



## SPD North Precinct Advisory Council

*Expanding Communication between the Police and Community*

### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

April 3, 2019

Recorded by Nancy Rauhauser

Please share this information with your neighbors and neighborhood and business organizations.

The monthly NPAC meeting began at 7:03 p.m. with Katy Dwyer presiding.

Topics covered:

1. Special Presentation Speaker: SPD Captain Eric Sano, North Precinct, giving an update on the March 27 shootings on Sand Point Way.
  - a. Assistant Chief Eric Greening also attended this meeting to answer questions.
  - b. A man went on a rampage and one man was killed by gunshot, another was killed by a head-on crash as the alleged killer drove away in a car-jacked car. A bus driver was shot, as well as a woman.
  - c. The incident was not gang related, the man was not homeless, it was not political or religious - not a terrorist act. The man says he blacked out after drinking and doesn't remember anything about it. He had no prior contacts with police / convictions of significance.
  - d. The bus driver, after being shot, heroically backed up the bus, turned around, hit his alarm button, and drove back to NE 125th St & 32nd Ave NE. 911 calls came in from several locations, which was confusing. Adding to the confusion was that some witnesses were wearing body armor. What??? That all had to be sorted out.
  - e. Multiple agencies responded and 911 dispatchers did a great job of helping to coordinate. Fire department aid units have to wait until police secure the scene. SPD officers arrived within minutes and arrested the man. King County Metro Transit police assisted, as well as the KC Sheriff's Office. Everyone did a great job.
  - f. Captain Sano is impressed with the caring response of the community pulling together after the tragedy. Community events were scheduled to mourn the victims and comfort folks traumatized by the event. SPD and the Mayor scheduled events for community members. Chaplains and counselors were available to help process the incident. Crisis lines were open.
  - g. Investigation into the incident by the Homicide Unit is in progress. Detectives are conducting interviews, checking videos, and building a case for probable cause. They are also awaiting results of a toxicology report, which can take eight weeks

due to backlogs.

- h. Arraignment is scheduled for April 11. There are already two 1st degree murder charges and there will probably be more charges added. The King County Prosecuting Attorney will assess the report and file the charges. The man is being held in jail with no bail. It could be 1 to 2 years before it goes to trial.
2. Crime Prevention Coordinator: Mary Amberg
    - a. Mary handed out a tip sheet for safely using ride services like Uber, such as wait inside, check the license plate against what's on the app, ask the driver to say your name to be sure it's the ride you're actually expecting, not someone posing as an Uber driver. Sit in the back seat. Share trip information with a friend. Trust your intuition if something feels wrong. Give feedback to the ride service if the driver acts strange.
    - b. Mary has car steering wheel clubs to give away, procured from a grant. Contact her if you'd like to be considered for one: [Mary.Amberg@seattle.gov](mailto:Mary.Amberg@seattle.gov). Priority for cars older than 2000 - the ones popular to thieves like Honda, Subaru, Toyota, and for cars that have been stolen in the past.
3. City Attorney's Office: Meagan Westphal
    - a. Update on the scantily clad man at Green Lake who takes photos of women and offers free hugs who was arrested for unlawfully wielding a weapon (a too-long sword): A judge declared him guilty in a bench trial, he appealed it, and it should be resolved in a couple months. On a second charge, pepper spraying a man and his child, the jury was hung and was declared a mistrial. A new trial is scheduled May 2, and until then he can't go to Green Lake.
4. King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office: Gavriel Jacobs
    - a. The Prosecutor's Office mostly handles felonies in the county. Another focus is restorative justice.
    - b. A current focus on the prosecution side is on getting appropriate sentences for repeat property crime offenders.
    - c. A current focus on restorative justice is expanding drug court. Look also at the office's website for what it is doing to help people get help so they will stop offending. The problems are complicated, but the office is working on solutions. <https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/prosecutor.aspx>
5. Community Police Team: Sgt. Dianne Newsom
    - a. Dianne showed us a Thank You card that Youth Care sent for the socks we collected for them last year.
    - b. Spring is the start of the season for home maintenance con jobs. Don't fall for a stranger driving by, offering to fix your roof or whatever and asking for prepayment. A con artist may do just a little work and never come back.
    - c. Neighbor Day is May 4th. Do a random act of kindness, or thank a neighbor.

6. Business

- a. Membership: If you come regularly and would like to be on the member sign-in checklist instead of using the visitor's sign-in, please email [spd.npac@gmail.com](mailto:spd.npac@gmail.com).
- b. Seattle City Council District 5 candidate John Lombard introduced himself.
- c. Next month nominations for NPAC officers will be held. The offices are: president, vice-president, secretary. Elections will be held in June.

7. Precinct Update: Captain Eric Sano

- a. Like Dianne said, bad guys come out of the woodwork this time of year. Keep your doors locked; don't leave things visible in your car; don't leave your car running and go back into the house. Don't be a victim!
- b. 90% of the crimes in the North Precinct are property crimes. The captain is developing strategies to address chronic prolific criminals. One tool is data - crime reports, where stolen cars are ditched, etc. This summer property crime is a major focus.
- c. Encampments - Cleanup of the large encampment at the troll in Fremont is finished. There were 35-40 tents; a bit over 50% accepted services. There are still emphasis patrols in Fremont. SPD, especially by the Bike Team and Community Police Team, will try to keep the cleaned up area from being repopulated.. Also cleaned in front of Ballard Library this week.
- d. The Navigation Team cleanup schedule is not available for public viewing. If you see encampments or see a cleaned up encampment repopulating, report it with the Find It, Fix It app or contact Human Services (see website for contact info: <https://www.seattle.gov/humanservices> .) Encampment cleanups are affected by a pending lawsuit by individuals claiming cleanups violate people's rights. Seattle's homeless response website is <http://www.seattle.gov/homelessness>
- e. Tracy Cramer, Seattle Public Utilities, reminds us that the city will only clean up used needles that are on public property. Report them on Find It, Fix It app under the Other category.

8. Open Forum/Questions

- a. Public defecation & trash - Navigation Team works with Public Health Department on this issue. Seattle has tried some solutions, such as the fancy, expensive self-cleaning toilets. Those were removed when people used them to do drugs, etc. Ballard Commons is going to get a public toilet, not just for homeless. U District is looking into this approach, too. The February 2019 City Auditor's report has some recommendations. See Checkpoint 2.2 in <http://seattle.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=7052632&GUID=896CDF51-DC8B-4868-B62A-D31E9787A4E8>
- b. Sharps - Cleanup of sharps found on school property is the responsibility of the school. Can sharps containers be put in parks? People can start the ball rolling by

convening a community meeting and writing up a proposal. Seattle Parks & Recreation is split on the issue - some Parks employees think it will attract drug use to the parks. Tracy Cramer, Seattle Public Utilities, says she is working on placing a large black sharps container somewhere on Aurora between NE 85th St and NE 125th St. The goal is to place it by June, but it needs community buy-off.

9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 1. Speaker TBA.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.