

Stevens Square Community Organization

(612) 874-2840

<http://www.sscoweb.org>



Safety Committee minutes – August 27, 2009, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.

Present: Ken Strobel, co-chair; Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen, Hennepin County Community Probation; Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police 5th Precinct; Chris Dixon, City Attorney’s office; Kelby Grovender, Stevens Supportive Housing; Ron Staff, Stevens House; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Arlene Storandt, Leeann Phillips, Robert Fischer, Jerry Paulson, Howard Penas, Judy Austin, Jeanne Krueger, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoye (dave_ssc@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. ▪ 6th Ward City Council candidate forum, Wednesday, 9/16, 6 to 8 p.m. at Whittier Elementary School, 27th & Grand. Please submit questions in advance to steven.gallagher3@gmail.com ▪ SSCO volunteer recognition breakfast, Saturday, 9/19, 9 to 11 a.m. in Stevens Square Park. ▪ Discussion of the 2010 neighborhood policing plan at the 10/22 Safety committee meeting. 	Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 9/24, 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 not doing well on probation and is in jail for a new charge; a probation revocation hearing is set for 9/1. Offender John Dye is in custody on a robbery charge; a probation revocation hearing is set for 8/28. Schwalen will be working with Chris Dixon on both of these cases. A number of other clients are also in trouble. Bobbi Harrington reported that Troy Donicht and CLEAN list offender Aaron Davis are in prison.	Contact info: Bobbi.Harrington@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8075 Jean.C.Schwalen@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8212

