

Stevens Square Community Organization

(612) 874-2840

<http://www.sscoweb.org>



Safety Committee minutes – July 22, 2010, 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; Anthony Diaz, Chelsea Adams, Michael Killebrew, Minneapolis Police 5th Precinct; Chris Dixon, City Attorney’s office; Amanda Kubista, Stevens Supportive Housing; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Lucy Minn, Lupe Development Partners; Ray Alex Perry, Life Protector; Mary Gunderson, CVS Pharmacy; Corwin Morton, Steve Johnson, Jerry Paulson, Charles Rosensteel, Aaron Szczech, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoye (dave_sscoweb@yahoo.com or 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">▪ Stevens Square farmers market, every Wednesday, 2:00 to 6:30 p.m., in the Plymouth Church parking lot at Franklin & Nicollet. http://www.sscoweb.org/documents/Farmersmarketflyer.pdf▪ The 2010 season of Cinema & Civics in Stevens Square Park concludes on 7/28.▪ School Board at-large candidate forum, 7/29, 6 p.m. at First Christian Church, 2201 1st Ave, sponsored by Whittier Alliance.▪ Red Hot Art festival in Stevens Square Park, 7/31 & 8/1. http://redhotart.org/▪ National Night Out, 8/3. http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno/▪ FaN Fair, 8/21, 2 to 8 p.m., in the Plymouth Church parking lot at Franklin & Nicollet, sponsored by Plymouth Church. http://www.plymouth.org/fanfair/index.php▪ Forum on panhandling, 8/23, 6 to 8 p.m., Basilica of St Mary, sponsored by Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness, zAmya Theater Project, and St Stephen’s Human Services. http://www.dceh.org/	Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 8/26, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.

