

Neighborhood Safety Patrol
Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2007
Department of Public Safety Roll Call/Conference Room

Present: Deputy Chief Dave Barrette, Chief Tony Callisto, Lieutenant Joe Cecile, Harry Lewis, Laura Madelone, Lieutenant John Sardino and Karen Ventrone

Absent: Donna Adams, Captain Paul Dillon, Sergeant Shawn Smith and Cheryl Stanley

Welcome: Karen Ventrone welcomed the group and thanked Tony Callisto and DPS staff for hosting the meeting while CST is under construction.

Accounts:

UNSAAC Grant for 2007-08- Harry Lewis and Karen reported \$75,000 from UNSAAC will be allocated to pay for Syracuse Police officers working the NSP detail from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 (though the patrols will run from August 22, 2007 through May 11, 2008). While this is an \$18,000 increase in last year's funding, the total available funds for the patrol are down because SPOA has resigned from the patrol this year.

SPOA update- Norm Traino called Karen in July to regretfully notify her that SPOA will be unable to contribute finances to the NSP due to ongoing legal expenses incurred/expected. Karen verified with Norm that SPOA will continue to partner with NSP on communicating important information to student tenants.

SU involvement- Tony reminded those in attendance that last year, SU contributed a one-time amount of \$20,000 to extend continuous coverage in the neighborhood for the safety of its students. This year, Tony has reserved a small amount of money in his budget to supplement the UNSAAC funds. More information is detailed below under the "2007-08 Patrol Calendar."

Billing- Joe Cecile agreed that the best course of action for 2007-08 billing is to ask Sgt. Shawn Smith to send all invoices for pre-scheduled patrols to Harry Lewis to administer through the UNSAAC grant. In the event additional patrols are scheduled at times of need (see below), Joe and John Sardino will work out the coverage and Joe will ask Shawn to send these invoices directly to Donna Adams at DPS.

2007-08 Patrol:

Calendar Review- Karen presented a draft of the patrol calendar and explained its layout. She scheduled NSP details for every day the students are on campus for the academic year. The estimated total for the coverage is \$75,992. Tony added that his funds would be able to account for the coverage of approximately \$1,000. The dates that are not covered with an NSP detail will still be monitored by SU's Orange Watch (see description below). Orange Watch serves as the eyes and ears in the neighborhood to ensure student safety off-campus. The beauty of this arrangement is that student rental properties will still be under surveillance when students are away on break because of Orange Watch. In the event an incident occurs, Orange Watch calls

SPD to respond. This allows the UNSAAC monies to be spent on patrols when students and residents are more active in the neighborhood. Similarly, those reviewing the calendar noticed that there are 4 days of enhanced SPD coverage which includes two officers on foot (August 24-25 and April 25-56). These specific times of the year are historically busier in the neighborhood, which has been taken into consideration. Again, Tony's reserved funds are present for Joe and John to decide when to place extra patrols out, depending on the tone of the semester, weather, activity, etc. All were in agreement with this arrangement.

New Business:

Orange Watch- Tony provided an overview on Orange Watch. In May, Syracuse University's Department of Public Safety (DPS) introduced the "Orange Watch" program, which provides a new, expanded DPS presence in key areas on the North and South campuses and in neighborhoods north and east of campus. The initiative authorized the department to hire a new corporal and expand DPS peace officers' hours of armed walking, bicycle and vehicle patrol coverage. It is intended to supplement DPS' and other law enforcement agencies' current activities in areas frequented by students, faculty and staff.

Orange Watch officers are on patrol throughout the calendar year; the increased presence will be most pronounced between the hours of 6 p.m. and 4 a.m. and on weekends -- times when students have the most serious concerns about safety, according to DPS surveys. Officers on Orange Watch have expanded DPS presence in several areas: the entire South Campus and the Hookway Tract and the Lampe Athletics Complex; the Vincent Street and Thurber Street areas between Comstock and East Brighton avenues; North Campus' West lots and the nearby streets to East Genesee Street; and the Thornden Park/East Neighborhood area to Westcott Street. Orange Watch has placed five additional peace officers and a supervisor on patrol in these areas at night on weekends. During the summer months and on weekdays during the academic year Orange Watch provides three additional peace officers. As a result, patrols in these areas during these times will increase by nearly 40 percent on weekdays and more than 60 percent on weekends.

As they perform their Orange Watch duties, DPS peace officers are highly visible; participate in community building, problem solving and crime prevention; and provide services to students, faculty, staff and residents in need of law enforcement assistance. Peace officers on Orange Watch promote the safety of students who are found walking alone or in small groups; use DPS' radio network to report on any signs of criminal activity or other safety and security concerns; and assist Syracuse Police Department officers on request.

To differentiate, the focus of NSP is neighborhood quality of life and safety through primary dedicated patrols by the Syracuse Police Department and secondary patrols by DPS to assist the Syracuse Police with student related incidents. DPS NSP patrols respond upon request of SPD to manage student issues and to file judicial complaints in addition to or in lieu of an appearance ticket from SPD. NSP is set up to patrol in four hour blocks during peak student neighborhood activity. All patrols are vehicle patrols. The focus of Orange Watch is crime suppression, community service and community policing. Officers assigned to Orange Watch patrol designated zones both on and off campus during the hours of 6pm - 4am. Patrols are intended to be interactive with the students, to seek out students who might be walking alone and offer them

rides to minimize the likelihood of victimization, and to be a clear, visible uniformed presence of the university in the neighborhoods. Orange Watch patrols are in vehicles, on foot and on bicycles.

Other Concerns- Harry asked the group how he should approach the 2008-09 grant period for NSP, in terms of coverage and amount of money. Tony figured that with the \$5,000 that SU has available to the NSP this year; this amount should be factored in again for next year. Joe told Karen to expect a 4% salary increase for the officers next year so that should be applied appropriately as well. Karen will work on the numbers for Harry to include in the grant. Laura Madelone offered to assist in writing the grant with Harry this year, as well.

Next Meeting:

With no other items to be discussed, Karen proposed the next meeting for Thursday, November 8, 2007 at 2 pm at DPS in the Roll Call/Conference Room.