



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

January 7, 2015

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC Meeting began at 7:01 p.m. with Ruedi Risler presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: Josh Hall, Seattle Human Services Department
 - a. HSD is one of the largest funders of social services and safety nets. It invests \$100M via 400 contracts with 200 agencies.
 - b. There are three divisions
 - i. Youth and Family Empowerment (YFE) - includes services for homeless youth, violence prevention, employment.
 - ii. Community Support and Assistance (CSA) - includes homeless services, food and meal programs, utility discounts. CSA also coordinates the City's response to domestic violence and sexual assault.
 - iii. Aging and Disability Services (ADS) - promotes quality of life, independence and choice for older people and adults with disabilities.
 - iv. Most of the divisions focus on planning and program development, but ADS has a lot of case management - hands-on.
 - c. Outcomes Framework
 - i. This is the HSD strategy for results-based accountability and addressing disparities to ensure that the most critical human service needs are met.
 - ii. It identifies and uses data to drive investments (funding).
 - iii. For instance, data shows that black and latino populations are more at risk for food insecurity. This suggests more investment in food services for those populations to reduce disparities.
 - iv. The framework calls for monitoring contracts to see if desired outcomes have been attained.
 - d. Investment and Request for Information (RFI) process
 - i. HSD works with many community partners to understand current and emerging human service needs, with a two year focus.
 - ii. HSD develops program areas, allocates funds to each, and invites agencies to apply for funding to address the areas.
 - iii. It takes a year to plan the RFI process, which includes identifying the needs, and how to impact the needs. It takes six months to select agencies for the contracts.
 - iv. In 2015 there are additional funds available for domestic violence, and for

caregivers of the aging.

- v. In 2016 HSD will initiate an additional RFI process for homelessness, including transitional shelters, hygiene services and rental assistance.
 - vi. The process is announced at the start of the year, and can be followed on the HSD website: www.seattle.gov/humanservices
- e. Questions and Answers
- i. What is being done to help prostitutes get off the streets?
 - 1. Mayor has increased funding for domestic violence and sexual assault, which covers prostitution.
 - ii. What is being done about homelessness and the unsanctioned encampments?
 - 1. Mayor is increasing funding for homelessness, especially unsheltered. He has an action plan that addresses short- and long-term, but admittedly it is a crisis response, not a total solution.
 - 2. Plan included a task force on a crisis response to unsheltered homeless. It had sixty days to make recommendations. As a result, existing shelters will attempt to be expanded (need to identify places to expand into). This will increase available beds by 150 (currently about 1700) that will serve an additional 700 people, of which 15 beds will be dedicated to youth and young adults.
 - 3. Mayor recognizes that encampments serve a purpose due to lack of shelter beds. He proposes the City Council approve some lots for encampments.
 - 4. Majority of HSC funds go to shelter and transitional housing. But there is funding for hosting encampments - such as portable restrooms, fences, garbage pickup.
 - 5. It is recognized that priority should be on finding housing first, then dealing with people's other issues.
 - 6. Process improvements are being made to enable new shelters to open faster.
 - 7. A better job needs to be done to communicate shelter and encampment opportunities to homeless. Need more outreach to the unsheltered.
 - 8. Not everyone wants to go to a shelter. Trash is a problem, like around the I-5 unsanctioned encampments; SDOT, Parks Dept and business organizations help clean up.
 - iii. What can we do about crime among/by homeless?
 - 1. Shelters and legal tent camps have security, but there are still sometimes problems, so call 911 if necessary.
 - iv. What is being done about 0 - 36 month olds' health and welfare?
 - 1. The housing task force deals with low income housing, and addicted mothers of infants. The Youth and Family Empowerment division deals with this.
 - 2. The Mayor created the Department of Early Education and Learning.

- v. What is current thinking about the 10 year plan to end homelessness?
 - 1. It was a lofty plan, created in 2005, to end homelessness in 10 years. It had some merits; for instance, some increase in housing occurred.
 - 2. The current shift is to “rare, brief and one-time” homelessness. And there is a goal to end veteran homelessness by 2016.
- vi. How do HSD and SPD interact for public safety?
 - 1. Sola Plumacher, HSD Strategic Advisor, works closely with SPD. For instance, the city center initiative is a partnership between HSD, SPD, City Attorney’s Office to identify individuals creating trouble downtown and triage them for services.
 - 2. The Mayor’s task forces are comprised of numerous city agencies, including SPD and HSD, who work interactively to solve problems.

