

Stevens Square Community Organization

(612) 874-2840

<http://www.sscoweb.org>



Safety Committee minutes – August 26, 2010, 6:00 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave.

Present: Ken Strobel, co-chair; Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen, Hennepin County Community Probation; Henry Halvorson and Chelsea Adams, Minneapolis Police 5th Precinct; Chris Dixon, City Attorney's office; Amanda Kubista, Stevens Supportive Housing; Karen Hartz, Plymouth Church; Rob Helmerichs, Rand Management; Max Ellis, UPI Property Management; Ray Alex Perry, Charles Rosensteel, Aaron Szczech, Arlene Storandt, Jeanne Krueger, John Ryser, Rochelle Peyton, Maureen Wells, and SSCO safety coordinator Dave Delvoye (dave_ssc@yahoo.com or 874-2840)

| Agenda item | Notes/decisions | Follow up |
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| Announcement – contact SSCO to volunteer or for more info | ▪ Stevens Square farmers market, every Wednesday, 2:00 to 6:30 p.m., in the Plymouth Church parking lot at Franklin & Nicollet. | Next Safety committee meeting: Thursday, 9/23, at 6 p.m. at 1925 Nicollet Ave. |
| Community Probation report – Probation Officers Bobbi Harrington and Jean Schwalen | Jean Schwalen reported that Jessica Matt has been released from the workhouse but is still restricted from the neighborhood unless she is on her way to or from an appointment at the Probation office. Judy Peters is out of custody and in compliance with her conditions of release. Bobbi Harrington reported that Pamela Beaulieu is in the workhouse until 11/17/10; Joseph Conklin is in jail on \$2,000 bail pending a probation violation hearing for felony, gross misdemeanor, and misdemeanor cases on 8/27. | Contact info: Bobbi.Harrington@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8075 Jean.C.Schwalen@co.hennepin.mn.us 879-8212 |

