

NORTH PRECINCT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Expanding Communication Between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2011

Recorded by Bill Doell

The monthly North Precinct Advisory Council meeting for May began at 7:00 p.m., with Curtis Gehrke, presiding.

I. Special Presentation Speaker: Councilmember Tim Burgess, Chair, Public Safety.

A meeting was held on Monday and Tuesday regarding 14 years of research on Seattle crime at the Public Safety Building with experts from across the United States:

Over 50% of crime occurred on 4.5% of the City's 30,000 blocks. Therefore hot spots are known and designated so by SPD.

Geographically the crime is concentrated and does not generally move. It is in blocks, parts of blocks and certain addresses.

Juveniles are more concentrated and 87% of their crimes took place in a few spots.

How SPD responds to crimes has a big effect on crime. Sometimes a casual approach gets better results than threats.

There are 72 different crime prevention programs while only seven are worthwhile and have positive, measurable results. Thirty million dollars is spent each year while few are spent based on output rather than number of people. Progress must be outcome driven. Cut waste and incompetence.

There will be cuts this year in Public Safety budgets of \$12 to \$15 million. The Seattle Fire Department may have black-out areas where engine companies have to cover for one another.

A new ordinance for wage theft is in the process of being enacted. Wage theft happens when employers are hiring workers for \$15.00 per hour and only paying them \$8.00 per hour. Such an employer can lose their license for ten years if charged and convicted.

The Public Education Levy is to keep kids in school. Dropouts are involved in more crimes as a result of not being in school.

To make your wishes heard, send letters as they are more powerful than e-mails and read quicker. The budget will be presented on September 26, 2011.

Do we adequately fund technology and data management? We need to compare with other comparable cities across the U.S. Much of it is done by City employees and grants given to private employees.

Regulation of medical marijuana is a problem. Possible use of zoning codes to regulate business hours, etc. will be considered. Invasions have occurred to some stores.

II. Precinct Update: Lieutenant Ken Hicks/Sergeant Diane Newsom.

Targeting hot spots is working for SPD. Prostitutes and pimps are moving from known hotspots to other spots to combat SPD officers, so police are trying new theories to combat crime.

Burglaries are slow right now, but a reminder: as the weather warms up keep all doors and windows locked and DO NOT keep your keys to the car and house by the front door. If burglars get in they can take your car with your possessions.

Car prowls are less than last year and also car thefts.

There are now three Crime Prevention Coordinators for the City. Terrie Johnston will be serving in the North Precinct under a grant that expires December 31st.

August 2nd will "Night Out" for the City.

Our annual NPAC picnic will be July 9th at the Precinct - Food, Fun and Friendly Officers.

III. Jeff Sargent.

Parolee was noticed running into a house, and nearby police were notified. The parolee closed the drapes and window blinds, thinking no one could see him. Officer Sargent knocked on the door; no answer; he waited and the parolee finally came out and was arrested.

IV. Committee Reports.

Membership: Dick Hillmann - please give Dick any roster changes.

V. Old Business. None

VI. New Business. None

VII. Next Month's Agenda.

Councilmember Sally Clark will be our guest.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.