fetus. No burglaries or motor vehicle thefts were reported.</p> <p>In the larger area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, arrests for narcotics-related offenses are down 20% compared to last year.</p> <p><u>Community concern</u> Illegal consumption of alcohol in the neighborhood. Year to date, there have been 16 arrests or citations for alcohol-related offenses in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, compared to 20 in 2015. There have been two arrests for alcohol-related offenses in Stevens Square Park this year.</p> <p>SSCO staff reported that a date has not yet been set for the community discussion about ways to combat street harassment, which will take place at the MCAD auditorium. Staff from the Sexual Violence Center have agreed to design the publicity and facilitate the meeting. In the past month, staff at Whittier Alliance has become involved in</p>	

	<p>planning the discussion, with a new focus on inviting members of the Somali community to participate. Adams suggested that, with the end of the MCAD school year approaching and interest emerging from other groups in the community, several community discussions might be organized, instead of just one.</p>	
<p>Block Patrol news</p>	<p><u>Presentation</u> by staff: From 3/25 to 4/28, 16 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 18 shifts, contributing 69 total hours. 4 new volunteers joined Block Patrol. Block Patrol volunteers participated in SSCO's social event at Boiler Room Coffee on 4/1 and prepared for the substation open house.</p> <p>During the past month, Block Patrol teams: spoke with at least 100 community members at events and on the streets; frequently spoke with our Franklin-Nicollet beat officers; patrolled the Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge property on 2nd Ave in response to complaints about suspicious males loitering in the area and harassing staff and residents; gave sight-seeing tours of the neighborhood to our new volunteers; stopped at neighborhood coffee shops for a break; picked up trash and litter; waved at Community Attorney Nikki who gave us a drive-by shout-out at Franklin & Nicollet; observed new string graffiti with an anti-dog message on the chain link fence on the east side of the 1800 block of Nicollet – the message was "Meeow"; spoke with the owner of a neighborhood business called Broken Gizmo; spoke with a Nice Ride technician on Nicollet about returning the abandoned Nice Ride bike found by Block Patrol during the winter; spoke with a crew cleaning out the former Minnesota African American Museum building on 3rd Ave; spotted new graffiti on dumpsters in alleys; observed a lot of stray clothing on the ground throughout the neighborhood; watched repairs underway at numerous buildings in the neighborhood; received a call from a community member about three suspicious males drinking alcohol in the park – when the males saw the team, they quickly left the area; visited Scratchy's Book Box; encountered a male on Nicollet who was suffering from a disengaged cortex; crossed paths multiple times with an intoxicated male who was a suspect in an assault that happened on Nicollet Ave earlier in the day; saw a suspicious vehicle parked on Franklin Ave near Lyndale in which a female passenger appeared to be in bad shape – the male driver was trying to wake her up; encountered an animatronic skunk hiding in the shrubs in front of an apartment building on West Franklin Ave; called 911 on a group of seven males sharing a liter bottle of vodka in Stevens Square Park – and cancelled the call after the group broke up and moved along – two Park police squads, a Park agent, and a 5th Precinct squad responded; gave a Block Patrol application to a new neighborhood resident who had seen Block Patrol publicity posted in his building; admired a flowering shrub growing in the shade between two apartment buildings on 3rd Ave; called 911 regarding an intoxicated male who was sitting / lying in a driveway entrance to the Mall Center on Groveland Ave – a Groveland Food Shelf volunteer had also called, and an ambulance, followed by the Franklin-Nicollet beat officers and a Metro Transit squad, responded; observed a group of eight intoxicated people acting out at Groveland & Nicollet; admired the dozens of tulips blooming at LaSalle Community Garden; called 311 to report a one-way street sign at 18th & 2nd which needed to be replaced because it had been damaged by graffiti; notified maintenance staff about a repetitive high-pitched beeping sound coming from inside an apartment building; spoke with the leader of the Whittier Crime and Safety task force about a suspicious vehicle and driver parked in the driveway of a vacant house at 22nd & Clinton; encountered a male in a hurry at 22nd & Clinton who said hi and then announced that he had been in prison for 17 years – the team wished him well and didn't ask for details.</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> <p>Application and guidelines are at the SSCO web site.</p>