

# **Southeast Seattle Crime Prevention Council - Southeast Weed & Seed Meeting Notes from Wednesday, March 1, 2006**

**Call to Order:** 7:05pm by Mariana Quarnstrom with 35 people in attendance.

## **Announcements:**

- April 29<sup>th</sup>: Life Choices & The Law, 10-3pm @ African-American Academy. For 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders.
- April 15<sup>th</sup>: Rainier Valley Clean & Green. 9-1p. Weed & Seed site Mapes Creek walkway will have food. Also, there will be major clean-ups in Hillman City & Beacon Hill.
- March 18<sup>th</sup>: Hillman City Planting 10-2p. **Stop and say hi to the volunteers.**
- March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Candlelight Vigil for victims of Domestic Violence, 2-4pm downtown at King County Courthouse.

## **Weed & Seed:**

Weed & Seed funding for 2007 was put on House of Representatives budget, but we are still waiting for the Senate. Thank you to Ron Momoda, Sarah Valenta and other supporters who went down to Olympia to lobby on Saturday, February 25, 2006. They spoke with 12-15 legislators. Thank you to Eric Pettigrew who is a huge advocate for Weed & Seed.

**Action:** There is still a need for letter writing, especially to Sen. Margarita Prentice and Representative Helen Sommers (Appropriations Committee Chair) in support of budget proviso proposed by Eric Pettigrew.

**Guest Speaker: Rena Martinez, 911 Dispatcher/Trainer, Seattle Police Department Communications**

## • **What are the first things you should tell the operator when you call?**

*Emergency/Non-Emergency:* great because it helps the operators prioritize your call. Sometimes if you call non-emergency number (for a non-emergency) you get a faster response, because all the 911 responders are occupied with higher priority calls.

*Description:* What's going on now – a description of the event.

*Suspect* – Any info you can provide is helpful: race, age, attire, which way they went, in a car/on foot.

## • Suspicious Occurrences

*Exact Location* – is this where it's occurring or is this where you are?

*Time lapse* – how much time has passed since the incident occurred? (depending upon the situation, this may increase priority)

*What is suspicious* and why do you think it's suspicious? (Explain: Because there was a break-in last week.)

*Weapons Descriptions* – were there any, did you see any? (For officer safety)

- Response Time is governed by: priority; time lapse; number of officers available

911 does not cancel calls. It must be answered, though it may be hours later. Only the caller can cancel the call.

## • Automatic Broadcast

**What else gets broadcast?** Priority two or higher, and domestic violence calls.

3 = routine – paper-calls, happened a while ago, everyone is okay.

2 = anything in progress right now, or just occurred.

1 = (highest) major disturbance, robbery, assault, weapons.

0 = (private just for officers) help to officer – officer needs assistance

Domestic Violence (DV) - can start at any level.

3) DV-happened last week, she moved out, everything is okay. 2) DV- it's happening right now. 1) DV – weapons assault

Drug Dealing – These calls are broadcast right away, whether or not there is an officer dispatched. If there is something happening outside, they will respond. If it is inside they just take a report. Most people want to be anonymous.

Traffic speeders & DUI – is broadcast if it affects people now.

## • Anonymous versus No Contact

**Anonymous** – this means your name will not go on the report and the police will not contact you. This makes it very hard to do follow-up.

**No Contact** – this means you don't want your name on report, but they can call on you for further information.

*Noise Policy* – If the call is about a noise complaint then the operators must ask, "Do you want to be contacted by an officer?" If the answer is yes, then operator will ask, how do you want that contact – door knock or phone? If there is no answer to that question, then it is assumed *no contact*. Police will not reveal the name of a noise complainer.

Each time someone calls – cell phone, anonymous, no contact, or contact calls it's all counted to establish a crime history.

Cell phones manufactured after a certain date have a location finder called Phase Two, but it still helps to give your location.

## • Continuous Nuisance

**If there is a continuous problem (for example: drug dealing) and the police don't come right away, but they come later and don't see it when it's happening, do I call every time? Is there any continuity? Will CPT officer follow up?** Call 911 when it's happening. 911 may not dispatch an officer, but will broadcast over air, because if an officer is driving by they could stop. Also, by calling in you are creating a history.

## • Property Crime

What is your exact location?

- 1) You must report the incident in the city in which it occurred.
- 2) You have to be within city limits, because officers can't go outside city limits.
- 3) Time lapse – helps with priority. 15 minutes or less counts as just occurred.

Property Crime – if damage is under a certain dollar amount, and there are no suspects and no evidence, or if in time for the officer to come, then the report can be taken over the phone. Screening questions are designed for these reports. These reports can be made on non-emergency the line as well. Some days they don't have the officers to send.

- If the call is winding down and the operator didn't ask for certain information, give it anyway. It's okay to call back with new information.

## • Complaints about 911

Operators should always give their operator #. Get operator numbers if you feel there is an inappropriate response, because you may have a complaint.

**To whom do we take the complaint?** Ask for a supervisor. The operator won't transfer you, but they will take your name and number, and the supervisor will call you back.