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| <p>Community Prosecutor report – Assistant City Attorney Chris Dixon</p> | <p>Chris Dixon announced that he will be on paternity leave until 11/1 and that one of the community attorneys for the 1st Precinct, Nnamdi Okoronkwo, will fill in for him.</p> <p>Dixon distributed copies of the 5th Precinct CLEAN sheet, which is at http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/docs/Pct5CLEAN.pdf Fourteen of the thirty offenders on the list are currently incarcerated, which is about average. The membership of the list was recently updated. Stevens Square offender Osbin Davis was removed along with two other offenders. Three Stevens Square offenders were added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Patrick Addy – Out of custody with four court appearances scheduled for 14 open cases. ▪ Frank Everette Keezer – 16 arrests in the city in the past year, in the workhouse until 3/20/11. ▪ Frederick Washington – In the workhouse until 8/30, with a court appearance set for 9/2. <p>Dixon responded to inquiries from SSCO staff about the St Stephen’s court calendar, which determines whether chronic offenders are eligible for social services, including housing, through St Stephen’s Human Services. Those accepted into this program are provided housing, but not necessarily in this area. Participants are subject to continual oversight and required to make regular court appearances. St Stephen’s Human Services staff provided two reports evaluating the program and offered to come to a committee meeting to talk about the program.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the outcome of the most recent case (7/22/10 consuming alcohol in public, trespassing, littering at 2119 Pillsbury Ave) involving Darryl Brooks, the top offender in the neighborhood with 38 arrests here in the past six years. Copies of SSCO’s most recent community impact statement regarding Brooks were passed around. Brooks is on probation for a previous offense and is restricted from Stevens Square Park.</p> | <p>Until Chris Dixon’s return on 11/1, contact:</p> <p>Nnamdi.Okoronkwo@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2923</p> |
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| <p>Minneapolis Police report – Sgt Henry Halvorson, CPS Chelsea Adams</p> | <p>Chelsea Adams reported on a number of business burglaries which occurred in the area between 8/14 and 8/26, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Realistic Manes, 2020 Nicollet Ave, 8/14 to 8/16: no forced entry, computer items stolen. ▪ Park Nicollet Clinic, 2001 Blaisdell Ave, the night of 8/22 – 8/23: broken window, computer items stolen. ▪ Franklin Bank, 2100 Blaisdell Ave, the night of 8/23 – 8/24: broken window, computer items stolen. ▪ La Vie Photography, 4 East Franklin Ave, 2 a.m. on 8/25: broken glass door, loss unknown at time of report. ▪ Uruba Restaurant, 1812 Nicollet Ave, the night of 8/25 – 8/26: broken window, computer items stolen. ▪ Boiler Room coffee shop, 1820 3rd Ave, the night of 8/25 – 8/26: broken glass door, cash register stolen. <p>An investigator is working on these cases, which show a clear m.o. There is a potential person of interest based on a similar m.o. in the past.</p> <p>From 7/20 to 8/18, there were 46 reports of stolen bikes throughout the 5th Precinct, largely from outside of residences and commercial or public buildings. 36 of the stolen bikes were locked, and 39 of the victims live in Minneapolis. Police recommend that bike owners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use a u-lock, and be sure to lock it to the frame as well as the front wheel. ▪ Record the serial number of the bike. Thousands of bikes are stolen and recovered by police each year, but only a small number (2% in 2009) were returned to their owners due to the inability to identify the victims. The other recovered bikes are sold at police auctions. ▪ Call 911 to report suspicious activity. <p>http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/docs/BikeTheft.pdf</p> <p>Sgt Henry Halvorson introduced himself to the committee. He works the mid-watch shift, is familiar with the neighborhood, and wants to learn more about the neighborhood’s concerns and what the committee’s been doing.</p> <p>Adams distributed a map and list of Part 1 crimes in the neighborhood during July. There were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 aggravated robberies of person: 7/5 at 2:15 p.m. at Franklin & Pillsbury in which a victim was robbed and cut with a knife; 7/27 at 8:20 p.m. at 1912 3rd Ave in which a victim who was getting items from a car was robbed at gunpoint. ▪ 1 incident of criminal sexual conduct: 7/27 at an address on the 1700 block of 3rd Ave after which the victim chose not to prosecute and is instead pursuing restraining order options. ▪ 2 aggravated assaults: 7/14 at 9:25 p.m. at 18th & Stevens, in which a victim who was stabbed refused to cooperate with police; 7/27 at 5:20 p.m. at 1820 Stevens Ave in which a victim who was stabbed refused to cooperate with police. ▪ 1 apartment burglary: 7/21 at 102 East 19th St. ▪ 5 motor vehicle thefts: 7/2 to 7/3 at 19th & 2nd; 7/1 to 7/6 at 18th & 3rd; 7/12 to 7/16 at 217 Ridgewood Ave; 7/18 at 1920 4th Ave; 7/30 at 17th & Stevens. ▪ 4 thefts from motor vehicles: 7/2 at 1906 Clinton Ave; 7/15 to 7/16 at 339 East 18th St; 7/23 to 7/26 at 339 East 18th St; 7/23 to 7/26 at 1706 2nd Ave. <p>SSCO’s Google maps and lists of arrests in the area from Lyndale Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St, from 7/19/10 to 8/22/10 showed 38 alcohol-related arrests (78 in 2009), 16 narcotics-related arrests (20 in 2009), and 7 prostitution-related arrests (3 in 2009). Year to date, there have been 224 alcohol-related arrests (289 in 2009), 81 narcotics-related arrests (99 in 2009), and 20 prostitution-related arrests (17 in 2009). For the same period, SSCO’s Google maps showed 70 police reports for the Nicollet corridor (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 1st Ave, I-94 to 24th St), 17 for the Stevens Square Park area (Stevens Ave to 2nd Ave, 17th St to Franklin Ave), and 20 for the Clinton sector (3rd Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to Franklin Ave).</p> | <p>Contact info:</p> <p>Chelsea.Adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-2819</p> <p>Anthony.Diaz@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-3137</p> <p>CRT line (to report suspected drug and prostitution activity at specific addresses or locations): 673-5716</p> <p>Contact SSCO to receive printed or e-mailed copies of the Google maps, which are updated weekly.</p> |
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| Priority concerns, hot spots, chronic offenders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1815 1st Ave – There are reports of suspicious traffic to the rear entrance of this apartment building. ▪ 1821 1st Ave – There are reports of suspicious traffic to the rear entrance of this condo building. <p>SSCO’s monthly chronic offender update featured cases involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dayton Ledlow: 6/10/09 trespassing at 209 East 19th St. ▪ Frederick Washington: 7/24/10 disorderly conduct at 2201 Lyndale Ave. ▪ Kenneth Nickaboine: 6/15/10 consuming alcohol in public at Franklin & Nicollet; 7/15/10 disorderly conduct and interfering with pedestrian traffic at 7 West Franklin Ave, Mayfield Chiropractic. ▪ Dennis Smith: 4/22/10 5th degree assault and disorderly conduct at 2001 Nicollet Ave, CVS Pharmacy; 6/16/10 public urination at 18th & Nicollet. ▪ Frank Everette Keezer: 6/19/10 possession of liquor in a park at 2200 3rd Ave, Fair Oaks Park. ▪ Damon Moore, Level 3 sex offender: 5/24/10 open bottle at 1921 3rd Ave. ▪ Darryl Brooks: 2/9/10 public urination and disorderly conduct at 2120 Nicollet Ave, Chicago Dentist; 7/22/10 consuming alcohol in public, littering, and trespassing at 2119 Pillsbury Ave. ▪ Maxim Chance: 1/4/10 public urination at 1925 Nicollet Ave, Loring Nicollet Center; 3/30/10 consuming alcohol in public at 22nd & Nicollet. ▪ James Solomon: 4/14/10 consuming alcohol in public, interfering with traffic, and littering at 1801 Nicollet Ave. | 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. |
| Safety committee priorities and plans for 2010 – 2011 | Per the discussion at the 7/22 meeting, a small group of volunteers met on 8/10 to draft priorities and plans for the committee for the upcoming year. Copies of the draft were distributed. The plan includes five sections: crime reduction; a safer neighborhood; more volunteers; community standards of behavior; Restorative Justice Community Action. There were no suggested changes to the draft. On a motion by Maureen Wells, seconded by John Ryser, the committee voted to approve the plans and priorities for 2010 – 2011. | |
| Restorative Justice Community Action Report | <p>Staff read an excerpt of a message from RJCA community coordinator Taryn Runck:</p> <p>“As you may have noticed, in the past several months RJCA staff have been attending monthly neighborhood and community meetings with less regularity. With fewer staff at RJCA much of our time is devoted to programming - managing and developing both our community conferences as well as Midtown Community Restorative Justice’s reparative panels.</p> <p>“We hope to stay connected to partners through our monthly e-notices and bi-annual newsletters. We are also able to attend meetings as requested. Please do let me know if you have additional ideas of how to strengthen our partnership. I will certainly be in touch about conferences and attend as many meetings and events as possible. Again, if there are specific meetings or events you feel are important for us to be present at, please contact me.” http://www.rjca-inc.org/</p> | <p>Contact info:</p> <p>Taryn Runck trunck@rjca-inc.org 746-0784</p> |

