



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

November 6, 2013

Recorded by Michael Cuadra

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

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: Pierce Murphy, Director of Office of Professional Accountability (OPA)
 - a. OPA was created in 1999 for community oversight of Seattle Police. It is an office inside the police department to investigate complaints of misconduct. Cases range from minor complaints to major complaints such as excessive force after arrests.
 - b. Appointed by Mayor McGinn in July and is serving a 3 year term. He can be appointed for two more consecutive terms. It is not a political appointment.
 - c. Has been in law enforcement in various capacities since he was 18 years old including: Community Service Officer; Court Liaison Officer; Community Ombudsman.
 - d. Job is to -
 - i. Investigate complaints and determine what actually happened (the facts).
 - ii. Apply police policies to those complaints to make sure those police policies were followed.
 - iii. Does not determine right or wrong. Compares facts to policy.
 - iv. Provide recommendations to the Chief of Police whether allegation is sustained and discipline is needed. Chief is the ultimate decider of what action is taken. Three outcomes: 1- Complaint disproved; 2- Discipline is needed; 3- Outcome inconclusive.
 - v. Provide leadership in the OPA process and promote a system that the public and police officers feel that the process is applied fairly.
 - vi. Work together with police and community to provide a culture of excellence and accountability.
 - vii. Build and maintain trust, and communicate to the community.
 - e. Staff includes -
 - i. One Deputy Director
 - ii. Seven Sergeant Investigators
 - iii. One Lieutenant
 - iv. One Captain

- v. One Auditor appointed by mayor to audit work for thoroughness and objectivity
 - vi. Three administrative assistants
 - f. Total of 500 investigations per year. 200 are full investigations. 2/3 are referred to precincts to make corrections and sort out themselves. Statute of limitations regarding investigation of complaints is 3 years plus one day to take action on complaint. They have 180 days to investigate each complaint.
 - g. Believes 80% of citizens support police, 10% don't, and the other 10% are neutral. People are affected by what they hear around them and in the media.
 - h. Regarding Department of Justice and SPD: He believes that the DOJ and OPA are running on intersecting paths and will soon meet. He thinks the Settlement agreement provides positives to help improve department. The Citizens Police Commission (part of DOJ settlement) will evaluate OPA, tasked with evaluating the OPA system and making recommendations for the monitoring process and suggestions if changes are needed.
 - i. Police Dept is like other organizations, and has to have a culture to produce the best possible service and challenge each other to not tolerate substandard service. Believes that SPD is dispirited by recent events, but officers keep going out to do their jobs and are looking forward to getting past it.
2. Precinct Update: Capt. David Emerick/Lt. Lesley Cordner
- a. Laurelhurst Strip Mall burglar was caught. Police found his ID at the scene, duh!
 - b. Robberies of staging furniture in homes for sale were solved. Recovered 70% of furniture, but there is another group currently working in a similar way.
 - c. Increase in robberies by 10% from last year; 22 more incidents than last year at this time.
 - d. Domestic violence (DV) assaults and DV aggravated assaults are way down.
 - e. Bike Squad worked on a group of transients at the Ballard Commons, Ballard Locks, area that was believed to be the cause of car prowls and other related crimes. Worked with the Army Corps of Engineers and SDOT among others to break up the activity and moving them out.
 - f. Prostitution along Aurora - Bike Units are riding Aurora and have seen up to 50 prostitutes in one night. Emphasis will now be on providing the girls with info on diversion programs. SPD is working with City Attorney's Office to get them into diversion programs and provide social services. If there is a crime they will be arrested and booked. SPD has seen an increase in prostitutes coming here from other states.
 - g. Police use the neighborhood crime statistics website to direct emphasis patrols to target spikes in crime. <http://www.seattle.gov/police/crime/onlinecrimemaps.htm>
 - h. Directed two patrol officers to help robbery detectives to keep up with their workload.
 - i. North Precinct crime stats (comparisons over last year to-date):
 - i. Aggravated assault incidents down 26%
 - ii. Non aggravated domestic violence down 5%
 - iii. Homicides down 33%

- iv. Rape crime down 38 %
 - v. Auto thefts down 20 %
 - vi. Robbery increased.
3. Crime Prevention Report: no report, position vacant
4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy
- a. Update on Fusion Ultra Lounge's problems (U Dist): liquor license is still being reviewed by Liquor Control Board. Lounge is still open for business.
 - b. Update on Everspring Motel (Aurora): No issues, and owners/ brothers in Tukwila sting by US Attorney, one brother sentenced to not be allowed to work in a family owned hotel for three years. One brother is working at Everspring.
 - c. Orion Motel (Aurora): City still tracking calls to police emanating from that location. No action happening now. Chronic Nuisance Ordinance can still be applied if numbers support it.
 - d. I-502 (marijuana legalization) update; Seattle cannot prosecute RCW (State) codes so Office is working with the City Council to make them into Seattle Municipal Codes. Some Seattle Municipal Codes are going into effect this month. Most have to do with active ingredient THC and DUI's.
 - e. There is a refocus on prostitution cases to provide services and direct prostitutes toward Community Court OR prosecute as usual if they choose to not use services.
5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Deputy Prosecutor Jacob Brown
- a. Car thefts/ prowls down 30%.
 - b. Car Theft Initiative - three prosecutors focused full time on tracking multiple offenders or high impact offenders. Share information with police. Started in 2005 and have seen a 53% drop in these crimes. There was a summer legislative change. Took effect in June. Where penalty for multiple offender was a year in jail and a \$5,000 fine, penalty is now up to 5 years and \$10,000 fine.
6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent
- a. Arrested a career criminal in Ravenna neighborhood. Moved into mom's house after she passed away in summer. Three other warrants in house; house will be on their radar.
 - b. Made domestic violence arrest of a DOC offender when a female was assaulted.
7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
- a. Sock Drive
 - i. ***Drop socks off at North Precinct!*** Please provide information on what community group donated the socks.
 - ii. University Lodge donated \$2,000 toward socks and Carolyn Doell donated \$2,000.
 - iii. Current count: 948 socks, 12 hats, 8 scarves.
 - iv. Last year's totals: 4425 socks, 1131 hats, 53 scarves, 192 gloves.

- b. This month's handout is: Basic Disaster Supplies Kit
- 8. Liquor Control Board: Judy Lewis - no report
- 9. Committee Reports
 - a. Issues: Doug Thiel - no report
 - b. Membership: Dick Hillmann - please give Dick any roster changes.
- 10. Old Business - none
- 11. New Business
 - a. No January meeting due to New Years Day.
- 12. Next Month's agenda
 - a. No speaker at the December meeting. We will have a social gathering to talk about community issues regarding safety. Bring sweets such as cookies, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.