

THIRD PRECINCT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
3000 MINNEHAHA AVENUE
March 25, 2013

3rd Precinct Mission Statement:

Reduce crime, establish good relationships with the community

- Call to order at 6:30 pm by Chairperson Gwen McMahon
- Introductions mentioning neighborhood and/or affiliation with 3rd Precinct. Inspector Mike Sullivan welcomed everyone and introduced himself to those attending.

Minutes from January meeting were reviewed. Minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT Treasurer's report was approved.

Police Open House will be Friday May 17th. The time is believed to be 11am to 2pm and is well attended by school children. 3PAC assists with serving the food and are currently looking for volunteers. Anyone interested can contact Gwen McMahon.

STATE OF THE PRECINCT: Inspector Mike Sullivan

- Retirement of former Commander Lucy Gerold after 36 years with Minneapolis. The Inspector commended Lucy for all her work for the City. There will be a farewell party at JAX on Monday April 1st from 4-7 pm
- Crime statistics in the precinct. Looking at the last week statistics. The Inspector reviewed some recent robbery cases. One involved a male who solicited a prostitute on backpage.com and ended being robbed at the location they were to meet. The inspector also stated that all crimes are down except for larceny which is theft from motor vehicle. Residential burglaries are down from 20 to 8.
- The precinct works on 3 strategies every week to address those areas that need extra attention. The Inspector gave the previous weeks CODEFOR actions and results.
 1. Crime problem identified was Chicago & Franklin. The street crimes in the area was reduced from 15 to 14 with the actions from the precinct. Officers made 77 proactive stops and 26 arrests, CRT and one of the Problem Property Officers worked on improving lighting in the area of one of the bus stops, and CRT and Metro Transit did 11 details making 7 arrests, one search warrant, 6 debriefs (interviews) and worked together on strategies.
 2. Crime problem identified was Lake & Chicago with the increase in theft from motor vehicle and loitering. Statistics were down to 5 from 8. Officers made 100 proactive stops with 20 arrests. Problem property officer and 2 cps's made 38 contacts on Lake St and CRT did 4 details with 5 arrest and 3 debriefs (interviews).

3. Burglaries in the area between 39th St to 44th Street, 2nd Avenue to Columbus. The pattern went from 4 to 0. Officers made 28 proactive stops with 4 arrests. Email notice of the burglaries was sent to 243 residents with 67 homes being doorknocked.

Question was asked whether the male who solicited a prostitute was arrested? As it turned into a robbery case, it is believed he was not arrested.

Question was asked about theft from motor vehicle and whether it was a crime of opportunity. The precinct has been actively trying to educate about not leaving anything in cars that may be considered valuable. A quarter on the dashboard, dirty clothes, an empty bag may not seem valuable but someone seeing in a car may think it's valuable or that there is more in the vehicle. People have been taking GPS's out of their cars but if there is a GPS stand that is visible, someone may think the GPS is just under the seat and make the attempt to break into the car.

Question was asked about with the nice weather coming up, are there proactive actions being considered by the precinct. Officers have been asked to give extra attention to those areas that are seeing an increase in criminal activity. It's important for citizens to call 911 if they see anything suspicious that may lead to a crime. Residents also need to actively practice good crime prevention habits as some crimes are preventable if only windows or doors had been locked.

OFFICER OF THE MONTH

Officers used to be given plaques by 3PAC in the past for officer of the month, then it was changed to small statue of an Eagle. The Inspector said that although very nice, he wanted to give something more practical so this year, officers of the month will be given a pocket knife that is engraved and has tools on it that Officers can use. Name plates on the plaques in the Precinct are still going to be used.

Motion was made to approve the giving of the pocket knife with a gas card from SuperAmerica for \$25 and a note from the 3rd Precinct Advisory Council. Motion was seconded and passed.

January 2013. Officer Tony Nielson. The benefits of having Officer Tony Nielsen as a member of the 3rd precinct go beyond quantifiable statistics. Officer Tony Nielsen comes to work rested, ready and looking sharp. He never complains and exudes a quiet confidence that impacts an entire room full of Dogwatch Officers starting their shifts at 8:30 in the evening. The nights that he works are looked forward to by the rest of us and he likely doesn't know it.

Officer Tony Nielsen brings a consistent and honest work product each and every shift and engages in whatever project or program that is being taken on by the work unit. On one occasion in January he assisted in a fresh-snow tracking of a pair of burglars in the southern part of the precinct. The track went for 2.5 miles and Tony was as spirited during the hunt as any rookie half his age. There is no doubt that Officer Tony Nielsen enjoys his work and enjoys doing it well. He has assembled a squad of top-notch officers who have adopted his work ethic and together they have set a positive tone for the entire Dogwatch shift.

Officer Tony Nielsen and his partner, Officer Chris Leum, went on a particularly chaotic EDP call that very likely would not have ended well if any of the other 840 sworn officers had been dispatched to it. Officer Tony Nielsen's calm and intentional way was instrumental in talking a distressed half-clothed man from the roof of a home at 44xx 4th Ave S. He followed through with calm and concise radio-work and a report with all the components necessary to help the man. Officer Tony Nielsen does these things as a matter of course. Officers just starting their careers on P3-Dogwatch have the privilege of a daily role-model in Officer Tony Nielsen as they build themselves into outstanding officers for the next 30 years - and we'll have Officer Tony Nielsen to thank for what they each become. Perhaps the most astounding attribute is that Officer Tony Nielsen is in his 25th year of police work for the City of Minneapolis.

February 2013. Officers Okerberg and Hanson. On 2/20/13, these officers responded to a lost child call at 21xx Portland Av S. A mother reported that she left her 8 month old in a car seat on the couch while she went to take a quick shower, when she returned, the infant was gone.

