

Stevens Square Community Organization

(612) 874-2840

<http://www.sscoweb.org>



Safety Committee minutes – August 23, 2012, 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; Matt Clark and Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police 5th Precinct; Susan Segal and Jennifer Saunders, City Attorney’s Office; Deb Loveland, Minnesota Teen Challenge; Malcolm Williams, Plymouth Church; Dave Hautman, Franklin Nicollet Liquor; Rob Helmerich, Rand Management; Lucy Minn, Lupe Development; Arlene Storandt, Eddie Chambers, Jerry Paulson, Corwin Morton, Howard Penas, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoye (dave_scco@yahoo.com or 874-2840)

Agenda item	Notes/decisions	Follow up
<p>Announcements</p> <p>Contact SSCO to volunteer or for more info.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The SSCO Board approved the committee's selection of Ken Strobel to report to the Board on its behalf. ▪ The Stevens Square Farmers Market continues every Wednesday from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Plymouth Church parking lot at Franklin & Nicollet. ▪ Assistant Police Chief Janee Harteau, who has been selected to become Police Chief next year, will attend the 10/25 Safety committee meeting. 	<p>Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 9/27, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.</p>
<p>Community Prosecutor report – Assistant City Attorney Jennifer Saunders and City Attorney Susan Segal</p>	<p>Council Member Robert Lilligren introduced City Attorney Susan Segal and welcomed her to the meeting. This is Segal's second visit to a Safety committee meeting. She was interested in attending a community meeting in a 5th Precinct neighborhood and Jennifer Saunders suggested the SSCO meeting due to the group's strong partnership with its community attorney.</p> <p>Saunders distributed copies of the 5th Precinct CLEAN sheet and updated the committee on some of the offenders active in Stevens Square, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Patrick Addy – on probation to the court for a gross misdemeanor until 5/21/14, 3 cases set for court on 9/20, will request geographic restrictions. ▪ Charles Bailey – on supervised probation for a felony until 4/19/15, restricted from the area by court order. ▪ James Black – in prison for a drug conviction until 11/19. ▪ Darryl Brooks – on probation to the court for a misdemeanor until 8/15/13. ▪ Maxim Chance – 9 cases set for court on 10/3, will request geographic restrictions. ▪ Joseph Conklin – on probation to the court for a misdemeanor until 8/16/13. ▪ Kathleen Croud – on supervised probation for a felony until 7/12/15. ▪ William Ernst – in the workhouse until 11/28. ▪ Anthony Ford – in the workhouse until 10/2. ▪ Maurice Giles – on supervised probation for a felony until 8/7/15. ▪ Larry Harper – on supervised probation for a gross misdemeanor and a felony until 9/26/14, restricted from the area by court order. ▪ Ahmed Abdi Hired – in the workhouse until 9/6. ▪ Frank Killwright – no active cases. ▪ Ronald King – failed to report to the workhouse, in jail for two misdemeanors and a gross misdemeanor set for court on 8/28. ▪ Harry Leftbear – on probation to the court for a misdemeanor until 8/9/13, furloughed to treatment for two misdemeanors, another case set for court on 9/18. ▪ Jessica Matt – in the workhouse until 9/16. ▪ Randy McNellis – ordered to report to the workhouse on 8/31 for a misdemeanor. ▪ Brandon Miller – released from prison on 8/23, on parole until 3/23/13, active felony warrant for a narcotics case. ▪ Maurice Patterson – in the workhouse until 12/18. ▪ Alpheaus Putmon – on supervised probation until 12/16, two new cases pending. 	<p>Jennifer.Saunders@Minneapolismn.gov 673-5402</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farid Yusuf Suleiman – on supervised probation for two misdemeanors until 7/30/13, a Bloomington case set for court on 11/7, restricted from 2020 Nicollet Ave and Frattallone's Ace Hardware, 1804 Nicollet Ave. ▪ Addis Swift – on supervised probation for a misdemeanor until 2/15/13, restricted from the area (with exceptions) by court order. ▪ Frederick Washington – on probation to the court for a gross misdemeanor until 11/10/13. ▪ Robert Yellow Wolf – in prison for two convictions for 2nd degree assault until 9/30/13, then on parole until 6/30/14. <p>There was a question about the status of chronic offender Lynn Love, who is in jail on \$100,000 bail for a felony weapons charge which is set for court on 8/28. In response to a question, Saunders explained that the County Adult Corrections Facility, also known as the workhouse, houses prisoners with sentences of up to one year.</p>	
