

Community Safety meeting minutes – September 25, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.



Present: Ken Strobel, co-chair; Anne Forsyth-Gillette, Hennepin County Community Probation; Chelsea Adams, Rena Dudgeon, and Carl Valdez, Minneapolis Police department; Jennifer Saunders, City Attorney's office; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Julian Gray, Fades of Gray; Arlene Storandt, John Louis, Jerry Paulson, John Ryser, Brian Byrne, Ericka Bailie-Byrne, Maureen Wells, Laurie Scott, Rebecca Konietzko, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoe (dave_scco@yahoo.com)

Note: A sheet with some of the information presented at this meeting is available from SSCO on request. Contact the safety coordinator at dave_scco@yahoo.com or 874-2840.

Agenda item	Notes/decisions	Follow up
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Stevens Square farmers market takes place every Wednesday from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Plymouth Church parking lot on the northwest corner of Franklin & Nicollet. ▪ The Fall Clean Sweep is set for 10/11, 3 to 5 p.m., meet in Stevens Square Park. ▪ In response to community concerns about crime in the area, the 5th Precinct placed a mobile police camera at 19th & 3rd and now plans to place one at 18th & 3rd. Thanks to Inspector Todd Loining for making this happen. ▪ The Neighborhood Development committee meets on 10/7 at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave. This meeting will feature a discussion about ways to make Franklin & Nicollet safer for pedestrians. City Council members Abdi Warsame and Lisa Bender are expected to attend, and Council Member Lisa Goodman will send a representative. County Commissioner Marion Greene will participate, along with traffic engineers from the City and County. ▪ Upcoming Community Safety meeting dates: 10/23, 11/20, 12/18. 	Next Community Safety meeting: Thursday, 10/23, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave
Updates from law enforcement partners – CPS Chelsea Adams, Sgt Rena Dudgeon, Chaplain Carl Valdez, Community Attorney Jennifer Saunders, Probation Officer Anne Forsyth-Gillette	<p><u>Presentation</u> by Chelsea Adams: A list and map of Part 1 crimes reported in the neighborhood during the past month showed three robberies of person (8/28 at 1816 Nicollet Ave, 9/10 at 1830 Stevens Ave, 9/17 at 124 Groveland Ave), two aggravated assaults (9/14 at CVS, 2001 Nicollet Ave, 9/18 at Stevens Square Park), and four burglaries (8/30 at 220 East 19th St, 9/8 at 1920 Stevens Ave, 9/14 at Hot Wireless, 1812 Nicollet Ave, 9/21 at 1920 Stevens Ave).</p> <p>Two new Property Crimes investigators have been added to the 5th Precinct. Adams provided information from MPD including: current 5th Precinct resource list; ways to stay informed via the e-alert list, crime alerts for block leaders, 5th Precinct e-newsletter, interactive crime map, MPD Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube sites; an alert regarding Darriana Rashae Humphrey, an active thief in the 5th Precinct recently charged with several thefts and burglaries.</p> <p><u>Announcement</u> Jennifer Saunders announced that this will be her last Community Safety meeting. She will be going to work at the 3rd Precinct as of 10/6 due to the promotion of the 1st Precinct community attorney and the subsequent reassignment of responsibilities. She expressed sadness at leaving her friends in the 5th Precinct, especially those she has come to know and work with in Stevens Square. Working in the 3rd Precinct will be an exciting new challenge, considering that there are more CLEAN list offenders than in the 5th Precinct, although there is some overlap. A new 5th Precinct community attorney will be appointed soon and Saunders will do her best to make sure that it is someone who is willing and able to work with the neighborhood organizations.</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><u>Presentation</u> by Jennifer Saunders: 5th Precinct CLEAN list. Saunders provided updates on fourteen offenders frequently arrested in the neighborhood. The community attorneys are providing training for their colleagues in the courtrooms about community impact statements and geographic restrictions and will participate in monthly strategy meetings regarding CLEAN list offenders – all of which are important issues for community groups.</p> <p>Staff made available the results of nine criminal cases SSCO has been tracking.</p> <p><u>Announcement</u> Deacon Carl Valdez of Church of the Incarnation, a largely Hispanic congregation, introduced himself as the new chaplain for the 5th Precinct. He is getting to know the officers and community members he will serve, enjoyed being part of the meeting, and asked to be notified of any upcoming neighborhood events.</p> <p><u>Presentation</u> by SSCO staff: From January through August, violent crime in the neighborhood dropped 8.6% and property crime increased 6% compared to last year. This includes a 57.2% drop in incidents of criminal sexual conduct/rape, an 11.8% decline in aggravated assaults, and a 39.2% drop in burglaries. The number of motor vehicle thefts remained the same as last year.</p>	
<p>Neighborhood-related safety ideas and concerns</p>	<p><u>Community concern</u> Disturbances, fights, damage to property, numerous and frequent police responses to 1920 Stevens Ave. SSCO staff will gather further information and follow up with the property owners. The City is considering amending its Conduct on Licensed Premises ordinance to include these kinds of offenses.</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 complaints regarding two addresses: 1900 Clinton Ave and the parking lot on the south side of 1905 3rd Ave (Third Avenue Market building). A mobile police camera was in place at 19th & 3rd from 9/4 to 9/17. There were four police reports in the Clinton sector in the past month: no violent crimes or drug-related arrests. Arrests for drug offenses in the larger area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, are down 44.1% compared to last year.</p> <p>Adams presented suggestions about how to report and deal with these kinds of problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Call 911 to report incidents in progress; callers may ask to remain anonymous if they fear retaliation by those involved. Make sure to provide the address or location of the incident and a description of the suspects and the activity. If the situation changes, call 911 with an update. ▪ Call the 5th Precinct Community Response Team (CRT) at 673-5716 to report details of ongoing activity (who, what, when, where) so that they can gather evidence to open a narcotics or prostitution investigation. ▪ Ask property managers to post MPD-issued No Trespassing signs, which provide officers with probable cause to stop and identify persons loitering at a property and to send or cite them for trespassing if they don't belong there. ▪ Volunteer to become a block leader in order to more effectively share information with residents and police about problem properties and situations. <p><u>Community concern</u> Problems previously reported at 1820 Stevens Ave, 1912 Stevens Ave, 1721 3rd Ave, 1801 3rd Ave, and 1820 4th Ave appear to have been resolved.</p> <p><u>Community concern</u> Illegal consumption of alcohol in the neighborhood. Arrests for alcohol offenses in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, are down 38.6% compared to last year. Total arrests in this area for alcohol,</p>	

