

Rogers Park, 24th Police District, Beat 2431
CAPS Meeting, July 16, 2007
Common Cup, 1503 W. Morse Avenue
<http://caps24.org>

Officiates:

Kevin O'Neil, Beat Facilitator, CAPS Beat 2431

Sergeant Baranowski, Beat Team Leader, Chicago Police Department

Jayne Hoffman, Beat co-Facilitator and Notes Recorder

Meeting notes are paraphrased. Quotations are marked accordingly.

I. Welcome and introductions. 7:00pm: Kevin gave the "CAPS 101 summary" of how CAPS started. Kevin has been Facilitator for Beat 2431 since its inception 14 years ago.

II. Police crime report. Sgt. Aquilles presented top ten, which can be found at www.chicagocrime.org and from the CAPS web site at <http://caps24.org>.

A citizen asked about an assault the other night. Sgt. Cohen responded that it was classified as a *simple battery*—injuries were not life threatening—and did not show intent to kill. Sgt. Baranowski added that the classification also depends on the victim's relationship with the perpetrator. He pointed out that "*possession of cannabis* is in top ten which means that you guys are doing the job out there." Kevin concluded that domestic battery arrests are lower this month than *simple battery* arrests.

III. Updates on old problems.

- **1340 W. Morse/1345 W. Lunt.** Sgt. Baranowski researched calls for that building and calls for service & incidents. The total number of incidents compared to last year was the same, but calls for service this year increased by 30%. Kevin stated that many incidents were reported by Hugh Rider and assessed that they had evicted 14 people over the past year. Generally, the problems arise from friends of the renters. The complex still has private security rotating every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, which is when 90% of the activity happens according to historical data.
- **Homeless at Loyola Park.** A citizen asked about "gang loitering dispersal." Sgt. Baranowski responded that it is a "structured loitering restriction" devised to standardize how cities take care of some groups lawfully. Sgt. Aquilles added that *gang loitering dispersal* was also set up for street corners and any other public place in Chicago. Giving a GLD in Loyola Park just is not realistic because people are allowed to spend time idly in parks, and cannot be told to leave unless a crime or other infraction is being committed that warrants removal.

Sgt. Baranowski added that an identifiable group of males and females are in Loyola Park, but is much lower than last year. Thanked the police for their effort and effectiveness of the sweep and bicycling programs. Two other citizens who live on Morse at Loyola Park also thanked the police and pointed out that the bicycling program has been instrumental in deterring squatters in Loyola Park.

- **Building on SW corner of Morse and Lakewood.** Jayne: Morse/Lakewood is a BilMar building, and has talked with tenants who complain about the noise issues and heavy rent increases, but they will not come to the meetings. Kevin: we need to get with the management.
- **6912 Lakewood:** One citizen talked to residents who stated that it seemed like a war zone inside. People are yelling into the windows from the alley and on the side of the building.
- **Street parking reserved for Council for Jewish Elderly on Farwell.** Kevin stated that somehow the city had issued a handicapped parking permit. Alderman's office working to change it to reserved spaces for Council visitors.

IV. Identify new problem areas.

Pratt & Bosworth bus stop. 30-40 youths hang out at night. Cabbie was accosted at the corner by these youths. Sgt Acquilles instructed that it is a Beat 2432. We can arrest them for gang loitering. The problem is that they are released to parents within 3-4 hours, often with no recourse.

Suspicious male in alley. Jayne witnessed a male whom she may have identified on the sex offender listing. Sgts. Baranowski and Acquilles both instructed to call 911 with a full description anytime there is a suspicious character. They would rather question somebody than allow a convicted sex offender to get away with possible stalking.

Females and safety. Officer Acquilles suggested that toting a purse is a 'crime waiting to happen.'

Graffiti. The backward "K" is a Latin King reference.

Gunshots. Citizen had heard 8 gunshots in alley off Morse/Farwell between Lakewood and Wayne. Citizen called 911 but did not follow up. If you remain anonymous during a call, it may impede the ability of the police to follow up.

V. Announcements

- Flyers for learning how to formulate a block club available. See John & Ruth at the Common Cup for more information.
- The next beat meeting: **Monday, August 20, 2007, at the RPCC, 1530 W. Morse.**
- **National Night Out, Tuesday, August 7th from 6:00 – 8:00pm.**
- Meeting adjourned by Sgt Baranowski at 8:15 PM.