



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

November 4, 2015

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC Meeting began at 7:01 p.m. with Inga Manskopf presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: Sgt. Sean Whitcomb, SPD Public Affairs Office
 - a. SPD has seen a great increase in public requests for information, and heightened expectations for transparency. So SPD now uses numerous types of social media, each targeting a different audience. These work for public as well as journalists.
 - b. Goal is to have official but not officious communications.
 - c. Some of the social media being used:
 - i. **SPDBlotter** - spdblotter.seattle.gov - has SPD news updated 24/7 with major crime events.
 - ii. **SPD Twitter** - <https://twitter.com/SeattlePD> - breaking news updates; one of the most followed police feeds in the country with 137,000 followers. Only Boston and NYC have more followers.
 - iii. **SPD Website** - seattle.gov/police - Report crimes, view crime maps, learn about crime prevention, learn about how SPD works, etc.
 - iv. **Tweets by Beat** - seattle.gov/police/tweets - almost-live (an hour delay) info similar to a police scanner, organized by patrol beat so you can see very local incidents.
 - v. **Tumblr Blog** - <http://spdunredacted.tumblr.com>
 - vi. **Nextdoor** - nextdoor.com/seattlepd - address public safety issues on micro level by neighborhood.
 - vii. **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/SeattlePolice>
 - viii. **YouTube** - www.youtube.com, channel #seattlepolicedepartment - videos. There are some videos recorded by the body-worn video pilot program. SPD hosted a hack-a-thon to look at ways to be transparent with video data and still provide privacy.
 - d. Transparency is really important. When SPD bought some drones, it didn't communicate enough and the public became suspicious. Drones were sold to L.A.
 - e. Question about Micro Community Policing Plans - one can see the plans here - <http://www.seattle.gov/Police/MCPP>. Sgt. Newsom says North Precinct may make some changes to the groupings by 1-1-2016 with help from some surveys. NPAC hopes to discuss the plans at a future meeting.

- f. Question about block watches languishing - they are still important, especially because some folks don't use social media. When we get our new Crime Prevention Coordinator he/she can help invigorate the program.
2. Precinct Update: Lt. David Sweeney
- a. There is currently an emphasis on U District, following up on the many drug dealer arrests, to keep them away. Limited overtime has been approved to increase foot patrols.
 - b. Northlake car camping has been reduced in part due to social services such as giving folks gas or car batteries to move. The car camping problem is not an enforcement problem; it's a social problem. City has cleaned up a lot of the garbage at Northlake. Public can help by supporting mental health services.
 - c. Meanwhile there has been an explosion of car camping in Ballard with attendant garbage littering. Suggests public join the Adopt-a-Street program to help pick up litter. Info on that is here:
<http://www.seattle.gov/util/environmentconservation/getinvolved/adoptastreet>
 - d. Crime Prevention Coordinator position's background check is taking a very long time, but it is supposed to be finished very soon.
 - e. New crime dashboard is on-line. It has many filters to fine-tune the data you want to see. <http://www.seattle.gov/seattle-police-department/crime-data/crime-dashboard>
 - f. U District sororities are pretty safe now, but there have been numerous burglaries in fraternities, so SPD gave them a safety talk.
 - g. Please take the public safety survey being run by Seattle U:
<http://publicsafetysurvey.org>
 - h. Interested in safe routes to school in the Licton Springs/Haller Lake area? Get involved with the Greenways project. Email lictonhallergreenways@gmail.com and see the website at <http://seattlegreenways.org/neighborhoods/licton-haller-greenways>
 - i. Hiring 100 officers next year, even recruiting back East.
 - j. Some communities complain SPD is too tough on homeless people, and some think SPD should do more enforcement. SPD has to balance between the two expectations.
 - k. North Precinct officers are working very hard every day. Deployment on 911 calls are triaged so the most critical get handled first, sometimes leaving less critical calls with delayed response. North area has a new district City Council representative - talk to them about need for more police if you wish.
3. Crime Prevention Report - vacant
4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy
- a. Went out on a nightlife walk with the Joint Enforcement Team (JET), comprised of numerous City departments that deals with city code enforcement.

5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: William Doyle
 - a. Just found both defendants of a murder in Woodland Park guilty. The shooter was a third strike and the other will get up to 35 years. It was a planned robbery during a drug deal.
 - b. Having a car theft initiative with dedicated investigators. Found repeat offenders account for many of the thefts so getting them off the streets helps a lot. Legislature has also increased the sentences for repeat car thieves.
6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent - no report
7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
 - a. As of the end of the meeting, 1202 socks have been collected! Donations can be made any time since any past this year will go toward next year, but around December 15 is the deadline for this year.
 - b. This month's handout is about securing your laptop from theft (attached).
8. Liquor and Cannabis Board: Paul Vanderwulp
 - a. Worked with the JET team (see 4a above) over the summer.
 - b. LCB is still understaffed due to turnover and is mostly responding to complaints.
 - c. Changes to the marijuana laws going into effect July 2016. Medical marijuana will be rolled into the recreational marijuana licensing process and there will be more licenses issued. Currently there are 18 recreational retail stores in the north region.
 - d. Inspection of a marijuana store takes about 2 hours compared to 20 minutes for a liquor inspection.
 - e. Complaints about medical marijuana stores aren't a LCB priority at this time compared to those for recreational marijuana stores that are licensed.
9. Member Organization Profile - none
10. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership: Michael Cuadra - please give Michael any roster changes.
 - b. Focus Groups
 - i. Social Services didn't meet this month.
 - ii. Drugs/Anti-crime didn't meet this month.
 - iii. Transportation/Mobility still looking for an SPD officer to coordinate with.
 - c. Issues: Curtis Gehrke - none
11. Old Business
 - a. Read proposed addition to the NPAC bylaws about keeping Executive Council involved with advocacy letters prior to sending. Draft will be sent out with the December agenda, and at that meeting we will ask for ratification.

12. New Business - none

13. Next Month's Agenda

- a. No guest speaker, but we will have poster boards to solicit ideas for future topics, as well as ideas for advocacy work.
- b. It will be a social meeting, so please bring snacks to share! And socks....

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.