



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2016

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC meeting began at 7:03 p.m. with Inga Manskopf presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speakers: Alison Eisinger, Executive Director, Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness, and Catherine Lester, Director, Seattle Human Services Department
 - a. One Night Count was held January 29, 2-5 am. 4,505 unsheltered were counted in the areas included. It is known to be an undercount.
 - i. Includes Seattle and some metro areas. For areas, and breakdowns, see http://www.homelessinfo.org/what_we_do/one_night_count/2016_results.php
 - ii. 1000 volunteers participated.
 - iii. Since the shootings in The Jungle were just a couple days before and the investigation was in progress, SPD asked that some areas be left off, so the boundaries of 6 count areas were adjusted for this year.
 - b. The mayor's 11/2/2015 declaration of a state of emergency regarding homelessness was in response to one of the recommendations of a task force on unsheltered homeless he had convened. Impetus included:
 - i. Mayor's sincere distress over how many have died unsheltered. 2014 = 46 died; 2015= 57 died, almost a 20% increase.
 - ii. The increase in number of people visibly living unsheltered, in tents and cars. And the number of homeless children.
 - iii. The reality that a local community alone can't solve the homelessness problem; it needs help from state and federal governments, too.
 - c. City is allocating \$7.3 million one-time infusion of funds for the emergency. Some of the things it will fund are:
 - i. Most of it will be for increases in shelter beds.
 - ii. Encampment outreach with social services information and offers.
 - iii. Rapid rehousing - getting folks into housing fast, because the quicker it happens, the less likelihood of chronic homelessness.
 - iv. Vehicle response - Creating safe lots where RVs can be permitted to stay temporarily

- v. Medical mobile van to provide doctor and social worker services
 - vi. Schools, homeless children. It's a priority to get kids off the street with their families. There are about 3000 homeless school kids; about 60-65 of them are actually on the street, not in shelters.
 - d. Other priorities besides dealing with the current crisis are:
 - i. Dealing with long term root causes of homelessness.
 - ii. Housing affordability. Seattle is a very prosperous city and has resources, but it has significant needs in spite of all that.
 - e. It is estimated that over 80% of our homeless are from Washington state. People don't come to Seattle to be homeless; they come for jobs and school.
 - f. Last year over 6000 were in shelters and transitional housing. It will be higher this year, probably.
 - g. Homelessness Advocacy 101 workshop: February 24, 6-8 PM in Ballard. Register online at www.homelessinfo.org/what_you_can_do/homelessness_advocacy_101.php
 - h. Human Services Department is dealing with 10 years of budget cuts.
 - i. Meetings on homelessness are often venues where extreme opinions are aired. Please let King County and city officials know what you think, so they aren't hearing only the extremes.
 - j. Response to question about drugs and homelessness, services are embedded in the encampment outreach and medical mobile van programs. The city doesn't manage mental health - King County does, but the two coordinate. SPD in the north precinct continues to work on narcotics, and is also using SPD resources from outside the NP for narcotics enforcement.
 - k. Response to comment that public would like reports on the success or otherwise of various efforts around the NP. Human Services Dept would love to know what kind of reporting would be useful.
2. Precinct Update: Captain Sean O'Donnell/Lt. David Sweeney
- a. Averaging one new officer in the North Precinct. Getting two in March! One will be assigned to the Ballard area. The other will go on the bike squad. The 6 bike officers + 1 sergeant create a flexible resource, which for now looks like will be 2 to University Way, 2 to Aurora Ave, and 2 to Ballard.
 - b. Involved with setting up and monitoring the new safe zones for transitional parking of RVs. One is on 14th NW between 45-46th. So far 8 volunteers have been permitted. Involves signing an agreement to follow some rules.
 - i. Preparing longer term safe parking at Yankee Diner in Shilshole.
 - ii. Call Sgt Newsom if you want to refer someone in an RV to the safe zone.
 - iii. Police approach to car camping is to try the soft approach first (help with a jump, offer info on social services, etc.) then resort to enforcement if necessary. Actual criminal activity will be enforced right away.
 - c. Crime stats are available on seattle.gov/police. See the Data/Information tab.
 - i. Lower half of North Precinct has the highest amount of property crime (in

the NP), which is burglary, car theft and car prowl. January statistics trended up.

- ii. You can help by focusing on prevention - don't leave stuff visible in your car, don't leave cars empty and running, etc.
- iii. The auto license plate reader cars will be cruising the lower ½ of NP
- iv. SPD in NP has been busy with lots of arrests, getting illegal guns off the street, recovering stolen property, etc.

3. Crime Prevention Report: Mary Amberg

- a. Mary is now taking requests for services, though she already has a bit of a backlog.
 - i. mary.amberg@seattle.gov, or 206-684-7711
 - ii. Help set up block watches
 - iii. Talk at community meetings about crime prevention
 - iv. Do a security assessment of your home and give suggestions

4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy

- a. Kelly Harris has been hired to replace Craig Sims as head of the Criminal Division.

5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: no report

6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent

- a. Caught up to 25 of the 26 folks who were accidentally released from jail early due to a software bug.
- b. Caught a guy on DOC supervision who was dealing meth on Aurora.
- c. Caught a bike thief at Ballard Locks.

7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom

- a. Handed out a new map of CPT officer assignments (attached)
- b. Showed us photos of the delivery of our socks to Lake City Family Center, YouthCare and Pioneer Square foot clinic and other local service providers and charities.
- c. Know that for safety considerations there's a 4 hour delay for posting crime info online, so looky-lous won't rush to a scene, etc.

8. Liquor and Cannabis Board: Lucy Peterson

- a. LCB is busy doing final inspections for the new retail marijuana stores.
- b. As of July 1 there will be no more medical marijuana stores (those green crosses).

9. Member Organization Profile: Andrea Perr, Roosevelt Neighbors' Alliance

- a. Important - note that this is NOT the Roosevelt Neighborhood Association.
- b. Boundaries are NE Ravenna Blvd to NE 45th St, and Brooklyn Ave NE to I-5; the NW corner of U District.

- c. Lots of college students in the area, but not a lot of children.
- d. The board meets monthly, general membership meetings less regularly, and there's a summer social.
- e. It was started in the 1980s to deal with a specific issue, but now has a broader mission.
- f. Got a grant to build a playground and install kids' and seniors' exercise equipment.
- g. Organized the community for emergency preparedness using the SNAP (Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare) program.
- h. Biggest public safety problems are open drug market, car prowls, graffiti and litter. Also, cars speeding on the arterials is a problem, especially Roosevelt and 11th.
- i. See <http://rooseveltneighborsalliance.org/> for more information.

10. Committee Reports

- a. Membership: Michael Cuadra - please give Michael any roster changes.
- b. Focus Groups - Social Services: Mike Cuadra has developed a free training session on how to safely pick up and dispose of discarded syringes in public places. Attendees will, while supplies last, receive a free sharps container and a tool to safely pick up the needles. It will be Feb 20, 10AM at University Masonic Lodge, 4338 U Way NE. If you or someone you know would like to go, RSVP at mccuadra@msn.com. Flyer attached.
- c. Issues: Curtis Gehrke - none

11. Old Business - none

12. New Business - none

13. Next Month's Agenda TBD

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.