<p>Minneapolis Police report – Inspector Matt Clark and Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams</p>	<p>Chelsea Adams distributed copies of a map and list of Part 1 crimes reported in the neighborhood during July. There were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 robberies of person: 7/8, 12:40 p.m., at 1801 LaSalle Ave in which an intoxicated victim walking southbound was assaulted by four males who took his bike; 7/21, 3 a.m., at 223 Ridgewood Ave in which a victim who was walking declined a suspect's offer to sell him drugs and was subsequently robbed at gunpoint by the suspect who took a cell phone and cash. ▪ 1 business burglary: 7/4, overnight, at 1801 Nicollet Ave in which a window was broken to gain limited entry and an unlisted item was stolen. ▪ 2 apartment burglaries: 7/12 at 1920 4th Ave in which a TV was stolen from an unlocked apartment; 7/29, 12:35 a.m., at 1806 LaSalle Ave in which Dominic Philip Randazzo (1/3/92) twice tried to enter an apartment through windows, was confronted by the resident, and was subsequently located by officers and arrested for burglary. ▪ 3 motor vehicle thefts: 7/2 at 18th & Clinton; 7/17 at 17th & 1st; 7/21 at 1920 4th Ave. ▪ 5 thefts from motor vehicles: 7/9 at 1706 2nd Ave; 7/14 at Groveland & LaSalle; 7/14 at 1829 3rd Ave; 7/17 at 1919 LaSalle Ave; 7/18 at 1900 LaSalle Ave. ▪ 5 other incidents of theft. <p>Adams noted that there have been few violent crimes reported in the neighborhood this year compared to previous years.</p> <p>Adams shared a variety of information about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Domestic violence, including a flyer (in English, Spanish, and Somali) and brochure from Domestic Abuse Project and a brochure from Stop Abuse for Everyone. ▪ The County Attorney's Victim/Witness Assistance Program. ▪ The County's guide to veterans' benefits. ▪ Request for community impact statements for Ernest Lee Baugh in regard to burglaries in the Lowry Hill East and Whittier neighborhoods. ▪ 5th Precinct burglary suspects. <p>In response to inquiries about shots fired in the neighborhood, Adams investigated all shots-related 911 calls from the area in the past two months. When responding officers were able to verify the reports – sometimes by speaking with witnesses on the streets – they found that most involved firecrackers and not gunshots. The source of the sounds in many of the calls was unable to be verified. Adams explained how sounds can carry surprisingly long distances in the city, especially at night, and how difficult it can be to pinpoint the source and exact nature of a sound. She gave examples of incidents at specific dates and times which were heard and reported by people in widely dispersed locations, such as north of Franklin Ave and south of Lake St and places in between, all giving different estimates of the location of the sound.</p> <p>In response to an inquiry about whether the contact information (address, phone number) of a witness can be withheld on a police report, Adams said that this is a complicated issue. For example, when a witness to an incident calls 911 and asks to remain anonymous, it means that the caller's name and information will not appear on the police report and that responding officers will not contact the caller. 911 operators will still ask the caller to identify himself or herself. Police response and follow-up can be limited if there is no witness willing to go on record and cooperate with an investigation or prosecution. Matt</p>	<p>Chelsea.Adams@Minneapolismn.gov 673-2819</p> <p>CRT line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716 or contact Sara.Metcalf@Minneapolismn.gov</p> <p>Crime Prevention Resources</p> <p>911 / 311 information</p>

Clark said that [Emergency Communications](#) tries to get all of the information possible from a caller to make sure that police arrest the right person. Police need good witnesses in order to build cases which can be successfully prosecuted. Jennifer Saunders said that, under the Constitution, a defendant has the right to confront a witness and that a defense attorney has the right to interview a witness. In certain instances involving the personal safety of a witness, contact information can be restricted by a court order, but would still be public data available for a civil action. The County Attorney's [Victim/Witness advocates](#) can provide assistance. Tampering with a witness is a crime. There are circumstances in which a witness could reasonably fear retaliation, such as a neighbor who reports a domestic assault and is known to those involved. Jean Schwalen said that, in her experience, incidents of retaliation against witnesses are few and far between.