2. Precinct Update: Capt. David Emerick/Lt. Jim Arata

- a. The NP auto theft task force has been effective. In one 21 day period late in 2014 SPD made 27 auto theft arrests.
- b. October-November 2014 had a 45% reduction in car thefts compared to that period in 2014.
- c. In the last 30 days there was a 142% reduction in car prowls compared to a year ago.
- d. In the last thirty days these arrests were made (even while a lot of officers were deployed to deal with the demonstrations):
 - i. 10 for robbery
 - ii. 7 for burglary
 - iii. 2 for car prowl
- e. Reminder to protect your homes when you’re away - leave noise on in the house, turn on lights, close drapes so criminals can’t see your laptops and TVs.
- f. NP and SWAT participated in a stand-off in a vacant house on N 132nd St. Two meth-head suspects in a robbery were holed up in it. House owner gave permission to do whatever it took since he was going to demolish the house anyway. After attempts to communicate via sending in a cell phone, flash bangs, and CS gas, police stormed house. Couldn’t find suspects. Finally SWAT found them creeping away in the bushes, having jumped out a window. Three stolen cars were found in the garage.
- g. Re: what to do if you see prostitution, such as in Fred Meyer parking lot - call 911 and ask for a patrol car to be sent to check out suspicious activity.
- h. On pursuing suspects: SPD is not allowed to pursue by car (due to public safety) except for suspects of violent crimes. Rule of thumb: pursue if risk of offending is greater than the risk of causing a car accident. State Patrol, however, can pursue, such as on I-5.

3. Crime Prevention Report: Elizabeth Scott - no report

4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy
 - a. Hope to deal with medical marijuana in the new legislative session and eliminate loopholes. Also hope to address revenue sharing of MJ among municipalities. Want to crack down on collective MJ gardens. Different ideas are being floated, but all agree that the state should do it, not the city.
 - b. Also will be dealing with MJ use lounges for consuming edibles and using vaporizers. Smoking MJ there will not be legal due to clean air act - just like all businesses, can't smoke indoors.

5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Amanda Froh
 - a. ThomasDinh Bowman (thrill kill of QFC wine steward in car at 15th NE and NE 75th) was sentenced to 29 years. Good outcome given maximum is 31 and he had no criminal history.
 - b. Kendrick Epps was sentenced to 41 months, the maximum for someone who didn't have any points.. He and his mother carjacked a woman and slashed her face at the Northgate park and ride.
 - c. Amanda and two other prosecutors specialize in investigating elder abuse. They also do a lot of public speaking. Contact her for speaking engagements or to ask about elder abuse or financial exploitation at amanda.froh@kingcounty.gov

6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent
 - a. Nabbed a guy and a lot of dope. The guy was selling lots of drugs out of two rooms in an Aurora motel even though he was on supervision. Got him on DOC warrant and drug charge.

7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom - no report

8. Liquor Control Board: Lieutenant Susan Blaker
 - a. Susan is our new representative from LCB.
 - b. LCB is getting two new board members: Russ Hauge, a veteran prosecuting attorney from Kitsap County, and Jane Rushmore, who will be the new chair.
 - c. Lots of transitions in LCB; everyone was offered opportunity to transfer to the new marijuana division. Hiring more staff. New hires go through 5.5 months of training, including the police academy. Also buying pickup trucks for evidence transport.
 - d. Not much going on in the north precinct. Fusion Bar on NE 45th St & 8th NE has an ownership issue.
 - e. If you have any concerns about liquor or marijuana at an establishment, email Susan. She can generate a complaint. sjb@liq.wa.gov

9. Committee Reports
 - a. Issues: Curtis Gehrke
 - b. Membership: Inga Manskopf - please give Inga any roster changes.

10. Member Organization Profile - Pinehurst, Nancy Rauhauser
 - a. Rough boundaries are Northgate Way to NE 130th, and I-5 to Lake City Way.

- b. No real core. Nice tall fir trees, few sidewalks. We are walkers! Lots of single family homes, some condos and apartments along arterials.
- c. Community council meets every quarter except in the summer, when instead it hosts an outdoor festival, Pinehurstfest.
- d. Safety concerns: residential burglaries, car theft and car prowling, pedestrian safety.
- e. Things that help bring the community together: council meetings, Pinehurst blog, Facebook page, info in park kiosks, Pinehurstfest.
- f. Biggest misconception about SPD: When police don't respond fast to 911 calls about property crimes and/or don't solve the crime, some people conclude that SPD doesn't care. NPAC and SPD could help explain what to expect from SPD, what constrains SPD from coming fast and/or solving the crime, etc. Officers should explain this at each call, too.

11. Old Business - none

12. New Business

- a. Chief O'Toole is opening all the assistant chief position. Current position holders must reapply to their jobs. If you want to advocate for anyone (such as our former NP Commander Robin Clark) talk to Pete Rogerson at the next NPAC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.