



## SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

*Expanding Communication between the Police and Community*

### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

February 5, 2014

Recorded by Pete Rogerson

The monthly NPAC Meeting began at 7:02 p.m., with Ruedi Risler presiding.

Topics covered:

1. There was a special presentation for outgoing NPAC Membership Officer Dick Hillmann for his many years of service to NPAC. He spoke for a few minutes about the history and importance of NPAC. Meeting members were invited to stay after the meeting to enjoy cupcakes and conversation in celebration of Dick's valuable service to NPAC and the community
2. Special Presentation Speaker King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg could not attend.
3. Precinct Update: Capt. David Emerick/Lt. Lesley Cordner
  - a. Today was the Seahawks Super Bowl parade downtown. Officers who had that duty did very well dealing with a very large and dynamic event that required them to be flexible and improvisational.
  - b. Super Bowl Sunday night saw some disturbances and property damage, especially in Pioneer Square and the U-District. There were some arrests.
  - c. The Super Bowl events in Seattle were a good learning experience for younger officers who may not have dealt with large crowd situations before.
  - d. The new use-of-force documentation policy requires every officer who sees use of force to write a witness statement, which after a large event can result in many officers being out of service for extended periods. A possible compromise solution might be that *some* officer-witnesses could provide statements while others could be allowed to forego that paperwork requirement, allowing them to remain productive.
  - e. Robbery emphasis has resulted in a 48% decrease in the past three months. The new problem is auto thefts, which are up 38%. Domestic violence assaults are down, as are aggravated assaults and car prowls.
  - f. The Christmas emphasis went well. The officers were a visible and useful presence in and around the malls and business districts.
  - g. SPD is falling behind on its hiring goals due to limitations on available training academy slots, some recent hires being let go, and ongoing retirements.
  - h. The Captain asked all NPAC members to ask the groups they represent for feedback. Specifically he requested we ask our groups "What are your fears?"

He said if people don't speak up and communicate with the police then they have no way of knowing what folks' fears are. Please gather the feedback from your groups, condense and edit it as is appropriate, and pass it on to the Captain.

4. Crime Prevention Report: vacant position, no report
  - a. Captain Emerick stated that this position is funded but still unfilled, due to staffing changes in the HR department downtown. Some initial work has been done to sift through and reduce the number of applicants to twenty or so, to be reduced down to seven soon, from which a candidate will be selected.
5. City Attorney's Office: Brendan Brophy
  - a. YWCA is the wrap-around services provider to the community court that deals with prostitution. Some details are still to be worked out as to how services are delivered and how the program is carried out.
  - b. The Office is still working on the pot grower/distributor issue. The issue is pretty limited in the north end of Seattle due to zoning restrictions that limit the possible locations there. The issue of retail licenses is still to follow.
6. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Emily Peterson
  - a. This Office handles juvenile prostitution cases. 'Johns' in those cases face a mandatory \$5000 fine that goes to fund the program, and they have to register as a sex offender. Much of the enforcement is done on-line, with a deputy posing (on-line) as an under-age prostitute. Most adult prostitutes were abused as youths.
  - b. Captain Emerick, who formerly led the Vice Unit, commented at length about the dynamics of prostitution, the criminology related to it, the recent beating death of a woman at an Aurora Ave N motel, etc.
7. Department of Corrections: Jeff Sargent
  - a. Made a good arrest on Aurora - a pimp with meth at a motel south of 125<sup>th</sup> St.
  - b. Also made arrests of burglary crew members who were probationers.
8. Community Police Team: Dianne Newsom
  - a. NPAC collected and donated 5573 socks and 241 knitted items. Also obtained a \$1000 gift from Target, which was used to allow many groups of deserving children to shop there.
  - b. Saturday, 02/08/2014, is Neighbor Appreciation Day.
9. Liquor Control Board: Judy Lewis
  - a. There have been far fewer violations in her North Seattle area of operations as compared to the recent past.
  - b. Giggles on the Ave is closed as a club but operates as a medical pot store on Sundays.
  - c. Judy has been transferred to the NE Whatcom County area so this was her last meeting with NPAC. Her replacement has not been determined so we can still call her with questions or issues in the meantime and she will try to get them to the right person. NPAC thanked Judy for her service. She has been an effective

asset and will be missed!

10. Committee Reports

- a. Issues: Doug Thiel
- b. Membership: Dick Hillmann - please give new membership officer Inga Manskopf any roster changes.

11. Old Business - none

12. New Business

- a. NPAC is changing the by-laws to allow for a stronger ability to advocate on issues. Changes will be brought to the Council for approval.
- b. The board would like to add an agenda item to meetings, to have an NPAC member speak briefly about his/her organization so we can learn about each others' issues.
- c. Pete Hanning recently spoke to Seattle City Council about the taxi-alternative services, such as Uber or Lift, and their usefulness in regards to public safety, employment, reduced drunk driving, etc. You can find his testimony on the Seattle Channel.
- d. Two new persons introduced themselves, one from UW ASUW (University of Washington) and the other a citizen who lives nearby.

13. Next Month's agenda

- a. TBD

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.