<p>Community Prosecutor report – Assistant City Attorney Chris Dixon</p>	<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"> ▪ Pamela Beaulieu was released from the workhouse on 8/12 and has no new cases. ▪ Walter Bray is serving a 90 day sentence and will be released from the workhouse on 9/12. ▪ Darryl Brooks was released from the workhouse on 8/13 and has no new cases. ▪ Pamela Cobenais, in custody on \$1,000 bail, appeared in court today on four new cases. A trial is set for 9/15. ▪ Joseph Conklin has an active warrant. ▪ Osbin Davis and Maurice Giles have no new cases. ▪ Tammie Houle, who is restricted from the neighborhood, has a number of cases still pending in Mental Health Court which need to be resolved. ▪ Ronald King and Kenneth Nickaboine will be charged by complaint for a trespassing and consuming incident which occurred today at Plymouth Church. Warrants will be issued for their arrest. King was released from the workhouse on 8/14 and has two new cases. Nickaboine was released from the workhouse on 8/26; Judge Richard Hopper commuted Nickaboine’s 90 day sentence to 30 days and ordered that he be released. Dixon is looking into why the judge made this unusual decision. ▪ Rick Martinez has a number of cases pending, with a trial set for October. He’s been arrested 13 times this year. ▪ Earlis Robinson is in custody on \$300 bail with a trial set for today. He was released from the workhouse on 8/12 and arrested on 8/15. <p>Dixon is updating the membership of the 5th Precinct CLEAN sheet; all of the above offenders will remain on the sheet. Several others may be removed from the sheet, including Ahmed Hulbale, who has not been arrested this year, and Kyle Kawakami, who has had active warrants for more than six months and seems to have disappeared. SSCO has submitted a list of new candidates to consider. Due to cutbacks at the City Attorney’s office, no more than five changes to the CLEAN sheet may be made every three months.</p> <p>Several of the CLEAN sheet offenders have court-ordered geographic restrictions as conditions of their release when all or part of their sentences are stayed. Many of the offenders instead opt to serve their entire sentences in order to avoid having to comply with court conditions upon release. The Stevens Square – Whittier beat officers do a great job and book these offenders in the jail almost every time they arrest them. Judge Hopper, who has done a good job overall in dealing with chronic offenders, will be leaving Community Court at the end of the year.</p> <p>Dixon distributed copies of a request for community impact statements on a felony case being prosecuted by the County Attorney’s office involving a bike theft on 8/3 at 1812 Clinton Ave. The defendant, Otis Theodore Williams, has a long criminal history. The statements are due 9/3; contact 5th Precinct Paralegal Lisa Johnson at Lisa.Johnson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us for further information.</p>	<p>Contact info: Christopher.Dixon@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-5402</p>
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<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 July. There were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 robberies of person: 7/20 outside 1811 1st Ave, in which a suspect unsuccessfully tried to take a victim’s backpack and cell phone; 7/27 at 1930 Clinton Ave, Clinton Market, in which a victim was robbed and assaulted by two suspects who were later arrested, although the case was subsequently closed due to lack of cooperation by the victim. ▪ 1 aggravated assault: 7/7 at 1933 Lyndale Ave, which proved to be unfounded. ▪ 1 aggravated domestic assault: 7/28 outside 336 East 18th St, in which a suspect with a knife chased a victim, who may not press charges. ▪ 3 business burglaries: 7/2 at 1930 Clinton Ave, Clinton Market, in which cigarettes were taken; 7/15 and 7/19 at 1706 Stevens Ave, in which coins were taken from laundry machines. ▪ 2 apartment burglaries: 7/21, 1800 LaSalle Ave, via a window with a broken lock; 7/29, 1818 LaSalle Ave, in which victims claimed that a stranger entered an apartment, assaulted them, and demanded money. ▪ 4 motor vehicle thefts. ▪ 8 incidents of theft from motor vehicle: At various locations throughout the neighborhood, in which items of value that were often in plain sight were taken. <p>Other news:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There have been a number of recent bike thefts in the area north of Lake St; U locks are safer than chain or cable locks which can be cut. Information about preventing bike theft is at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/BikeTheft.pdf ▪ There have been 10 reported purse snatch robberies in the 5th Precinct since 6/1, including one on 6/28 in which four juvenile females were arrested at 19th & 3rd. Personal safety tips are at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/KEYSPS.pdf ▪ The 5th Precinct has implemented a protocol for investigating burglaries which includes an emphasis on collecting evidence at the scene. Tips for preventing property crimes during warm weather months are at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/20090615SummerSafety.asp ▪ Beat Officer John Grove took police reports from a number of victims of theft by swindle who claimed that Amana Travel Agency, 1841 Nicollet Ave, failed to provide airline tickets for which payment had been made. The MPD Fraud/Forgery Unit determined that there were 12 victims who lost over \$36,000 total. The business owner, Ali Mohamed Mohamud, was arrested and charged. ▪ Inspector Kris Arneson, 5th Precinct commander for the past five years, is moving to the same position in the 1st Precinct on 9/1. During 2004 and 2005, Arneson restored the crucial beat patrols to the neighborhood which had been eliminated due to budget cuts and developed an enforcement plan which helped to reduce crime in the neighborhood significantly. Recently, Arneson has been a strong advocate for a police security camera system along Nicollet Ave and a key participant in the Alcohol task force. The committee will send a letter to Arneson thanking her for her ongoing service and support. Eddie Frizell, a former sector lieutenant who worked closely with the committee on alcohol-related problems, will become the new 5th Precinct Inspector on 9/1. The committee looks forward to working with Frizell and will invite him to attend the 10/22 meeting regarding the 2010 neighborhood policing plan. <p>SSCO’s Google maps and lists of arrests in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, from 7/20 to 8/23 showed 78 alcohol-related arrests (81 last year), 21 narcotics-related arrests (21 last year), and 3 prostitution-related arrests (1 last year). Year to date: 289 alcohol-related arrests (264 last year), 100 narcotics-related arrests (126 last</p>	<p>Contact info: Chelsea.Adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2819</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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Priority concerns, hot spots, chronic offenders	<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 and 1811 2nd Ave – It appears that the drug and prostitution problems at these buildings have been resolved. ▪ Stacy Lee Robertson (12/10/64) – This offender is in custody on \$10,000 bail pending a 9/28 court appearance for a criminal sexual conduct – molestation charge from an incident at 18th & Nicollet on 7/6. ▪ Level 3 sex offender Damon Moore has completed his sentence for gross misdemeanor 5th degree criminal sexual conduct and misdemeanor theft stemming from the 4/22/08 incident at the Steeple People store and was released from prison on 8/26. Moore is a registered sex offender and must still comply with reporting requirements. If Moore returns to the neighborhood, SSCO will post information provided by the Department of Corrections: http://www.corr.state.mn.us/level3/OffenderDetail.asp?OID=163940 <p>None of the cases tracked by SSCO involving chronic offenders were resolved in the past month.</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.
Restorative Justice Community Action report	Two RJCA clients who were arrested for disorderly conduct in Stevens Square Park during the Red Hot Art Festival performed two hours of community service removing graffiti from public property in the neighborhood on 8/26. The clients also are required to provide service to Stevens Square Center for the Arts, make a donation to the Groveland Foodshelf, and submit a letter of apology to the Safety committee.	Contact info: Taryn Runck TRunck@rjca-inc.org 746-0784 http://www.rjca-inc.org/
Block Patrol report – Arlene Storandt	Arlene Storandt reported that, from 7/24 to 8/26, 12 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 19 shifts, contributing a total of 81 hours. Two shifts were cancelled. One new member joined Block Patrol. The Block Patrol guidelines and application are at http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Block_Patrol/	Contact SSCO to join Block Patrol.
Priorities and plans for the upcoming year	On 8/11, a group of committee members met to draft priorities and plans for 2009 to 2010. The document was presented and committee members were asked for comments and suggestions. There was a complaint about certain males harassing females on the streets in the neighborhood, perhaps with intent to solicit prostitution. There was a discussion about the level and amount of police patrols in the neighborhood, which varies day to day for a number of reasons. There were no suggestions to change the document, which is at http://www.sscoweb.org/What_We_Do/Community_Safety/Agendas_and_Minutes/documents/2010safetyplans.pdf	
Safety coordinator report	<p>There were two National Night Out parties in the neighborhood on 8/4, at 1707 3rd Ave and 1823 Clinton Ave. The committee organized a graffiti clean-up project on 8/22. Six volunteers removed graffiti from public property from Nicollet Ave to 4th Ave.</p> <p>Chelsea Adams reported on an 8/20 meeting with Council Member Lilligren, 5th Precinct staff, and SSCO staff regarding ways to use environmental design to reduce crime in certain hot spots around the neighborhood. For example, there were suggestions to make changes to bus stops and shelters to discourage crime-related loitering. Participants will follow up on the ideas and report to the Alcohol task force at its next meeting, which is not scheduled yet.</p>	Contact info: dave_ssc@yahoo.com 874-2840

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.