Matt Clark thanked Susan Segal for recommending Jennifer Saunders for the position of 5th Precinct Community Attorney. Jennifer is doing a great job.

Clark said that the owner of Tibet Kitchen, 1833 Nicollet Ave, has asked that the licensing requirement of two off-duty officers on site for the four hours leading up to closing be reduced to one officer. Council Member Robert Lilligren stated that he would like to follow Clark's lead, since Clark has been monitoring the situation and knows how well the new licensing conditions have been working. Clark asked if the committee had received complaints about the business and if it would agree to the changes. There were no objections.

Clark reported that ten 5th Precinct teams had visited 98 National Night Out block parties. He thanked those in Stevens Square-Loring Height who participated in the celebration.

Clark reported that the 5th precinct's strategies for 2012 appear to be working: violent crime is down 17 to 18% compared to last year, and has been down every week. Property crime is up slightly, mostly due to the recent increase in burglaries. The good news is that more residents have been calling 911 to report suspicious persons, and a number of offenders have been arrested for burglary. Clark acknowledged the work of the day CRT (Community Response Team) officers who have kept the pressure on livability offenders this summer.

Clark and Adams reported that [St Stephen's Human Services](#) recently opened its new offices at 2309 Nicollet Ave, consolidating a number of programs and about 80 employees into a central location. The director and staff, who are aware of the problems in the neighborhood and sensitive to community concerns, have been working with neighbors to resolve any immediate complaints. They have agreed to transport certain chronic offenders who happen to be clients directly to and from the facility so that they will not be loitering in the area. They are providing staff contact information to area residents, businesses, and organizations and are considering sending their [street outreach teams](#) to respond to complaints in the area regarding offenders who may be clients. Adams will get the contact information to anyone who wants it. SSCO staff said that the weekly Google maps of police reports and arrests in the area are sent to the director of St Stephen's Human Services, who checks them to see if any clients are causing problems in the neighborhood. There is no way for SSCO to tell if any of those being arrested here are program clients, and staff has not requested that information. Saunders said that requests for court-ordered geographic restrictions for offenders will now have to take into account those who are clients at 2309 Nicollet Ave and adjust the boundaries accordingly.

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 since August, 2011. So far, 13 have been convicted and sentenced.

SSCO's Google maps and lists of arrests in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, from 7/23/12 to 8/19/12 showed 27 [alcohol-related arrests](#) (22 in 2011), 7 [narcotics-related arrests](#) (34 in 2011), and no prostitution-related arrests (2 in 2011). Year to date, there were 144 alcohol-related arrests (110 in 2011), 55 narcotics-related arrests (86 in 2011), and 1 prostitution-related arrest (9 in 2011). For the period from 7/23/12 to 8/19/12, SSCO's Google maps showed 69 police reports for the [Nicollet corridor](#) (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1st Ave, I-94 to 24th St), 11 for the [Stevens Square Park area](#) (Stevens Ave to 2nd Ave, 17th St to Franklin Ave), and 17 for the [Clinton sector](#) (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave).

Contact SSCO to receive the list of offenders charged with felonies for selling drugs to undercover officers in the neighborhood.

