

Stevens Square Community Organization

(612) 874-2840

<http://www.sscoweb.org>



Safety Committee minutes – July 23, 2009, 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; Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police 5th Precinct; Chris Dixon, City Attorney's office; Taryn Runck, Restorative Justice Community Action; Molly McCarthy, Stevens Supportive Housing; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; John Ryser, Arlene Storaandt, Leeann Phillips, Robert Fischer, Jerry Paulson, Howard Penas, Jill Ferguson, Ray Ferris, Jay Damberg, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoe (dave_sscoweb@yahoo.com or 612-874-2840) Meeting agendas and minutes are at 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 from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Plymouth Church parking lot at Franklin & Nicollet. 	Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 8/27, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.
Community Probation report – Probation Officers Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen	Jean Schwalen reported that CLEAN list offender Maurice Patterson is doing well on probation. Offender John Dye, who was just released from the workhouse, is on probation with conditions of release including no use of alcohol. Bobbi Harrington reported that CLEAN list offender Aaron Davis is in custody for a new felony. Troy Donicht, in a recent high profile case, is in prison for manslaughter.	Contact info: Bobbi.Harrington@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8075 Jean.C.Schwalen@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8212
Community Prosecutor report – Assistant City Attorney Chris Dixon	<p>Chris 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Darryl Brooks was arrested for a warrant on 7/2 following an incident at 1801 LaSalle Ave on 6/24 in which he fled from an officer. Brooks is in the workhouse until 8/13. ▪ Pamela Cobenais has three new cases and a bench warrant for failure to appear in court. ▪ Joseph Conklin pled guilty on 7/7 to disorderly conduct for a 6/30 arrest at Franklin & Nicollet for domestic assault. His conditions of release include no alcohol use. ▪ Ronald King is in the workhouse until 8/14. ▪ Rick Martinez, who has a new arrest for loitering with intent at Franklin & Nicollet, goes to court in October for a theft case. ▪ There is an active bench warrant for Kenneth Nickaboine, who was cited for open bottle on the day he was released from the workhouse. ▪ Former CLEAN sheet offender Vosiney Wiley is back in the area, having been arrested at Franklin & Clinton in June. ▪ A number of heroin users who had been active in Uptown are now hanging around the area of 24th & Lyndale. 	Contact info: Christopher.Dixon@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-5402