After canvassing the area immediately, officers were able to develop a possible suspect as to who may have taken the child. They managed to do some additional leg work in order to find out her actual full name and address. They also were able to come up with a vehicle that she was driving that morning.

These officers did a very thorough job of compiling pertinent info on this case and getting it aired in a timely manner. They came up with several addresses in which other officers were sent to check for the suspect's vehicle. An AMBER alert was also put out for this child and the female suspect, as well as the vehicle the suspect was believed to be driving.

After an exhausting search, the vehicle was finally located at 37xx 3rd Av S. Other officers were sent to this address and located the suspect with the infant as she was attempting to hide in a basement **bathroom**. Infant was returned to mother without harm and the suspect was booked HCJ.

These two officers worked extremely hard on this case, when there was very little to go on. These fine officers should be recognized for doing an outstanding job, going above and beyond their duties. Due to the excellent job of these two veteran officers, this case ended with a positive outcome.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM UPDATE: Lt. Dan May

Lt May explained that the CRT unit consists of 3 parts. The first being the covert group that works undercover a majority of the time. Their focus is on street crimes such as prostitution and drug dealing but also help with areas that are getting hit hard with specific crimes and need extra attention. The second part of the unit is the problem property officers which there are 2 and they work on the chronic addresses that have had ongoing problems that need special long term attention. The 3rd part is the Crime Prevention Specialists who do the education, organizing of block clubs and other proactive actions.

CRT has been busy with hotspots especially nuisance oriented addresses in areas like Chicago/Franklin or Chicago/Lake Street. They've been addressing issues that are a nuisance to

businesses and residents like loitering, urinating in public, traffic and other street crimes. CRT is currently seeing an increase in prostitution so they are doing both prostitution and john stings in the areas of concern.

Current statistics for CRT are from them doing 60% of their time on hotspots and 40% targeting active areas. CRT has made or done:

- 47 felony arrests
- 10 gross misdemeanor arrests
- 147 misdemeanor arrests
- 9 prostitution arrests
- 22 search warrants
- 73 details

They have seized:

- 11 vehicles
- \$23,000 cash
- 2 handguns
- 436 grams of cocaine
- 96 grams of meth
- 136 grams of marijuana
- 6 grams of heroin

PROPERTY CRIME COURTWATCH: Marcy Tollefson

Last Courtwatch meeting also had low attendance as in the previous one but there have been a substantial number of impact statements written. Seems people are willing to write the statements but really don't want to meet. Courtwatch is the 2nd Monday every other month, so it would be May 13, 6:30pm-7:30pm, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 18th AV S and Minnehaha Parkway East.

CRIME PREVENTION SPECIALISTS' UPDATE:

Sector 4 (Shun Tillman) – Area is somewhat quiet. There was a fatal hit and run on Minnehaha and they are still looking for the suspect. Shun will be doing two home security workshops. One will be April 2nd at the Library for the Minneapolis Southside Housing Fair. The other will be for Cooper and Longfellow at Bracket Park on April 10th.

Sector 3 (Sue Roethele) – Sue compared some 2013 statistics to 2011. Burglaries went from 84 to 62 and larcenies went from 77 to 51. She did a security survey for a restaurant that will be opening at Lake Nokomis Beach.

Sector 2 (Karen Notsch) – Karen talked again about theft from motor vehicles asking people to talk to their neighbors. This is one crime that citizen involvement is very important. She also asked residents that if they did not have a block club on their block, the schedule for the next block leader training was on the table. Block leaders are needed to help the department get information out about trends in the area as the more people know what is happening, the more they can take action to stop their chances from being a victim. In addition, the precinct was addressing robbery of persons by having the crime prevention specialists doing outreach in areas that may have had a robbery occur in it. Safety

tips were also available on the table but one thing that was important to remember is that cellphones are an attraction to someone who may consider robbery and it is a distraction to the person on the phone. Keep cellphones out of view unless there is a need to use it but be alert to your surroundings.

Sector 1 (Karen Notsch on behalf of Don Greeley) - Continued focus of energy in the area of Chicago Franklin intersection. Working with Friends of Peavey Park to plan events for the summer. By promoting positive activity in Peavey Park, the neighbors are able to drive away the negative elements in the park. Don's notes also mentioned that the precinct is working on promoting new block clubs and recommended that people think about registering for National Night Out if they haven't already done so. He would like to see Minneapolis get #1 position 3 years in a row! In addition, Don's notes mentioned the robbery detail that the crime prevention specialists are working on.

From the Chair – Gwen McMahon

Gwen asked how the group could better advertise 3PAC meetings. The meeting is sent out on the crime prevention specialists email system which covers approximately 8,000 people but would like to see a stronger attendance at the meeting. It was asked that the CPS's put a weekly update of 3PAC on their email notices. Gwen will be sending out hardcopies to people who are not on the email list.

Question was asked about courtwatch and how to do impact statements for someone who was not on the property crime courtwatch list. The point of contact should be the crime prevention specialist. It's often referred to the County Attorney as they are the ones who will present the statements but if there is a question about when and how a statement can be made, contact the specialist in your area. Impact statements make a considerable difference.

Next meeting Monday, May 20th (due to the Holiday) at 6:30 pm at the 3rd Precinct. It will also be the election of officers.

There will be a July meeting on July 22nd and 3PAC will host the summer picnic for officers on Thursday, July 25th. There is a need for volunteers to help serve food for the summer picnic. Lunch will be served from 11am-1pm and dinner will be 6pm-9pm. This is an event for officers that comes from the community.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:00 PM