

Stevens Square Community Organization

(612) 874-2840

<http://www.sscoweb.org>

Safety Committee minutes – August 22, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.



Present: Ken Strobel and Michele McGaughey, co-chairs; Robert Lilligren, Ward 6 City Council; Jean Schwalen, Hennepin County Community Probation; Rena Dudgeon, Aimee Colegrove, Rob Illetschko, and Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police department; Jennifer Saunders, City Attorney’s Office; Dave Hautman, Franklin Nicollet Liquor; Rob Helmerich, Rand Management; Jerry Paulson, John Ryser, Arlene Storandt, Jill Ferguson, Aaron Szczech, and safety coordinator Dave Delvoeye (dave_scco@yahoo.com or 874-2840)

Agenda item	Notes/decisions	Follow up
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stevens Square farmers market is open every Wednesday from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Plymouth Church parking lot at Franklin & Nicollet. ▪ Jean Schwalen announced that Community Corrections has hired a new probation officer for the Stevens Square office. ▪ Robert Lilligren announced that The Nicollet coffee shop, 1931 Nicollet Ave, is the new location for his monthly Ward 6 community office hours in the neighborhood. This opportunity to meet with the City Council Member takes place on the third Monday of each month from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Call 673-2206 to schedule an appointment, register online, or just stop by. 	Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 9/26, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.
Minneapolis Police report – Sgt Rena Dudgeon, Officers Aimee Colegrove and Rob Illetschko, CPS Chelsea Adams	<p>Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams distributed copies of a map and list of Part 1 crimes reported in the neighborhood from 7/25 to 8/22. There were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 burglaries: 7/28 at 232 West Franklin Ave in which an unknown suspect entered the parking garage at this condo building and stole loose change from a vehicle which was parked inside; 8/17 at 400 West Franklin Ave in which a suspect, who appeared to have entered the building by removing a ground floor window screen, stole items from an apartment. ▪ 15 incidents of theft. <p>Adams noted that there were no violent crimes reported. Franklin-Nicollet Beat Officer Rob Illetschko reported that it's been very quiet in the neighborhood. In response to a question, Sgt Rena Dudgeon, who supervises the beat officers, stated that the break-ins during the night of 7/28 – 7/29 at Franklin Lofts, 111 East Franklin Ave, and Eat Street Flats, 15 East Franklin Ave, are under investigation. Thirty vehicles parked in the garages of these condo buildings were broken into and various items were stolen.</p> <p>Adams distributed information about chronic swindler and con artist Mark Christopher Bell who is in custody for five cases including 1st degree aggravated robbery, giving police the false name of another person, giving police false information, theft from person, theft by swindle, and obstructing the legal process. Although none of these offenses occurred in the neighborhood, in the past Bell has committed crimes all over Minneapolis (including Stevens Square), St Louis Park, and Golden Valley. Adams is requesting community impact statements (c.i.s.) from individuals who have been affected financially, emotionally, or physically by Bell's behavior. To receive information about Bell, who has 18 prior convictions in Minnesota, and about how to submit a c.i.s., contact Adams at Chelsea.Adams@minneapolismn.gov Jennifer Saunders emphasized the importance of submitting impact statements</p>	<p>Chelsea.Adams@Minneapolismn.gov 673-2819</p> <p>Crime Prevention Resources</p> <p>911 / 311 information</p> <p>CRT line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716</p>

