

Admiral Neighborhood Association General Meeting September 12, 2023 Minutes

Officers & Executive Committee Members in attendance:

Joanie Jacobs, President  
Carrie McCann, Secretary  
Bridgett Markillies, Treasurer  
Dan Jacobs, Media Coordinator  
Stephanie Jordan, Vice President

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Who we are
3. Approval of March and May minutes
4. Guest – SPD – Lt. Joe Hadley
5. Guest- Ann Davison, City Attorney
6. Summer Events Recap
7. Treasurer's report
8. What is coming this Fall
9. Next General Meeting
10. Questions - comments

1. Welcome. Reminder: all guests are guests, serving us. Be kind.
2. ANA is residents, businesses and others who live, work or play in the Admiral neighborhoods. Executive team introductions done.
3. March minutes moved, seconded carried unanimously.  
May minutes moved, seconded, carried unanimously.
4. Seattle Police Department (SPD) Lt. Joe Hadley (oversees third watch 7:00 PM to 4:00 AM) provided an update on what's happening in the neighborhood. New assignment, was in Office of Police Accountability. WS has always been a special place in the city. Slowly ramping back up to handle community long-term issues instead of only being staffed to focus on immediate activities; for example the Community Police Team is slowly coming back.

Q: how's staffing coming? A: it's rough. Without discussing specifics, it's dangerous for officers. Q: What is goal? A: 100 officers per year after attritions. 4/10 schedule introduced to make lateral moves [of trained officers from other departments] more attractive since shift work is less desirable. Chief's priority is retention and attraction. Q: Is it better now that settled with Feds [on consent decree]? A: were in compliance, then COVID, then George Floyd. Future accountability within framework of City's Office of Inspector General and Office for Police Accountability instead of Federal monitor.

Crime stats: Burglaries down since last year, car thefts up. Advice: lock cars, do not leave items viewable. Hyundai/Kia must be upgraded so cannot be easily stolen. Precinct has steering wheel locks for Hyundai/Kia owners. Those models will still be targeted since thieves

cannot know which cars have been upgraded. Q: Seems like serious uptick in car theft and robberies? For example, BECU ATM and Admiral 7-11. Are armed conflicts happening more, or just heightened? It's scary as a Kia owner. A: Kias are stolen and used for other crimes, cannot pursue even if see them due to State law. Understand why people may be fearful. Stats do not show an increase in robberies—actually, those are down. It is a crime of opportunity. Will have more stats at next meeting.

Ops manager at West Seattle Grounds comments on meeting with Lts. Kim and Hadley. One item that came up is, call 911 because when new people come into SPD to work they are looking at stats. SPD agrees, please call, tell, report. If we become complacent and say “well, no one will do anything anyway” then new hires will be assigned where the stats show most need. You might not get an immediate response, resources must be allotted to hottest call. But as a data-driven department need the calls. Comment: WS/Admiral has reputation as a desirable area, we also need to be mindful and report since everything is data-driven. Q: Live in an area with schools, the speeders are atrocious. Have campaigned, put Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) signs but not effective in controlling behavior. SPD: Is it a morning thing? Commenter: Yes, 7-10 in morning and 6-10 at night on the 49<sup>th</sup> arterial between Heights and Spokane. A: Can raise with superiors to put on radar but there is no Traffic Unit any more. Q: What about speed cameras? A: Function through SDOT, have set up locations and asked for funding for additional locations. Pilot currently to see if impacts safety and has value. Similar to red-light cameras, once could show benefit including significant safety improvements added more. Very expensive, \$1 million. Q: Duwamish Head speed bumps had any effect? A: It is supposed to be a deterrent, no data yet. Q: Can hear people screaming down Admiral and then go down, so wondering if speed bumps are effective. Comment from ANA President: that would be an SDOT question.

5. Ann Davison, City Attorney. Lives in north end, so important to reach out and see additional areas. City Attorney Office (CAO) staff criminal division chief Natalie Walton-Anderson (WS resident) and Southwest Precinct liaison Joe Everett also in attendance. Need to rebuild appreciation for SPD and prosecutors, not always the most comfortable role but need someone to do that. When citizen calls in, SPD reports are the first pass of baton, then to City Attorney's Office which handles misdemeanors or King County for felonies; all need to work together. Concern: repeat offenders. Focus on people who are “frequent flyers” for example 118 people responsible for referrals, which could be one to ten crimes per referral. Acknowledges disconnect for citizens being told crime is down when their gut feels otherwise. Working to make CAO data available and brought in a team to advise and inform the public. Safety is a subjective sense, numbers give reflection of what is happening. Could see many victims of people with repeat problems, program built to use referrals to identify list—missed an opportunity because no charges. Trying to be “close in time” on criminal activity filings, inherited case backlog in the thousands.

CAO lawsuit against Kia/Hyundai because the number of thefts—up 600% in a year, was the result of the manufacturers' profit-driven decision to eliminate keyfob interface on lower-cost models. Multiple cities joined, now consolidated in the California court system.