<p>Minneapolis Police report – Lt Tony Diaz, CPS Chelsea Adams, Officer Michael Killebrew</p>	<p>Tony Diaz reported that, to reduce crime, police have been making proactive stops in focus zones in the precinct, including Stevens Square. For example, during the week of 7/13 to 7/19, officers in the focus zones made contact with 147 suspicious persons and 42 suspicious vehicles, and made 283 additional traffic stops. So far this summer, violent crime is down in the neighborhood. The most recent aggravated assault, on 7/14, involved a stabbing in which the victim, who knows the assailant, was intoxicated and refused to cooperate with police. The night beat patrol officers – Kou Vang and Hien Dinh – are back on duty and will be invited to attend the 8/26 Safety meeting. Sgt Michael Friestleben, the CRT (community response team) supervisor, has been detailed as a lieutenant to the Gang Enforcement Team. Sgt Sara Metcalf will take over supervision of CRT next week.</p> <p>Chelsea Adams reported that block leaders can still register their events for National Night Out on 8/3, but at this late date it will cost \$100 to arrange to block off a street. Paralegal Lisa Johnson has returned to the precinct, splitting her time between the 1st and 5th Precincts. Adams distributed copies of the 5th Precinct resource list and the city list of online resources. Copies will be made available to the public at FaN Fair on 8/21.</p> <p>Adams distributed a map and list of Part 1 crimes in the neighborhood during June. There were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 incidents of criminal sexual conduct: 6/7 at an address on the 1900 block of 3rd Ave involving sexual abuse by a caregiver; 6/15 at an address on the 1700 block of 2nd Ave involving indecent exposure by a suspect known to the victim. ▪ 1 robbery of person: 6/24 at 1700 Stevens Ave in which two suspects robbed and assaulted a victim who was sitting on the steps of this apartment building. ▪ 1 aggravated assault: 6/24 at 19th & Nicollet in which Travis Townsend (3/6/83) was arrested for assaulting police officers and obstructing the legal process. ▪ 2 burglaries: 6/14 at 1710 2nd Ave in which a laptop computer was stolen from a locked apartment; 6/17 at 110 East 18th St, in which two males were found inside the security fence of this vacant and boarded building, attempting to steal scrap metal. ▪ 1 motor vehicle theft: 6/26 at 19th & Stevens, recovered on 6/29 in the parking lot at 1714 2nd Ave. ▪ 6 thefts from motor vehicles: 6/10 at 18th & 3rd; 6/18 at 19th & Nicollet; 6/20 at the Rudolphs Restaurant parking lot near Franklin & Lyndale; 6/24 on the 500 block of Ridgewood Ave; 6/25 on the 1900 block of 3rd Ave; 6/26 at Franklin & Lyndale. Items stolen include a laptop computer, phone, backpack, CD player, radio, musical instruments, a purse, and American Girl dolls. ▪ 3 other incidents of theft. ▪ 1 arson: 6/4 at 18th & 4th, in which a stolen vehicle was set on fire by a suspect seen fleeing the area. <p>Recent crime trends in the precinct include a large number of bike thefts plus thefts of unattended purses and wallets in restaurants. http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/BikeTheft.pdf</p> <p>SSCO's Google maps and lists of arrests in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, from 6/21/10 to 7/18/10 showed 33 alcohol-related arrests (23 in 2009), 6 narcotics-related arrests (10 in 2009), and no prostitution-related arrests (9 in 2009). Year to date, there have been 186 alcohol-related arrests (211 in 2009), 65 narcotics-related arrests (79 in 2009), and 13 prostitution-related arrests (14 in 2009). For the same period, SSCO's Google maps showed 50 police reports for the Nicollet corridor (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1st Ave, I-94 to 24th St), 15 for the Stevens Square Park area (Stevens Ave to 2nd Ave, 17th St to Franklin Ave) and 13 for the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave). Information in text format is at http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Crime_Information/index.htm</p>	<p>Contact info:</p> <p>Chelsea.Adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2819</p> <p>Anthony.Diaz@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-3137</p> <p>CRT line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716</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>
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<p>Community Probation report – Probation Officers Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen</p>	<p>Jean Schwalen reported that Bobbi Harrington helped police apprehend Schwalen’s client Judy Peters while working at the Somali Independence Day celebration on 6/26 at Lake & Blaisdell. (Peters rode up to Harrington on a bike and struck up a friendly conversation.) Peters, who was wanted on a warrant for 4th degree assault of a police officer, will be released from the workhouse on 8/3/10. 5th Precinct Inspector Frizell expressed appreciation for probation officers’ assistance during the event. Schwalen is supervising chronic offender Mattie Grassrope.</p> <p>Bobbi Harrington reported that Joseph Conklin has an arrest-and-detention warrant. A number of her other clients are in jail. Officer Deb Hubert arrested chronic offender Darryl Brooks today for trespassing, consuming alcohol in public, and littering at an address on Pillsbury Ave.</p>	<p>Contact info: Bobbi.Harrington@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8075 Jean.C.Schwalen@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8212</p>
<p>Community Prosecutor report – Assistant City Attorney Chris Dixon</p>	<p>Chris Dixon reported that, despite the support of Judge Wernick who is the head of the Criminal Court in Hennepin County, a judicial committee rejected his request to change the bail schedule to allow police to book chronic alcohol offenders in the jail for misdemeanor consuming alcohol in public and loitering with open bottle. SSCO had asked Dixon to pursue this change in policy and had submitted a letter in support. Dixon prepared a study which showed that chronic alcohol offenders rarely respond to citations and thus generate a large number of bench warrants for failure to appear in court.</p> <p>Dixon distributed copies of the 5th Precinct CLEAN sheet, which is at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/docs/Pct5CLEAN.pdf and provided updates on some Stevens Square offenders, many of whom are in custody:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Curtis Batton – In prison until 5/19/11. ▪ Pamela Beaulieu – In the workhouse until 11/17/10. ▪ Walter Bray – Released from the workhouse on 7/18. ▪ Darryl Brooks – On conditional release for a 2/9/10 case, arrested and booked in jail today. ▪ Maxim Chance – In the workhouse until 12/18/10. ▪ Joseph Conklin – Active arrest-and-detention warrant. ▪ Anthony Ford – Goes to court on 7/30/10. ▪ Michael Jones – Goes to court on 9/22/10. ▪ Ronald King – In the workhouse until 9/17/10. ▪ Jessica Matt – In the workhouse until 8/25/10. ▪ Randy McNellis – In the workhouse until 9/8/10. ▪ Kenneth Nickaboine – In the workhouse until 9/8/10. ▪ Maurice Patterson – In the workhouse until 9/15/10. ▪ Judy Peters – In the workhouse until 8/3/10. ▪ Aaron Schliecher, one of the top chronic offenders in the city, has been seen in Stevens Square-Loring Heights lately. He usually frequents the area where Lyndale and Hennepin merge, north of Franklin Ave. <p>SSCO submitted community impact statements for cases involving Brandon Miller (who is in prison for a parole violation until 8/31/10) and Level 3 sex offender Damon Moore. Copies of the statements were passed around.</p>	<p>Contact info: Christopher.Dixon@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-5402</p>

