



**Coalition for Elliot Park Meeting
Tuesday February 27th, 2024 @ 2-3:30pm**

Attendance:

Mike Jones, Emma Pachuta, Mike Fox, Henry Huber	MPRB
Wako, Jessica Focht-Perlberg	EPNI
Christian Hunt	Bethlehem Baptist Church
Heather Elting-Ballard	City Joy
Alisha Samp	Clear Response
Tom Hayes	Hennepin Healthcare
Jessica Meyerson	Catholic Charities
Kurt Swanson	Jericho Road Ministry
Hudson Peters	Bethlehem College + Seminary
Susan Jagodzinski	Resident

Notes:

- This mtg: organizational updates (*Welcome to Bethlehem Baptist!*), putting events on calendar, funding opportunities, possibly revisiting goals + outcomes

Organizational Updates:

- Community Safety Forum with a panel of many MPD, MPRB, and City representatives March 7th 6-8pm at Elliot Park Rec Center (**flyers can be sent**)
 - Asking for emailed questions in advance + collecting questions at session
 - Soliciting + sending community feedback to panelists
- April 20th - EPNI doing Park Clean-up through Elliot Park neighborhood
- June 8th - HCMC Adventurama (potential for bringing to Elliot Park)
- MPRB focus groups are being rolled out for residents + businesses
 - ETBP partnering around Safety-Centered Design – March 28, 12-1:30p (**invite will go out**)
 - Tentative dates: April 6th only Saturday availability, April 10th and 17th evenings
- April 26th – Spring Preview Day for students (with Gray Havens performance) at Bethlehem College
- Catholic Charities exploring bringing in community partners into De-Escalation and Trauma-Informed Care (possibly also Harm Reduction?) trainings

- Coalition landing page on East Town website – **will share out**
- ◇ Foundations built and aligned to start implementation this Spring
- ◇ Spreading narrative around awareness of Elliot Park throughout Downtown East

Calendar Exercise: Brainstorm events, programming, etc. happening April-September, 2024 to add to group Calendar

- EPNI has table with flyers at events + newsletter + committees (open to public) – to subscribe, reach out to Jessica
- Volunteers are welcome at tree plantings + clean-ups (Earth Day, Arbor Day, Neighborhood Celebration Day) with EPNI
- Tentatively planning June 17th BBQ/Summer Kick-off between MPRB + EPNI
- Commencement in May – increased traffic, not within Elliot Park
- CM Osman shares resources in newsletter
- MPRB Resource Fair for residents – Group by sector? Partnering with supply drive?
 - “Give what you can. Take what you need.”
- Fiscal donation towards National Night Out- potential for Coalition sponsoring
- Adventurama is a fundraiser for HCMC, starting in The Commons and walking through East Town at stations (*Elliot Park soccer field is already booked*)
 - Organization(s) (cost could be split, includes marketing) sponsor a station in Elliot Park? Unsure on the permit process? HCMC lawn is another option – **sending webpage**
- Catholic Charities - Juneteenth Celebration (could be in Elliot Park?)
- ◇ Last summer there was outreach around grocery buses at Hope Community Church
- ◇ Jericho Road has services including access to food shelf (drop-in ‘crisis care’), weekly distribution of produce, protein, etc.
- ◇ Format + dissemination of physical/digital calendar (**EPNI + ETBP will follow up on**)

Funding Opportunities:

- Shannon + Wako working on application for Partnership Engagement Fund, possible safety contributions in Mayor’s Budget
- Idea for funds could be staff for Coalition, but *what are partners thinking?*
 - Training opportunities (de-escalation, self-defense, etc.)
 - Scheduling music-based events (arts engagement)
 - Supporting coffee at Rec Center full-time
 - Rock the Block – adding every few weeks could be low-touch