Q: your office does misdemeanors, what is the difference between those and felonies? Sentence difference: 90 days misdemeanor, up to 364 days gross misdemeanor, then felony 364+ days. Legislature decides what is the appropriate level for a given offense, for example drug use went

from misdemeanor to gross misdemeanor in last session.

Davison's social theory is we have so much gun problem due to no consequences for drugs etc. and now need to course-correct.

Walton-Anderson prosecutor 17 years, lives near Admiral Starbucks on 41<sup>st</sup>. Crime seems more brazen. Safeway employees assaulted, people impacted. SW Precinct is trying to prioritize, and Admiral crime rate is low outside of summer. Reporting again: make the calls, participate as witness to help the police and prosecutors. Goal is not necessarily conviction but good outcome. If a person think that's all they can do, all they are good for, back to square one. If doing it right, at misdemeanor level, prevent escalation to more serious crimes.

Q: Data coming back on non-pursuit policy impacts? A: Not focused on that because more police policy and impact, as prosecutor for the City see after the fact. Q: Where would be a good place? A: WASPC (Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs).

Q: Where to find data on small crimes and misdemeanors? A: Quarterly reports on diversion and prosecutions, added data on those impacted. HEAT map showing what is like; also SPD crime dashboard. Note that not every police report results in prosecution contact.

Q: What is the size of your budget? A: \$45 million. Added a domestic violence prosecutor and Council added some items. Followup: I think they're shorting you. A: Well, if in private practice could select clients, not true in this environment, so more resources needed.

Q: Do you find in prosecutions an uptick in mental health crisis, like another level? A: A complicated topic, this was not something understood but is number one issue our society is facing. When someone is incompetent due to mental or drug incapacity, cannot prosecute. State hospital system is supposed to help but very backed up, cannot even get to felony offenders and also misdemeanor restoration was deprioritized by the State Legislature. Importance of engaging at misdemeanor level is there may be no charges but opportunity for help via early intervention before long-term addiction that has forever altered their functionality thus no competence. September is National Recovery Month and cannot help but think of these cases. Need to care enough to make intervention.

Q: Are there drug courts? A: Yes, but need to be competent to opt in. Q: What do you think of the drug-use bill passed by City Council this afternoon? A: Not fully evaluated but glad there's some movement.

ANA President: Election coming up, voters have chance to review candidates' stances and vote accordingly.

6. Summer events recap. Starting next yet, Fourth of July Kid's parade under Admiral umbrella with Megan Erb continuing coordination. Did have a partner, both full-time moms and business people. Parade starts at Sunset & 44<sup>th</sup> ending at Hamilton View Park. This parade clocked in at 19 minutes with sponsor booths providing free kids' activities at end. Also have food trucks. Sole kids-only event on 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Seattle. Too big for one person, reached out to ANA as a previous sponsor, then as partner to keep the event going. Costs \$3,000+ and shortfall falls to organizer, just too big for one person and it will help to fund raise as a 501c(3) nonprofit like

ANA. ANA President: you'll be seeing and hearing more about the event, which although "kid's parade" is really a family parade.

Hiawatha Concert event update. Had to cut back due to issues with venue. Told could not use Hiawatha, then relented when another venue fell through. Three concerts instead of usual six, had a grant dependent on original Lafayette venue so had to cover out of existing funds. Q: is Hiawatha going to be open next year? A: no, will talk about options over the next months.

Admiral Funktion street festival started by WS Chamber of Commerce in 2022 continued in 2023 by ANA and Admiral businesses Mission and Admiral Pub as leads. Community will hear more about future plans as we enter next year.

7. Treasurer's Report Ending Balance 08/31: \$11,223.23 August balance all accounts. Q: how much came in? Will have for next meeting.
8. Coming Fall events. Dine out night at Mio Posto October 17 4-9 all sales, dine-in or take-out including alcohol 20% goes to ANA. Also next week is Lafayette Dine Out at Mio Posto. October 27 is Trick or Treat in the Admiral Junction. November 14 is next general meeting and officer election. Need secretary—want to be part of ANA or know someone who would be interested? Contact ANA.

Megan Loftin, Art Walk: 15 businesses participate and music at Welcome Road Winery and South Paw Barbershop (new ANA member and ArtWalk partner) and West Seattle Grounds. Map shows who has artists, restaurants who have specials. Being out and about help with neighborhood vibe. Soiree party store and Host and Seattle Yarn—support Admiral businesses and liven up the neighborhood. Also, join ANA to help support projects in the neighborhood.

Admiral UCC events. October: Five-year project to create housing continues, project timeline and information forthcoming. November: Christmas open community market. December 3 WS Big Band free concert. JJ: Christmas market is really cool event and had fun things to purchase.

Closing: Comment: Ann Davison was good presentation. We ask SDOT, SPR and they have attended but CAO reached out to us. SPD attends regularly. Last SPR presentation on Hiawatha led to good exchange of information and project improvements.

Check out [connecttoadmiral.org](http://connecttoadmiral.org) with businesses, [@admiralneighborhood](https://www.instagram.com/admiralneighborhood) Instagram.