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>Priority concerns / hot spots / chronic offenders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Narcotics-related loitering in the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave) – There are reports of drug dealing at and around 18th & 3rd and 18th & Clinton. ▪ 110 East 18th St – This vacant and boarded building is still not secure. Construction has not begun. ▪ Domestic violence – After the last meeting, Saunders and Adams provided SSCO with a flyer (available in English, Spanish, and Somali) about domestic violence from Domestic Abuse Project (DAP) which was made available at the Red Hot Art festival. The committee reviewed the ideas presented at the 7/26 committee meeting and decided, as a next step, to ask rental property managers in the neighborhood to post copies of a flyer and brochure from DAP in their buildings, along with a short notice stating that SSCO made the information available as a public service and encouraging those interested in further information to contact DAP, which is in the neighborhood and offers educational programs, including one-hour tours of their facility and the Domestic Violence Court. There was a suggestion to provide the information to St Stephen's Human Services. Lilligren said that residents of multi-unit housing, such as himself, want to know how and when to intervene in domestic incidents involving neighbors. <p>SSCO's monthly chronic offender update included cases involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yolanda Bowers (9 arrests in the area in the past eight years, 17 prior convictions in Hennepin County) – 10/5/11 3rd degree felony sale of drugs at Franklin & 4th. ▪ Dorothy Floyd (12 prior convictions in Hennepin County) – 10/8/11 3rd degree felony sale of drugs at Franklin & 4th. ▪ Ahmed Omar Haji-Mohamud (8 arrests in the area in the past two years, 32 prior convictions in Hennepin County) – 11/18/11 consuming alcohol in public at 2200 3rd Ave, Fair Oaks Park; 5/3/12 consuming alcohol in public at 1801 Stevens Ave, Stevens Square Park. ▪ Ibrahim Mohamed Musse (8 arrests in the area in the past two years, 12 prior convictions in Hennepin County) – 5/4/12 trespassing at 2000 Nicollet Ave, Starbucks Coffee. ▪ Farid Yusuf Suleiman (10 arrests in the area in the past four years, 17 prior convictions in Hennepin County) – 5/25/12 open bottle at 2200 3rd Ave, Fair Oaks Park. ▪ Harry Leftbear (15 arrests in the area in the past three years, 24 prior convictions in Minnesota) – 7/23/12 consuming alcohol in public at Franklin & Nicollet; 7/25/12 theft at 2105 Lyndale Ave, Wedge Community Co-op. 	<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>Ward 6 report – City Council Member Robert Lilligren</p>	<p>Robert Lilligren reported on a variety of City news items, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nearly a thousand people have reported issues to the City via the new 311 app for mobile phones in the past month. A link to the app is at the City web site. ▪ The City Council passed a resolution calling on Village Voice Media to cease publication of backpage.com, its online advertising site which facilitates the prostitution of juveniles. ▪ The County will repave and restripe Portland and Park Aves from Washington Ave to 46th St this fall. The City and County have scheduled a community meeting for 8/30, 6:30 to 9 p.m., at The Center for Changing Lives, 2400 Park Ave, to share plans for modifying these streets and to take comments. ▪ Applications are now being accepted for 186 positions on 24 City boards and commissions, including the Nicollet Avenue Special Service District. ▪ The Mayor has proposed a 2013 City budget calling for a 1.7% increase in the tax levy and for a number of reforms to the Regulatory Services department. The City Council will begin its process of approving a budget next month. Public safety is a priority. <p>There was a question regarding the large allocation of police resources to control certain areas of downtown on weekend nights. Downtown safety – and maintaining the public's perception that downtown is safe – is a priority for the City Council, Mayor, and Police department due to the large number of people who gather there for jobs, entertainment, dining, shopping, sporting events, and other civic functions. Violent crime dropped 45% in the Warehouse District mid-summer due to new policing and licensing strategies which focused resources on a small area where problems often developed late at night.</p>	<p>Robert.Lilligren@Minneapolismn.gov 673-2206 Ward 6 web site</p> <p>Robert Lilligren has office hours at 1925 Nicollet Ave on the third Monday of each month, 9:30 a.m. to noon, except for city holidays. Stop by or call 673-2206 to make an appointment.</p>

Restorative Justice Community Action report	A Restorative Justice client performed eight hours of community service in the neighborhood this past month, including helping Block Patrol volunteers move SSCO's belongings to the new police substation.	RJCA web site 746-0780
Block Patrol report – Arlene Storandt	Arlene Storandt reported that, from 7/27 to 8/23, 10 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 14 regular shifts, contributing a total of 39 hours. 6 Block Patrol volunteers participated in the Red Hot Art festival in Stevens Square Park on 7/28 and 7/29, contributing 27.75 hours. 7 Block Patrol volunteers helped move SSCO's belongings from the old substation at 10 East 19 th St to the new one at 1905 1 st Ave on 8/18, contributing 19 hours. Thanks also to the other volunteers who helped with the move, including Aaron, Paul, Bobby, and Jim. Total Block Patrol hours for the past month: 83.75 Block Patrol soda sales at events this summer totaled \$509.25, including \$178.50 at the four Cinema& Civics events and \$330.75 at Red Hot Art. Storandt shared some stories from the Block Patrol log.	Contact SSCO to join Block Patrol. Application and guidelines are at the SSCO web site.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.