<p>Minneapolis Police report – Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams</p>	<p>Chelsea Adams provided a map and list of Part 1 crimes reported in the neighborhood during June. There were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 aggravated assaults: 6/5 at 18th & Nicollet, in which a suspect punched a person who was riding a bike; 6/25 at Franklin & Lyndale, in which two acquaintances got into a fight and one attacked the other with a knife. ▪ 3 aggravated domestic assaults: 6/18 at 1811 1st Ave in which a male was arrested for assaulting his girlfriend; 6/22 at 1915 Clinton Ave in which a male strangled his girlfriend and fled; 6/28 at 1929 3rd Ave in which a male was arrested for pointing a gun at his ex-girlfriend. ▪ 1 robbery of person: 6/25 at 19th & 4th in which three male suspects asked a victim for a cigarette lighter and then demanded money. ▪ 5 apartment burglaries: 6/10 at 130 East 18th St and 1715 Stevens Ave; 6/17 at 102 East 19th St; 6/24 at 214 East 19th St; 6/28 at 1825 2nd Ave. ▪ 4 thefts from motor vehicle: 6/3 at 17th & 1st; 6/16 at 20 Groveland Ave; 6/18 at 18th & 1st; 6/20 at 1926 3rd Ave. ▪ 0 motor vehicle thefts. <p>Other news:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There have been five incidents of theft from motor vehicle from July 14 to 19. Information was presented on ways to prevent theft from motor vehicle, motor vehicle theft, and bike theft. http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/TIPSPREV.pdf http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/BikeTheft.pdf ▪ Residents of lower level apartments and condos are encouraged to lock their windows to prevent burglary. http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/HSAPT.pdf ▪ Two laundry room burglaries have been reported recently, both at 1706 Stevens Ave. It's unclear whether offenders previously arrested for this type of crime are still in custody. ▪ National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4. http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno/ ▪ The community discussion about the 2010 neighborhood policing plan will take place at the 10/22 Safety committee meeting. The 2009 plan is at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/StevensSquarePolicingPlan2009.pdf <p>SSCO's Google maps and lists of arrests in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, from 6/22 to 7/19 showed 23 alcohol-related arrests (29 last year), 9 narcotics-related arrests (12 last year), and 9 prostitution-related arrests (0 last year). Year to date: 211 alcohol-related arrests (183 last year), 78 narcotics-related arrests (105 last year), and 14 prostitution-related arrests (15 last year). For the same period, SSCO's Google maps showed 19 police reports for the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave) and 59 for the Nicollet corridor (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1st Ave, I-94 to 24th St). Information in text format is at http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Crime_Information/</p>	<p>Contact info: Chelsea.Adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2819</p> <p>National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4.</p> <p>Contact SSCO to receive printed or e-mailed copies of the Google maps, which are updated weekly. The e-mailed versions now include links to mugshots of chronic offenders.</p>
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<p>Priority concerns, hot spots, chronic offenders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stevens Square Park – 5th Precinct and Park police are working to resolve problems in the park during late afternoons and evenings. Call 911 to report any suspicious activity in progress. ▪ 1721 3rd Ave – Police and the property owner are working to resolve complaints about drug and prostitution traffic to a unit in this apartment building. ▪ 1811 2nd Ave – There is a report of drug and prostitution traffic to a unit in this apartment building. ▪ Stacy Lee Robertson (12/10/64) – This offender is in custody for a criminal sexual conduct – molestation charge from an incident at 18th & Nicollet on 7/6. There was a discussion about this case and what the community could do to help the victim and make sure that the offender serves time for this crime and is not released back into the community. SSCO has been in touch with the County Attorney’s office about this case and will submit a community impact statement. <p>SSCO’s monthly chronic offender update featured cases involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Darryl Brooks: 6/24/09 consuming alcohol in public, trespassing, littering, and fleeing police on foot at 1801 LaSalle Ave. ▪ Michael Rogan: 6/11/09 possession of drug paraphernalia and loitering with intent to buy or sell narcotics at 2200 3rd Ave. ▪ Joseph Conklin: 6/25/09 open bottle at Franklin & Lyndale; 6/30/09 domestic assault at Franklin & Nicollet. ▪ Vosiney Wiley: 6/24/09 consuming alcohol in public, possession of drug paraphernalia, violating conditions of release, and criminal contempt of court at Franklin & Clinton. ▪ Judy Peters: 6/24/09 consuming alcohol in public at 22nd & Nicollet; 6/24/09 consuming alcohol in public at 24th & 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>Restorative Justice Community Action report – Community Coordinator Taryn Runck</p>	<p>Taryn Runck and a community member reported on a recent restorative justice conference to resolve the disorderly conduct cases of two persons arrested in Stevens Square Park during the Red Hot Art festival on 6/6. The defendants will provide community service hours to SSCO and Stevens Square Center for the Arts, make a donation to the Groveland Foodshelf, and submit a letter of apology. Another conference including two cases from Stevens Square-Loring Heights is set for 8/13 at 5:30 p.m. Contact Taryn to participate. As part of a pilot project, the program has scheduled its first case involving a juvenile offender. More info about RJCA is at http://www.rjca-inc.org/</p>	<p>Contact info: TRunck@rjca-inc.org 746-0784</p>
<p>Block Patrol report – Arlene Storandt</p>	<p>Arlene Storandt reported that, from 6/26 to 7/22, 9 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 9 regular shifts, contributing a total of 36 hours. Three shifts were cancelled. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7 volunteers contributed 22 hours at Cinema & Civics on 7/1. ▪ 7 volunteers contributed 16.5 hours at Cinema & Civics on 7/8. ▪ 8 volunteers contributed 20 hours at Cinema & Civics on 7/15. <p>Block Patrol earned \$137 from soda and water sales at these events. Total volunteer hours: 94.5</p> <p>The Block Patrol guidelines and application are at http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Block_Patrol/</p>	<p>Contact SSCO to join Block Patrol.</p>