	<p>drug, and prostitution offenses are down 40.7% compared to last year. Alcohol arrests in Stevens Square Park are down 63.7% compared to last year thanks in part to heavy and consistent enforcement by police.</p> <p><u>Community concern</u> Traffic issues in the Clinton sector, including complaints about speeding on Clinton Ave and requests for more traffic controls at 19th & 3rd. There was a discussion about speed bumps, crosswalks, and Stop signs. Currently, the Neighborhood Development committee is dealing with traffic safety issues at Franklin & Nicollet.</p>	
<p>Block Patrol news – Ken Strobel</p>	<p><u>Presentation</u> by Ken Strobel: From 7/25 to 8/28, 9 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 26 regular shifts, contributing 57 hours. One new member joined Block Patrol.</p> <p>12 Block Patrol volunteers – including Probation Officers Anne Forsyth-Gillette and Judy Gartland – contributed 60 hours on 7/26 & 7/27 at the Red Hot Art festival. Block Patrol patrolled the park, counted the crowd every two hours, and earned \$181 from the sale of soda and water.</p> <p>8 Block Patrol volunteers contributed 22 hours before, during, and after the National Night Out event on 8/5. Block Patrol was one of the organizers of the event and conducted a trivia contest for those in attendance during the party.</p> <p>On 8/13 and 8/21, Block Patrol teams door-knocked 46 homes in Loring Heights (on Groveland, Ridgewood, Pillsbury, and Franklin Avenues), spoke with 19 residents (41%), handed out four Block Patrol applications, and signed up five people for the SSCO e-mail list.</p> <p>Altogether, 17 volunteers contributed 143 hours during that month.</p> <p>From 8/29 to 9/25, 9 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 19 regular shifts, contributing 49 hours.</p> <p>During the past two months, Block Patrol teams: conducted surveillance at seven addresses where there have been complaints about suspicious traffic, loitering, disturbances, or possible drug dealing; noticed that the bench at the 17th Street overlook was first moved and placed upside down along the freeway fence and later removed from the area altogether; spoke with hundreds of community members on the streets, while door-knocking, at Red Hot Art, and at the National Night Out party; declined an offer by a child in the park to hold his pet snake; took a complaint from a passer-by regarding an adult male with a snake, who turned out to be in possession of <u>two</u> snakes – the team watched from a safe distance; watched our beat officers arrest five males who were drinking alcohol and trespassing on the front steps of an apartment building; watched a traffic control officer being trained at Franklin & 3rd, a dangerous job since most drivers completely ignored his commands and signals; helped a neighborhood resident who claimed to have suddenly been struck blind and was wandering helplessly in a parking lot on Nicollet; walked a vulnerable adult home from Franklin & Nicollet after dark; gave directions to a couple who were looking for the Basilica of St Mary and to a person who was looking for Abbott Apartments; thanked a community member who was removing graffiti from public property in the neighborhood; gave a tour of the police substation – and a Block Patrol application – to a new resident of the neighborhood whose car had been broken into overnight; spoke with a person about the mystery of the missing trash container at LaSalle community gardens; encountered a resident who stated that "with people like Block Patrol and the police around, it helps other people mind their Ps and Qs"; watched our beat officers dealing with three people who were trespassing at LaSalle community gardens; gave Block Patrol applications to 20 neighborhood residents, including some who had just moved in; conducted an inventory of all the utility boxes in the neighborhood</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_ssco@yahoo.com or Dave at 874-2840</p> <p>Application and guidelines are at the SSCO web site.</p>

	<p>for a project by the Neighborhood Development committee; watched four officers and four paramedics helping an intoxicated person who was passed out in a wheelchair; watched our beat officers dealing with trespassers at Plymouth Church; called 911 on an intoxicated person who kept walking into traffic at Franklin & Nicollet and trying to start fights with people on the corners, but cancelled the call after the person disappeared; contacted our beat officers regarding two people trespassing at an apartment building; reported a vehicle which appeared to be abandoned to 311.</p>	
<p>Community Safety plan – progress report</p>	<p><u>Presentation</u> by SSCO staff: The National Night Out event on 8/5 in Stevens Square Park was organized and staffed by staff and volunteers from Historic Abbott Apartments, The Apartment Shop, MN Adult & Teen Challenge, and SSCO's Block Patrol.</p> <p>National Night Out event sponsors who contributed cash and/or in-kind donations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Historic Abbott Apartments ▪ The Apartment Shop ▪ MN Adult & Teen Challenge ▪ Stevens Community Apartments ▪ Rand Management ▪ 1920 4th Ave Resident Council ▪ Kleinman Realty ▪ Copenhagen Enterprises ▪ Mint Properties ▪ Stevens Square Community Organization <p>During the course of two hours attendees consumed 400 hot dogs, six large sheet cakes, cases of chips, and gallons of beverages plus salads and other side dishes. Over 80 prizes were awarded to residents during a trivia contest conducted by Block Patrol.</p>	

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.