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| <p>Block Patrol report – Arlene Storandt</p> | <p>From July 23 to August 26, 10 Block Patrol volunteers participated in 17 regular shifts, contributing a total of 39.25 hours. At least four shifts were cancelled. Arlene Storandt shared stories from the Block Patrol log.</p> <p>Seven Block Patrol volunteers participated in Cinema & Civics in Stevens Square Park on 7/28, contributing a total of 23.25 hours. Block Patrol raised \$42 by selling soda and water at this event.</p> <p>Seven Block Patrol volunteers participated in Red Hot Art in Stevens Square Park on 7/31 and 8/1, contributing 50 hours. Block Patrol raised \$237.75 by selling soda and water at this event.</p> <p>Eight Block Patrol volunteers participated in FaN Fair at Plymouth Church on 8/21, contributing 26 hours. Block Patrol raised \$113.25 by selling soda and water at this event.</p> <p>Totals for the month: 15 volunteers contributed 138.5 hours.</p> <p>Block Patrol raised a total of \$607.50 at this summer’s events (Cinema & Civics, Red Hot Art, FaN Fair) by selling soda and water which was generously donated by CVS Pharmacy, 2001 Nicollet Ave. CVS also donated cloth tote bags for all Block Patrol customers at FaN Fair.</p> | |
| <p>Coordinator report – Dave Delvoye</p> | <p>Council Member Lilligren has expressed interest in reconvening the Alcohol task force in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ provide an update on action items from 2009; ▪ look at ways of working with the Nicollet Avenue Service District on security issues; ▪ solicit new volunteers and new ideas. <p>The purpose of the task force is to reduce alcohol-related crime in sector 1, area 2, of the 5th Precinct (LaSalle Ave/Blaisdell Ave to 4th Ave, I-94 to 24th St). The task force, which is chaired by Lilligren and made up of law enforcement partners plus residents and representatives of businesses, community organizations, and social service providers in Stevens Square and Whittier, first met on 2/28/07 and most recently met on 4/1/09.</p> <p>The proposal for a police safety/security camera system for Nicollet Ave from 18th to 22nd Streets is still stalled at the City for a number of reasons, including budget cuts and technical issues. So far this year, there have been 224 arrests or citations for alcohol-related offenses in area 2, compared to 289 in 2009. There was a discussion about ways to address the problems experienced by chronic inebriates who frequent the area, such as providing “wet houses” or other social services designed to move consumption of alcohol off the streets, and about other criminal behaviors tied to substance abuse, such as aggressive panhandling which has a negative impact especially on those who use public transit and patronize local businesses.</p> <p>The committee agreed to ask Council Member Lilligren to reconvene the Alcohol task force.</p> | <p>To participate in the Alcohol task force, contact SSCO staff at 874-2840 or dave_ssco@yahoo.com</p> |

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dave Delvoye.