



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 2013

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

The monthly NPAC Meeting began at 7:04 p.m., with Ruedi Risler presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: Steve Johnson, Liquor Control Board
 - a. Liquor Control Board's mandate is to set up rules and regulate the recreational marijuana market. Currently the medical marijuana market is separate.
 - b. Expect the regulations to be works in progress, subject to change as time goes on and experience is gained.
 - c. LCB is developing 'seed to sale' tracking. Each plant is issued a bar code. Handlers are required to log each process within 24 hours (such as harvest, transport, package, sell) into a database so the plant can be tracked. The database helps with taxation, which is done at several steps in the process.
 - d. There will be testing for contaminants and strength.
 - e. Estimate is that the stores will initially get 15% of the market, and more as time goes on, as the illicit market declines and medical marijuana stores are somehow folded into the recreational infrastructure.
 - f. A person is allowed to possess one gram of marijuana, and cannot consume it in public view, according to the initiative that was voted into law. But 'in public view' was/is not defined. If you want to turn someone in, call the police. Next, try the LCB.
 - g. LCB will conduct youth access compliance checks three times a year on each store to be sure the store is not selling to minors.
 - h. Illicit sales of marijuana will continue to be handled as before. The plan is to continue making the risk of selling it high so it declines and the recreational marijuana market takes over.
 - i. This expansion of LCB oversight calls for a large departmental budget increase. A percentage of the marijuana taxes will go to LCB but more budget is needed and has been requested to staff up. Estimates of marijuana revenue (and hence taxes collected) vary wildly, so only time will tell.
 - j. The Feds listed 8 concerns, but will not interfere with the State if our program does not rise to any of those concerns. LCB has a good relationship with Federal government. Ability of banks to deal with money from marijuana sales is being worked on.

2. Precinct Update: Capt. David Emerick/Lt. Lesley Cordner
 - a. The precinct's biggest problems currently are strong armed robbery, burglary, car theft and car prowl. Though burglaries are down 15% and there has also been a drop in car thefts. There is a group of youths doing robberies in the Lake City and Northgate areas. Police are working on this.
 - b. For the holidays, there are nine extra shifts. Emphasis is being placed around all areas of shopping. Officers on bicycles will be patrolling the malls. We can help reduce crime this time of year by following safety tips such as not putting purchases in your trunk then returning to the mall (instead, put them in your trunk then move the car to another part of the parking lot).
 - c. At this time of year it is good to remember to not drink and drive. Not only is it dangerous, it is also costly if you are arrested. You will end up spending thousands of dollars going through the justice system. !!!
 - d. Police are working on the issues with the transient camp below the Ballard Bridge.
 - e. Aurora prostitution
 - i. Officers on bicycles have been contacting prostitutes about social services available to help get them off the street.
 - ii. Prostitutes who are arrested can go to community court, and if they agree to use some of the programs and services, they can get probation. This option is more attractive to local prostitutes, while those who come from out of state are less interested in getting housing, for instance.
 - iii. Johns and pimps are still subject to arrest as before.
3. Crime Prevention Report: no report - vacant position
 - a. There were 200 applications for this open position. When screening has whittled the list down to 5-10 there will be interviews.
4. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy
 - a. Working on continued problems outside Ultra Fusion in U District; there was a shooting in the parking lot recently.
 - b. Working out the details of Aurora prostitutes using community court.
 - c. Working with Aurora motels.
5. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - no report
6. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent
 - a. Policy change in DOC - some time ago the penalty (length of incarceration) for parolees arrested for parole violations was reduced due to budget cuts. Now the policy is being revised to restore length of incarceration to up to 30 days. Parolees who turn themselves in for violations can get shorter terms.
7. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom

- a. Thanks for all the sock donations! You may still bring socks, hats, gloves and scarves to the North Precinct through Wednesday December 11. Please tell the desk officer which community is making the donation.
 - b. Dianne brought Officer Kip Strong to the meeting. He works Lincoln sector, which is the far eastern part of North Precinct.
8. Liquor Control Board: Judy Lewis
 - a. Judy recounted a “creepy but not illegal” gambit a man on the Ave has been seen doing. He made copies of his driver’s license and wrote on the back an invitation to contact him if in need of a husband or desire to get pregnant. Then he’d wrap this in a \$1 bill and accost women walking past him, handing them the bill saying they dropped it.
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Issues: Doug Thiel - no report
 - b. Membership: Dick Hillmann - please give Dick any roster changes.
10. Old Business
 - a. Reminder that there is no meeting in January, as first Wednesday is New Years Day.
11. New Business
 - a. Suggestion from the floor that we continue to arrange the tables in a square instead of rows, as we did this meeting and it worked well.
 - b. Suggestion from the floor that we take some time in future meetings to allow members to speak briefly about themselves, the organizations they represent, and their concerns.
12. Next Month’s agenda
 - a. TBD

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.