

Highland Park Community Council
Jan 16, 2020 Community Meeting Minutes

Meeting moderated by Stephanie Walsh, HPCC President
Meeting opened: 7:10 pm

Two officers from Zone 5 provided an update on the neighborhood's crime statistics since the last HPCC community meeting in November. The officers spent nearly an hour answering questions about crime and security in the neighborhood. Despite the buzz on social media, there has not been an increase in crime *reported to the police*: in two months, there were 4 car thefts (in three of which the keys had been left in the vehicle and one was a vehicle loaned to someone who did not return it), 6 burglaries (of those, one was a bike from a detached garage, one was someone getting the house keys out of an unlocked car to access a house, and one did not actually appear to be a burglary but was called in as such), no robberies (i.e., "muggings") and no overdoses.

The officers reminded residents that some of the best steps we can take to protect ourselves are to keep our homes, garages, and vehicles locked; to install motion sensitive lights; and to report suspicious behavior and actual crime. To see more patrols in the neighborhood, Zone 5 would need to see an uptick in calls. People can call to report suspicious behavior and crime, as well as to voice general concerns about public safety.

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 pm

Meeting follow-up: One of the officers in attendance called Stephanie Walsh, HPCC President, first thing the following morning to inform us that in response to the feedback they heard at the community meeting, they would be increasing patrols in the neighborhood for the next few of weeks and that they referred concerns about drugs and prostitution to Narcotics and Vice.