<p>Safety coordinator report</p>	<p>The coordinator met with Council Member Lilligren on 7/20 to discuss the status of the action items identified at the 4/1 meeting of the Alcohol task force.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The feasibility study for a police safety/security camera system for Nicollet Ave is not finished. Business Information Services staff expects to complete the development of its video strategy and be able to award or implement new video projects by the end of September. SSCO has confirmed its continued interest in the project and the area of the feasibility study, which is Nicollet Ave from 18th St to 22nd St. ▪ SSCO has provided mugshots and information about chronic alcohol offenders to Franklin Nicollet Liquor. ▪ Robert Fischer has compiled spreadsheets and charts indicating the times of day during which arrests for alcohol offenses occurred in 2008. ▪ A number of other items are stalled. Starbucks Coffee is not yet actively involved with the community in dealing with the issues at and around their business. The 5th Precinct, for a number of reasons, has not yet conducted a CPTED study of the Franklin & Nicollet area. The proposal to educate the public, businesses, and offenders about the aggressive panhandling ordinance has not proceeded. It appears that St Stephen's street outreach workers have not targeted Franklin & Nicollet. <p>To address some of these action items, Lilligren has suggested organizing a separate meeting for neighborhood businesses prior to the next task force meeting, which, due to possible changes at the 5th Precinct and the timeline for the feasibility study, probably will not be scheduled until at least October. SSCO will make additional efforts to follow up on the items which remain unaddressed. There was a suggestion that the City find out whether federal stimulus money could be used to implement the camera system for Nicollet Ave.</p>	<p>Contact info: dave_ssc0@yahoo.com 874-2840</p>
<p>Election of two committee co-chairs for the upcoming year.</p>	<p>The coordinator explained the duties and responsibilities of the co-chairs and the election procedures, and conducted the election. There were two candidates for co-chair: Michele McGaughey and Ken Strobel. On a motion by Howard Penas, seconded by Jay Damberg, the committee suspended the rules and elected Michele McGaughey and Ken Strobel co-chairs by acclamation. The co-chairs will serve a one-year term.</p> <p>The committee discussed how to select a representative to be appointed to the Board of Directors to represent its interests. The coordinator asked whether the committee wanted to conduct another election, since the person filling this position does not need to be a co-chair. After further discussion, the coordinator asked how many members were interested in this position. Only one person expressed interest: Ken Strobel, who stated that he is already an elected member of the Board and is willing to represent the interests of the Safety committee. On a motion by Jay Damberg, seconded by Michele McGaughey, the committee recommended that the Board of Directors accept Ken Strobel as the Safety committee's representative on the Board.</p> <p>There was a suggestion that staff arrange a meeting of committee members to discuss and develop of list of priorities and plans for the upcoming year, which could be presented to the committee at its 8/27 meeting. The committee agreed to this plan. The Board is interested in ways to get more residents involved in the activities of all SSCO committees.</p>	

Other business	<p>There was further discussion of the 7/6 criminal sexual conduct incident (see the Priority Concerns agenda item above regarding Stacy Lee Robertson) and its effects on the victim and the community. The case is set for a pre-trial hearing on 7/27.</p> <p>There was a suggestion that the committee look at 1) how domestic assaults affect the wider community, not just the people immediately involved, and 2) how community members can respond to those crimes, such as by calling 911 to report incidents in progress and posting information about how victims can seek help by contacting organizations like the Domestic Abuse Project. SSCO's crime reports only document domestic assaults which occur in public, although staff will often bring other reports to the attention of property managers. The issue is that an assault which occurs in the privacy of a victim's and/or perpetrator's home is not truly private because of its effect on other members of the community, who have a responsibility to respond.</p>	
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Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.