

**16<sup>th</sup> Street Neighborhood Association**  
**Final Meeting Minutes**  
**May 3, 2016**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Street Neighborhood Association (SSNA) meeting at Simpson-Hamline Church was attended by 14 neighbors, including the Association's Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

**Old Business:**

- The minutes from the April meeting were approved by attendees with no changes.
- Jack confirmed the dates for the upcoming social events sponsored by the Association. These include:
  - Block Captain Social at Carrie's home on May 13, 2016. This event will allow us to share information about block captain activities throughout the year.
  - Summer Pool Party at Upshur Park on Saturday, June 25, 2016. This will be an event for all ages and include pool activities for the kids, food (pizza, hot dogs, drinks, etc.), and socializing for adults.
  - Outdoor Movie Night at Upshur Park on Saturday, July 23, 2016. This will be an event for all ages and popcorn, cracker jacks, and lemonade will be provided. We plan to locate the movie on the hillside between the basketball courts and the pool. This event is also sponsored by the Department of Parks & Recreation, which is providing the movie equipment.
  - Summer Block Party on Saturday, August 27, 2016, on a block in the neighborhood (to be announced).
  - Halloween Party on October 22, 2016 on a block in the neighborhood (to be announced).

**New Business:**

- Susie provided us with a written Treasurer's report detailing dues payments of \$180 in April and a donation of \$30. The current balance in the checking and savings accounts is \$2,192.55. Neighbors can continue to leave their dues payments (\$30/household) in Susie's mailbox at 1501 Varnum St. NW.
- CAUFS is holding a Community Soup on Thursday, May 5, 2016, at Alpha Kappa Alpha, located at 4411 – 14<sup>th</sup> St. NW. The event is from 6:00-8:30 PM.
- Detective Kevin Kentish and Lieutenant Raoul Figueras discussed crime in the neighborhood including case closure rates and how neighbors can assist the police in protecting our neighborhood from crime.

Detective Kentish supervises several detectives who investigate neighborhood crimes for which there is enough evidence (*e.g.*, witnesses) to identify the perpetrator and bring a criminal case. Note that some police reports on criminal incidents do not have enough information or leads to

warrant opening an investigation. In the last 3-6 months, the detectives have closed three investigations of crimes committed in PSA 404 (*i.e.*, our neighborhood) in 2015. One involved a robbery on 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, between Webster and Allison Streets. Cases are generally closed when the suspect is arrested and the police present their best evidence to the US Attorney. (The US Attorney may or may not charge the arrestee.) Detective Kentish encouraged neighbors witnessing a crime to step-up and assist the police in prosecuting the suspect. MPD will protect your identity, if needed.

In terms of recent neighborhood crimes, burglaries have increased by 14% over last year (seven burglaries in PSA 404). There have been domestic assaults with deadly weapons as well. There have been no recent (*i.e.*, last month) robberies in our neighborhood.

Detective Kentish suggested that neighbors contact the OAG about nuisance properties or issues with uninhabited residences.

There was a discussion of the 2015 changes in the police department which led to disbanding the vice squads in each police district and creating a centralized narcotics unit for undercover investigations.

Neighbors can help the police by reporting suspicious cars and activities by sending an anonymous text message (including photo) to 50411. Additionally, there is an anonymous tipline at (202) 727-9099 for providing MPD with leads on solving crimes.

There was some discussion on the security camera subsidy program offered by the city. Lieutenant Figueras recommended that the outdoor security cameras capture video from the front porch out to the street in front of the residence.

Lieutenant Figueras suggested that neighbors make a list of the serial numbers or other identifying information for valuable property in their homes. After a burglary, this information enables the police to identify what you have lost and return it to you if found in a pawn shop or in the possession of a suspect. Lieutenant Figueras shared that it is not unusual for burglars to use nearby garbage cans or vans to haul away stolen property. If you are a victim of a burglary, it is important to stay out of the areas in your home where the burglars may have left finger prints or other DNA evidence until after the police crime scene employees finish collecting evidence.

- We met Whitley O'Neal from Councilman Todd's Office. She will provide us with constituent services. She invited us to an anniversary part on May 16, 2016 at Councilman Todd's Office at City Hall.