NORTH PRECINCT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Expanding Communication Between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES January 5, 2011

Recorded by Bill Doell

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

I. Special Presentation Speaker: Police Chief John Diaz.

Chief Diaz presented a special Community Service Award to Officer Brian Thomas with an assistance of Chief Clark Kimerer. The Police Department goal is to fight fear, build communities and protect, and fight crime. At one time auto theft in Seattle was one of the highest in the country. Captain Dan Oliver formed a group to concentrate on serial offenders. The results are a huge drop in auto thefts. He believes in getting smart people and let them do their jobs.

Many offenders do all types of crimes. One arrest may solve a variety of offences. The Chief believes in listening to the neighborhoods, investigating, following procedure, maximizing technology and working with the community. Currently there are 98 projects ongoing to improve service and safety.

Our homicide rate is the lowest in 56 years! He wants to fight fear in the neighborhoods, concentrate on safety and security and get officers out of their cars and back into the neighborhoods and meet with members of the business community. Officers answering calls will be those familiar with the area and people. Officers are surveying the neighborhoods to see what they want and to get them involved to work on problems.

There are 1300 police officers in Seattle that handle 500,000 calls each year. They are expected to handle each call 100% correctly. It is dangerous and complicated work. Systems used include radio, video, twitter, e-mail, phone, blogs and all up-to-date technology to better communicate with all parties.

Each year 30-40 officers retire but more are continuing their service. This provides more experienced officers and the ability to transfer them where needed.

911 is the most important job. Response time is six minutes. Currently there are more 911 officers than ever. Two additional officers will be needed in each of the 17 sectors in the coming years if funding can be found in Washington, D.C.

The budget crisis continues to limit hiring new officers and updating precincts.

II. <u>Precinct Update: Captain Robin Clark/Lieutenant Ken Hicks/Sergeant Dianne</u> Newsom.

A SWAT team responded to a domestic violence call in Lake City involving duct tape, rope, and gun, where officers saved a life.

There was a fire in Ballard where an officer caught a woman who jumped from a burning building.

There was one robbery in the University District since December 1st!

During the last storm there was a power outage in the North Precinct, trees down and water problems.

There is an attempted assault at Green Lake at 5:40 a.m. on a female jogger.

III. Crime Prevention Report: Diane Horswill.

Neil Hansen has retired and Diane Horswill is the only Crime Prevention officer in the North Precinct, and one of only three such officers in Seattle.

Burglaries are down in all neighborhoods. Keep doors and windows locked!!

IV. City Attorney's Office: Craig Sims, Chief of Criminal Division.

Thee will be two Precinct Liaison Officers until March, 2011.

IV. Liquor Control Board: Judy Lewis.

Reminder – It is illegal to carry opened containers outside.

VI. <u>Jeff Seargant</u>.

There are currently 40 active sex offenders in the North Precinct.

VII. Committee Reports.

1. <u>Issues</u>: Doug Thiel.

2. Membership: Please give any roster changes to Dick Hillmann.

VIII. Old Business.

Sergeant Dianne Newsom reported the total sock count for 2010 was 5000 pair!!

IX. New Business.

Pete Rogerson met with staffers of the Mayor's Office. A Public Safety Advisory Council will be formed. Volunteers needed.

X. Next Month's Agenda

Speaker will be Grant Tieje, Emergency Operations Office Manager.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.