# **Southeast Seattle Crime Prevention Council - Southeast Weed & Seed**

## **Meeting Notes from Wednesday, March 1, 2006**

- **How much training do 911 operators get?** Start at non-emergency. Then 2 weeks of classroom. Then 2 weeks of 911. 3 days of school before radio, then 10 weeks with a tutor, then 2 weeks of more school after that.
- Important Contacts  
211 - As of February 1<sup>st</sup> there is a new phone number available – strictly a referral line for Health and Human Services referrals. Not for crisis, or things that are happening right now. 7 days a week 8-6p now. 24/7 by end of 2006.  
911 – emergency in city  
Non-Emergency: (206) 625-5011  
7-digit Emergency: (206) 583-2111 - Good for if you are out of town and need to report an emergency in Seattle. 911 is a local number. Whatever city you're in, that is the 911 dispatch it will go to.
- To do a 911 observation contact Rena Martinez. They last 4-8hr. [rena.martinez@seattle.gov](mailto:rena.martinez@seattle.gov)

### **SPD Reports:**

- New CPT (Crime Prevention Team) officer Craig "CJ" McCray – has been in Rainier Valley for 7 years. Was on patrol on S. Orcas the whole time. He has only been CPT a few weeks. He is one of the drummers in Seahawk Blue Thunder.
- Fire on 15<sup>th</sup> Ave S (4900 block) - officer Jacob Haynes was driving along and noticed smoke. He knocked on door, but no answer. When he entered he found a man staggering around. He was able to help that man to safety. JD Parnell and Ben Kelly went around perimeter of the house, found a non-responsive woman in bed. They tried to pull her out through the window, but she was tangled. Jason Lynch (fire fighter) entered the house in fire gear and was able to untangle her. The 3 men pulled her out. 4 dogs were also rescued. Both officers were taken to Harborview for smoke inhalation. There was no alarm. Fire looks like it was caused by an accidental electrical malfunction.
- Burglary Arrest this weekend – There have been 15 burglaries in New Holly in the last 2 wks. The first thing the offenders do is knock, and if no answer, then they will enter. African-American juvenile males 13-14 year olds. One kid caught and informed on the three others later arrested. They admitted to almost all burglaries. Over \$1000 of property was recovered and have locations of other property in pawnshops. The Juvenile Court System takes burglary in occupied residence seriously, but the kids will probably only get a couple of months. For adults the jail sentence is 5-10 years. The kids don't live in the area.
- New Sex Offenders Website - use to have to go to King County website, now you can check from SPD. There is also a space for people to report about "homeless" offenders who aren't really homeless. There are links to other offender websites. The SPD website is [www.seattle.gov/police](http://www.seattle.gov/police) but you need to know your census track number. You can still use your zip code on the King County website [www.metrokc.gov/sheriff/services/sex\\_offender\\_search/](http://www.metrokc.gov/sheriff/services/sex_offender_search/).
- Rainier Beach Library - Mark Solomon and Lt. Koutsky are meeting with the Seattle Public Library because concerns about juveniles' inappropriate behavior.  
**Action:** If see teenagers behaving inappropriately tap on shoulder and tell kids to 'stop it' or 'take it outside' or tell the librarian.

### **Community Concerns:**

- S. Adams St (36<sup>th</sup>) - 2-3 cars with people living in them on city streets.  
**Action:** At minimum CPT will find out who they are and can put a 72hr. sticker on their car.
- Also in that area - children playing on construction vehicles.
- New Holly: *My house was broken into when my husband was home. He had a description of 4 kids running down the street. He called the police right away.* It would have been a priority call, but there probably had been another and the police came later.
- Othello - 2 years ago dogs hung from trees. It was reported to 911 and it stopped. On 2/12/06 an unfamiliar teenager put a stick in fence and encouraged the dog to hang. Then encouraged kids from the basketball court to throw balls at the dog. (sticks being an alternate to trees, which have been trimmed up. Neighbors called 911. There was no officer response. Went to animal control and they were not aware of the situation. Animal control never got that info. *How do you describe event so that it gets a response? What was done is right. Describe the incident as it's happening. Tell why the stick in the fence is relevant (past history). Best information, is what your raw eye sees. You don't have to be politically correct. (That would have been a priority call) If no officers are available, then it's an automatic broadcast. Once a call is broadcast then cops show up.*
- *Does 911 contact Animal Control?* Yes, if there is not going to be police response.
- *Why does it take so long? If it's a priority call why am I not getting an officer right away?* If I [CPT McCray] answer your call then I'm all yours and don't breakaway from one call for another. But I try to get there as fast as I can. If I'm in the office doing paperwork, then I'm running for the door.
- Sometimes I wave to an officer and he comes out of courtesy. "What's the problem?"
- Martha Washington is used as an off leash park. There was a pit-bull attack. The owner was asked to give warning if he was going to have his dog there, so others could remove theirs.
- Executive Council is working on a campaign to educate City Council about the number incidents of "non-response" to nuisance crimes.  
**Action:** Document incidents and send them to Mariana Quarnstrom. [mquarnstrom@comcast.net](mailto:mquarnstrom@comcast.net)

**Adjournment:** 8:34 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 2006 7pm at the Southeast Senior Center.