



SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

Expanding Communication between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2016

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with Inga Manskopf presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: Steven Freng, Prevention and Treatment Manager, NW High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (NW-HIDTA). Feel free to contact him at sfreng@nw.hidta.org or 206-352-3603.
 - a. Office of National Drug Control Policy (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp>) manages a grant program to fund geographical areas that are centers of drug production, distribution and/or consumption. There are 28 HIDTAs. We live in the Northwest area.
 - b. In the 80's cocaine epidemic, thirteen agencies worked on drug trafficking in silos. The HIDTA grants are a way for a region's agencies to collaborate. 150 local agencies are involved in the NW-HIDTA.
 - c. The strategy includes three facets: prevention, enforcement and treatment.
 - d. Opiates (for NW-HIDTA's website on drugs, see <http://www.mfiles.org>)
 - i. Natural - opium, morphine, codeine
 - ii. Semi-synthetic - heroin, dilaudid
 - iii. Synthetic - Oxycontin, Vicodin, methadone, fentanyl, etc.
 - e. Opiate attributes
 - i. Painkillers
 - ii. Tolerance develops rapidly with frequent use
 - iii. Causes great sense of well-being, physically and emotionally
 - iv. Relatively mild withdrawal symptoms
 - v. Great health risk - HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, infections
 - f. NW region is part of a drug trafficking pattern that comes down from Canada and up from Mexico.
 - g. Heroin, methamphetamines and prescription opioids are trending up, and other opioids are trending down. Heroin is the biggest issue right now, across the country and here in Seattle. Treatment centers are filled to capacity, and have 60-90 day wait lists. In 2015 there were over 11,000 heroin admissions, including all classes of people.
 - h. Yakima Valley is one of the most active drug distribution areas in the US,

especially for meth. Mexican cartels have a big presence in Washington, and Seattle. In fact, the Northwest and Southern California have the most dense cartel presence in the US. There are at least four cartels active in Seattle and five in Tacoma. Seattle area is one the principle marijuana distribution centers in the US.

- i. Heroin comes to Seattle up I-5 from California. It's relatively cheap here. In 2013, a kilo cost \$18,000 in Seattle, compared to the national average of \$41,900. Heroin is becoming a rural county problem. Fastest growing population for heroin addiction is 18-24 year olds.
 - j. The NW Mexican cartel business model for meth is to target small depressed towns.
 - k. Synthetic opioids are a big problem. Some are coming from Asia. Many are prescription drugs written by US doctors. In 2010, prescription opioids generated \$10 billion for the pharmaceutical industry. Most heroin users were first hooked on them (and heroin is cheaper). In 2013:
 - i. 124 million prescriptions were written for vicodin
 - ii. 53 million prescriptions were written for oxycontin
 - l. Question: is there hope? - We're getting a handle on tobacco use and it is decreasing. Probably never will eliminate alcohol, as it's the drug of choice in the US. We can just try to educate people.
 - m. Question: link between homelessness and drugs? - Steve believes a great increase in homelessness is due to opiate use. He believes that housing-first works; once a person has housing, you can more easily figure out who needs treatment.
2. Precinct Update: Captain Sean O'Donnell/Lt. David Sweeney
- a. Bike officers have been trained to administer naloxone (Narcan) to save people from drug overdoses.
 - b. Property crimes are still high. Looking at data to focus on high-crime areas. NP from Northgate Mall to Sand Point Way to the bottom of the precinct is having the most property crimes now. Property Crimes Task Force and Major Crimes Task Force are working together on this problem.
 - c. Detectives and patrol officers are identifying problem homes to keep an eye on crime emanating from them.
 - d. Lower Ballard has been assigned increased patrols in problem areas, such as 22nd and 57th, and areas where encampments and RVs are. SPD knows about the narcotics problems in the safe RV lot and is keeping an eye on it and collaborating with social service agencies. Other emphasis areas currently are Aurora corridor and University Way NE. Golden Gardens' summertime patrols will be starting up.
 - e. NP participated in May Day demonstration control. The strategies worked well.
 - f. Mayor Murray came to the NP and promised the new precinct building will be finished in 2019.
3. Crime Prevention Report: Mary Amberg - no report, and she's really ready to have her

baby.

4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy
 - a. Mayor's office has an interdepartmental team (IDT) working on problem abandoned houses. Its priority is to deal with the most dangerous ones, like fire hazards, but please let Brendan know of vacant problem houses so they can look into them - brendan.brophy@seattle.gov or 206-684-7734.
 - b. In early planning stages of setting up an in-neighborhood clinic for homeless to deal with court issues. If you have ideas for where one should be located, let Brendan know.
5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: Mari Isaacson
 - a. Recently sentenced the woman who killed her six relatives in Carnation to life without parole. Also recently got a conviction for a home invasion in Skyway.
 - b. The office got a new courthouse dog, Errol, who is trained to assist those with mental disabilities, the elderly, teens and young children—or anyone who might find a dog comforting—as they provide courtroom testimony or go through a witness interview.
6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent - no report
7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
 - a. Handed out a flyer put out by 211 listing emergency shelters. Attached. You can hand it out instead of giving a panhandler money.
 - b. Handed out a sheet detailing how to use Seattle Police online systems. Attached.
 - c. Precinct picnic is July 9th at Ballard Seafood Fest. Dianne will be reading *Emery and the Ice Carnival*, a kids' book about how to call 911.
8. WA Liquor & Cannabis Board: Paul Vanderwulp
 - a. The board is focusing on its priority: minors' access to marijuana, alcohol and tobacco.
 - b. The maximum number of marijuana retail licenses has been reached. July 1 the new laws go into effect. All medical marijuana stores that haven't been licensed will be shut down. Businesses must have two signs on their building, up from one. Vape products will be under the LCB.
 - c. The LCB is about fully staffed now, for the first time in a long time.
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership: Michael Cuadra - please give Michael any roster changes.
 - b. Focus Groups
 - i. Social Services - met with Patricia Sully from the Mayor's Office to discuss the idea of opening safe injection sites for addicts. City Council is

starting to discuss this.

- ii. Fremont Chamber of Commerce and Capitol Hill Chamber are planning to host needle pickup training session like the one we had.
- iii. Next meeting is May 25. Contact NPAC at spd.npac@gmail.com if you are interested.

10. Business

- a. NPAC officer nominations were begun (and will end at the June meeting when elections will also be held):
 - i. President - Inga Manskopf, unopposed so far
 - ii. Vice President - Steve Dougherty, unopposed so far
 - iii. Secretary - Nancy Rauhauser, unopposed so far
 - iv. Treasurer - Katy Dwyer, unopposed so far
- b. Call for interest in being an at-large board member yielded no names. If there are positions to fill, the board will make recommendations and the council will ratify in June.

11. Next Month's Agenda

- a. City Council members from North Precinct districts will be the guest speakers.
- b. Officer elections and at-large board member ratification, if any, will be held.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.