<p>Priority concerns, hot spots, chronic offenders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1816, 1820, 1830 Stevens Ave – The number of police reports and complaints about violent crime and drug and alcohol activity at these apartment buildings has declined, reflecting the efforts of law enforcement, residents, and the property manager to resolve the problems. There are reports that suspicious persons involved in narcotics activity are still frequenting the block. Police continue to enforce the No Trespassing ordinance at all buildings on the block. ▪ 1710 2nd Ave – Police executed a forced-entry narcotics search warrant at an apartment in this building on 7/8. Two persons were cited and the problem has been resolved. ▪ Drug dealing at 19th & 1st – There are complaints about street drug dealing at various times on and around this corner. It's unclear whether the activity is tied to any building(s) nearby. ▪ 19th & 3rd – There was a complaint about a number of traffic and parking issues at this corner, including commercial vehicles parked in the No Parking zone in front of the Third Avenue Market, sometimes blocking part of the intersection; cars sometimes parked illegally by fire hydrants for short periods as drivers or passengers shop at the market; and bicyclists who fail to obey the rules of the road and endanger themselves and motorists. Call 311 to report parking violations or make a report online at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/parking/violation.asp For information about bike safety and rules of the road, visit http://www.sharetheroadmn.org/ ▪ 18th & 3rd – There was a complaint about loud noise, including yelling, and violent behavior at this corner late at night. Call 911 to report disorderly conduct, loud parties, and other noise complaints. <p>SSCO's monthly chronic offender update featured cases involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kenneth Brown: 6/18/10 consuming alcohol in public at Franklin & Nicollet. ▪ Maurice Patterson: 6/11/10 public urination at Franklin & 4th. ▪ Frederick Washington: 6/21/10 consuming alcohol in public at 2120 Nicollet Ave. 	<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>Coordinator report – Dave Delvoe</p>	<p>The committee decided to form a small group to develop goals and priorities for the upcoming year (July 2010 to June 2011). Anyone interested in participating should contact the coordinator at 874-2840 or dave_ssco@yahoo.com The group will meet within the next month and present its recommendations to the committee at the 8/26 meeting. The committee's goals for the past year are at http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Agendas_and_Minutes/documents/2010safetyplans.pdf</p>	

<p>Block Patrol report – Ken Strobel</p>	<p>From 6/25 to 7/22, 10 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 14 regular shifts, contributing a total of 38 hours. At least three shifts were cancelled. 8 Block Patrol volunteers participated in Cinema & Civics in Stevens Square Park on 6/30, 7/14, and 7/21, contributing 55.25 hours. Block Patrol raised \$138.75 by selling soda and water – which was generously donated by CVS Pharmacy – at these events. Volunteers contributed a total of 93.25 hours during this past month. Strobel shared stories from the Block Patrol log.</p> <p>The Block Patrol guidelines and application are at http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Block_Patrol/</p> <p>The discussion about recruiting new Block Patrol volunteers was continued from the 6/24 meeting. Previous suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schedule more Block Patrol shifts late at night, especially during “peak hours of activity” on Fridays and Saturdays. ▪ Make it easy for residents to join Block Patrol. ▪ Promote Block Patrol more heavily among SCA residents, who receive a rental rebate for participating. ▪ Distribute welcome packets with information about how to get involved with SSCO. <p>Additional suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invite community leaders, law enforcement staff, political candidates, and elected officials to come along as guests on Block Patrol shifts. ▪ Ask rental property owners and managers to promote Block Patrol to residents. Stevens Community Apartments continues to offer monthly rental rebates of up to \$60 to residents who participate in Block Patrol. Kleinman Realty continues to donate space for the police substation. ▪ Ask business owners and managers to provide gifts or discounts to Block Patrol members to show their appreciation. CVS Pharmacy at 2001 Nicollet Ave has donated gift bags to active Block Patrol volunteers and often offers free bottles of water to volunteers patrolling at Franklin & Nicollet. CVS also donates soda and water for Block Patrol to sell at community events to raise money to cover expenses. Net Market at 1845 Nicollet Ave donates soda for committee meetings. <p>A number of other items were discussed, including the challenges faced by local businesses in providing security and deterring theft and panhandling, along with efforts to improve and beautify the area.</p>	<p>Contact SSCO to join Block Patrol.</p>
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Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.