



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

April 3, 2013

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC Meeting began at 7:00 p.m., with Pete Hanning presiding.

Topics covered:

Lt. Ron Rasmussen presented Citizen Awards to four individuals who helped the police apprehend the knife-wielding purse snatcher who was targeting elderly citizens in the North Precinct. These folks helped the victim, followed the suspect, and pointed out his hiding place to the police. Thank you **Alison Donsky, Robert Givens, Kyle Johnson, and Eric Quarnstrom!** Two officers from the Robbery Unit were on hand to thank them, too. KOMO and KING news cameras were there, and we celebrated with a special cake.

I. Special Presentation Speaker: Sarah Sorensen, Volunteer Supervisor, SPD Victim Support Team

- a Victim Support Team (VST) is a collaboration between community volunteers and SPD to support domestic violence victims and their children.
- b It was started in 1996, and in 2002 became part of the Domestic Violence (DV) Unit. It operates only on the weekend, but you can also call the office during weekday office hours for services.
- c City of Seattle funds administrative staff and equipment like computers and vehicles; donations buy goods for victims such as diapers and blankets; grants pay for volunteer training.
- d At a DV site, an SPD officer radios VST to send a pair of volunteers once the site is safe. VST talks to the victim - explains services and resources; assists officers with children; provides emergency needs; explains criminal justice system; provides transportation if needed.
- e In 2011 VST helped 471 Seattle DV victims and their children on weekend hours alone. Volunteers donated over 6,522 hours of service.
- f Washington State DV statistics: in 2006 police responded to 49,980 DV calls. From 1997 to mid-2010 514 women were killed by DV abusers and in the same period 32 children were killed.
- g If you or someone you know would like to volunteer with the Victim Support Team, contact Sarah at 206-651-1049 or sarah.sorensen@seattle.gov. Also see www.seattle.gov/police/VST/. There is an application process that includes a background check. You must be 21 years old and have a valid WA drivers

licence. Training includes 50 classroom hours, a patrol ride-along, and two VST training shifts. Volunteers serve at least one 8 hour shift per month on the weekend, and attend at least 7 of the monthly meetings per year.

II. Precinct Update: Lt. Ron Rasmussen

- a March was a bit crazy: there were a couple robberies, a couple gunfire incidents, and activity is starting to pick up in the parks such as a fight at Golden Gardens and a falling injury at Gas Works.
- b There are still a lot of burglaries in cars and homes through doors and windows that are unlocked. Please deter crime by locking up. The uptick in all burglaries in the North Precinct continues.
- c Two pedestrians were killed by a drunk driver on NE 75th St. Over 200 people attended a meeting about the incident this week.
- d Responding to a question on car camping in the city, last week there was a meeting to develop a city-wide policy. Currently it is not illegal to sleep in your car. They are looking at parking hours as a possible tool for dealing with this issue. You may direct comments to Jerry DeGriek, Senior Policy Advisor to Mayor McGinn, email: Jerry.DeGriek@seattle.gov. Meanwhile, you may call SPD to report issues related to car camping such as dumping trash, noise disturbances, dumping of human waste, etc. You can also call SPD about cars parked for over 72 hours in the same space.

III. Crime Prevention Report: Terrie Johnston

- a Auto theft is still up, other crimes are similar to last year's frequency, except Lincoln Sector crime is up.
- b Older imported cars like Subarus and Civics are easy to steal with shaved keys; using a steering wheel club is a deterrent. Some catalytic converters are being stolen for their precious metals.
- c Terrie had 7-8 block watch meetings, made several workplace safety presentations, and attended crime prevention environmental design training.
- d Terrie will be gone for 8 days in April.

IV. City Attorney's Office: Jana Jorgensen

- a Jana reminded us of the City's open house Saturday 4/6 from 10-2 at 601 Fifth Avenue. City Attorney's Office will have a table there. There will be music and food trucks, too.
- b Amending an ordinance for Harbor Patrol so it has better tools to deal with loud sound systems on boats.
- c Working on an ordinance to get cameras in Gas Works Park to help with graffiti.
- d No further progress on the Fusion Ultra Lounge nuisance problem. There was a shooting there recently but the victim isn't providing useful information.
- e (The day after this NPAC meeting Jana received a notice of rule-making from the Liquor Control Board about disallowing consumption of marijuana at bars. Input for/against this rule will be accepted until May 10. See attached notice for contact information.)

V. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office – Dan Clark

- a The knife wielding purse snatcher has seven robberies and one burglary stacking up against him. He should get quite a bit of time (years) in prison.
- b Office is prosecuting a husband and wife ID theft team working out of the Orion Motel. The husband has quite a few priors and should get an exceptional sentence, his wife not so much. They did mostly mail theft to get the IDs. There were more than 30 victims.
- c Emphasis is being put on drug dealing on the U District's Ave. Charges are pending on a couple arrests for dealing hard drugs and some marijuana dealers were given admonishment letters telling them to stop dealing and if they are seen again dealing there or elsewhere they will be arrested.

VI. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent - no report

VII. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom

- a Handed out a flyer on how to be safe dealing with door to door sellers (attached).
- b Saturday April 27 is National Take-Back Day for disposing of unwanted or expired drugs. You can take them to the North Precinct from 10 am - 2 pm., 10049 College Way N.

VIII. Liquor Control Board: Judy Lewis

- a Had another two days of marijuana training. In 90 days you can grow enough marijuana to net \$1.25 million. You can do 6 cycles a year, and if you do it in multiple houses, you can make quite a bit of money. Marijuana is also much stronger than it was in the hippy days. Then it was 1-3% THC, and now it can be 11-15% THC.
- b Judy introduced new Officer Dean Lambert who will be working in the north end.
- c Thinking of the two people killed by a drunk driver last month, Judy asked us to think of a vehicle as a lethal weapon when a drunk is behind the wheel, and that the driver is the trigger. Please don't let drunk friends drive.
- d Responding to a question about increase in hard alcohol being drunk in a Ballard Park, and two alcohol overdose deaths there, Judy said some grocery stores are still having a liquor theft problem. Liquor Control Board cannot tell businesses how to control or protect their alcohol stock. They are thinking about requiring stores to report on alcohol thefts. Neighborhood organizations can feel free to contact businesses such as corporate headquarters to report problems. Send photos of people drinking in parks by the stores, etc. LCB can ticket public drinkers, but it is only an infraction, and many drinkers are homeless and don't respond to the tickets.

IX. Committee Reports

- a Issues: Doug Thiel - We are conducting a membership drive. You can help by inviting organizations and businesses in your neighborhood to send a representative.
- b Membership: Dick Hillmann—please give Dick any roster changes. He is currently checking the roster for those who haven't attended in a long time.

X. Old Business - none

XI. New Business

- a Central Ballard Residents Association recently wrote a letter of appreciation to CPT's Sgt. Dianne Newsom thanking her for her response to their concerns and providing increased patrols.

XII. Next Month's Agenda

- a Speaker is Honorable Edward McKenna, Seattle Municipal Court Judge

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.