

Victory Heights Community Council
Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2017

Meeting called to order by President Ann Forrest at 7:02 PM.

Mary Amberg, the Crime Prevention Coordinator for Seattle Police, and Officer Bryan Kennedy talked about car prowls. We were reminded not to leave recently purchased items in your car while shopping at the mall. They mentioned a story on KOMO TV (<http://komonews.com/news/local/seattle-detectives-offer-holiday-advice-to-protect-package-deliveries>) that mentions a new service the postal service is offering called “Informed Delivery” that will show you what is coming in your mail that day in case anything goes missing. Learn more here: <https://informedelivery.usps.com/box/pages/intro/start.action> . They said package theft will be a problem this year, “Seattle has a huge problem with property crime.” In other news, officers are now wearing bodycams, and they plugged the North Precinct Advisory Council (NPAC) meetings which are now held at Lakeside School on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Katie Bang from the Seattle Park Department updated us on the progress of the playground renovation project. The concrete has been poured and the first of the equipment is being installed. The original completion date was September 2017, now estimating mid-December depending on how quickly ramps and landscaping can be done, particularly in the terrible weather. The play area will open first (hopefully with a ribbon cutting with the preschool on January 4th) and then they will move on to building the walking path around the field starting in the spring. The basketball court will be done at the same time as they are both asphalt and it saves bringing the truck twice.

Highlights of the NPAC meeting include reminders to make 911 calls when something happens. Even if no one is sent out, the new police chief is very statistic-oriented and areas with more calls will get more action. They’ve hired six new officers and the Navigation Team is up and running. Eight officers are dealing with homeless encounters. There will be a shift to 2-person officers in cars, rather than officers riding solo. Some diversion funds have been approved by the city council that will enable the police to deal with first-time offenders so they can avoid jail. Car prowl signs are moved around the city depending on demand.

The traffic island beautification work is going well and generating volunteer hours for our matching grant from the city to get “Welcome To Victory Heights” signs up, among other things. The walking tour to inspect the islands will be in the spring while the flowers are blooming.

The emergency communications HUB is coming along, we’re still determining the final placement of it in the park.

We’re looking for people to help make crosswalk flags for 15th Avenue NE. The ones you see aren’t provided by the city, but we are allowed to mount them on city poles.

Another project is to get the fence along the park repaired that SDOT owns.

On Saturday, December 23rd there will be a gingerbread house decorating party at the preschool from 10:00 AM to 11:30 PM. Order a house at VictoryHeights.Seattle@gmail.com then bring \$5 (cash) to pay for your house and bring a large plate, tray, etc. to transport your gingerbread house to your real house.

We're planning a neighborhood-wide yard sale sometime in the spring.

Next meeting is December 19th.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Submitted by Ryan Johnson
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council