	<p>regarding this offender because of his history of targeting residents in this area.</p> <p>SSCO made copies available of a list of 23 offenders who have been charged with felonies for selling drugs to night CRT undercover officers along Franklin Ave from August, 2011, to April, 2012. So far, 19 of the 23 cases have been resolved.</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 7/22 to 8/18 showed 18 alcohol-related arrests (27 in 2012), 6 narcotics-related arrests (7 in 2012), and no prostitution-related arrests (none in 2012). Year to date, there were 124 alcohol-related arrests (144 in 2012), 48 narcotics-related arrests (55 in 2012), and 1 prostitution-related arrest (1 in 2012). For the period from 7/22 to 8/18, SSCO's Google maps showed 42 police reports for the Nicollet corridor (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1st Ave, I-94 to 24th St), 12 for the Stevens Square Park area (Stevens Ave to 2nd Ave, 17th St to Franklin Ave), 7 for the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave), and 3 for Loring Heights (Lyndale Ave to Pillsbury 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 – Assistant City Attorney Jennifer Saunders</p>	<p>Jennifer Saunders distributed copies of the 5th Precinct CLEAN list and updated the committee on some of the offenders active in Stevens Square, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ellery Charging Thunder – in jail on \$300 bail for trespassing, set for court with 4 additional cases (trespassing [2], open bottle, interfering with traffic) on 8/28. ▪ Jules Chomilo – on supervised probation for 5 cases (gross misdemeanor obstructing [2], gross misdemeanor 4th degree assault of a police officer, driving while intoxicated, interfering with traffic). ▪ Anthony Ford – a consuming alcohol in public/open bottle/criminal contempt of court case set for court on 9/26. ▪ Ahmed Hired – added back to the CLEAN list, 4 cases (public urination, possession of liquor in a park, prohibited language or conduct, open bottle) set for court on 8/28. ▪ Frank Killwright – in the workhouse until 8/29 for 2 open bottle cases. ▪ Ronald King – in jail on \$6,000 bail for a gross misdemeanor trespassing case, all misdemeanor cases were dismissed due to his mental incompetency, will undergo civil commitment proceedings and will remain in custody. ▪ Harry Leftbear – ordered to report to the workhouse on 8/26 to serve 90 days for 3 cases (loitering, disorderly conduct, consuming alcohol in public). ▪ Maurice Patterson – now on the 1st Precinct CLEAN list, 5 cases (theft, public urination, public nuisance, consuming alcohol in public, violating an order for protection, 4th degree assault of a police officer) set for court on 9/6 and another theft case set for court on 9/12. ▪ Farid Suleiman – in custody for felony theft in Sherburne County until 10/30, 4 cases (obstructing the legal process, prohibited conduct, open bottle/consuming, and open bottle) set for court on 11/13. ▪ Walter Weyaus – in the workhouse until 9/18 for trespassing, then on supervised probation until 6/20/14. 	<p>Jennifer.Saunders@Minneapolismn.gov 673-5402</p>
<p>Ward 6 report – City Council Member Robert Lilligren</p>	<p>Robert Lilligren reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ With the roll-out of one-sort recycling completed citywide by July 1, participation in recycling by residents has increased over 60% compared to a year ago. The residential recycling rate is now up to 25%, compared to 16% a year ago. ▪ The City has joined the University of Minnesota's "Let's Beat the Bug!" campaign to help those who may be at risk for bed bugs. ▪ The Building Community exhibit at the IDS Crystal Court on 8/22 and 8/23 features information on proposed transit improvements in the city, including the Nicollet Ave streetcar line. 	<p>Robert.Lilligren@Minneapolismn.gov 673-2206</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The process of adopting the 2014 City budget has begun with Mayor Rybak's budget address on 8/15. The Council's Ways and Means committee will present an overview of the budget on 8/27. Public hearings will be held on 11/19 and 12/11. The City Council will vote on the budget on 12/11. The mayor has proposed a 1% reduction in the property tax levy. Long term, the City is planning to hire a large number of public safety employees, including 45 firefighters (three classes of 15) plus 30 police officers and 20 community service officers. This comes in response to the "silver tsunami", i.e., the large number of staff expected to retire from these departments over the next decade. For example, 60% of firefighters and 42% of police officers will be eligible to retire within ten years. The mayor's budget allocates \$2 million to help plan the proposed streetcar lines; invests in bicycling and pedestrian improvements; funds a two-year study of neighborhood air quality; and promotes the planting of more trees to replace those which have been lost (up to 5,000 on average on boulevards and in parks per year) and are anticipated to be lost (up to 40,000 ash trees on public property by 2020). 	
<p>Priority concerns / hot spots / chronic offenders</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), especially at 19th & 3rd – There was one narcotics-related incident in the past month: on 8/1, 1st Precinct CRT executed a narcotics search warrant at an apartment in the Public Housing tower at 1707 3rd Ave; no arrests were made. There has been a complaint about late-night loitering and disturbances involving large groups of people in front of apartment buildings on the northwest corner of 19th & 3rd. A number of committee members did not agree that the activity there constitutes a problem. According to the 911 recap reports for those addresses, there have been two calls for police service (involving a fight and a disturbance) there this summer, although there is no information to show that those incidents were connected to any gathering. Call 911 to report noisy and unruly gatherings. Stevens Square Park, 1801 Stevens Ave – 5th Precinct and Park police continue to focus enforcement on the park. Of the 18 alcohol-related arrests in the area in the past month, 7 of them (39%) occurred in Stevens Square Park, 4 in Fair Oaks Park, and 3 at Franklin & Nicollet. Total year-to-date alcohol-related arrests/citations in the area are down 14% compared to 2012. 1913 Stevens Ave – There are reports that suspicious late-night traffic has resumed to an apartment in this building. A resident of the apartment is scheduled to appear in court on 9/4 on a 3rd degree felony drug sale charge. <p>SSCO's monthly chronic offender update included cases involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frank Killwright (15 arrests in the area in the past five years, 25 prior convictions in Hennepin County) – 2/25/13 open bottle at 2104 Stevens Ave; 3/13/13 open bottle at 22nd & Nicollet. 	<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>Block Patrol report – Arlene Storandt</p>	<p>Arlene Storandt reported that, from 7/26 to 8/22, 14 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 16 regular shifts, contributing 55 hours. 13 Block Patrol volunteers participated in Red Hot Art in Stevens Square Park on 7/27 and 7/28, contributing 79 hours. Block Patrol soda sales totaled \$120.75.</p> <p>Totals for the past month: 19 volunteers contributed 134 hours. One new member joined Block Patrol.</p>	<p>Application and guidelines are at the SSCO web site.</p>

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.