



**Coalition for Elliot Park Meeting
March 12th, 2024 @ 2-3:30pm**

Attendance:

Mike Jones, Emma Pachuta, Mike Fox	MPRB
Wako, Jessica Focht-Perlberg	EPNI
Patty Smith, Tamika Baskin, T. Doobay	Aeon
Kevin Davy, Keith Kozerski	Catholic Charities
Tom Hayes	Hennepin Healthcare
Cor Chmielecki	Hope Community Church
Jordan Robertson	NCU
Carla Nielson	MPD

Notes:

- This mtg: debrief Public Safety Forum, discussion on next steps including revisiting and confirming calendar events, coalition meeting cadence
- Next mtg: signing up to host, volunteer, or participate in ‘coffee hours’, supply drives, safety forums, and other events/programs/activations – **if you cannot make this meeting, please send related info ahead of time**

Forum Debrief (Success, Challenge, Improvements):

- *Hennepin Healthcare*- success of turnout, challenge of discomfort, fear, and anger in reception, improvement = possibly too long, felt the way questions were facilitated was useful and protected time + energy
- *MPRB*- success + challenge of uncertainty in reception of information blocked by emotion, panelists recognized and responded to emotion, improvement = not setting up engagement ahead of time (more people interacted after panel)
- *Aeon*- success of turnout, challenge of residents not attending (feedback was assumption that panel would be “just talk”), improvement = continuing narrative of activation and engagement
- *Catholic Charities*- success of topics reaching concerns, challenge of people presuming CC’s business model, improvement = experts sharing CC services + capabilities and participating in future forums, naming Frey Center as a CC property (feedback from residents was feeling dismissed and demonized)

- *NCU* claims lack of familiarity + need for educational opportunities on services via CC, Aeon, HCMC, etc. – potential for partnership on bus shelter (supporting safety tactics)
- Higher Ground, Dorothy Day Center, etc. receive more funding because have more incidents reported
- *EPNI* shares opportunity for cooperation across neighbors, *MPRB* mentions need for expanding programming outside of park (design isn't everything)
 - CC has participated in conversations that people are not remembering, Aeon + CC have a committee to problem solve with each other
 - *NCU* mentions timing of CC opening overlaps with national changes which is neglected in public perception

Next Steps Discussion:

- *Shannon* asks 'Would sharing (show-and-tell) of services/operations of each org be useful for Coalition? This could create more confidence in educating residents'
- *EPNI* outcome is more open-to-public forums or 'community safety meetings' - perhaps monthly (at a smaller scale), but needs to be collaborative
 - Loring Park (hosts meetings with public safety officials dropping in) + Stevens Square (community engagement has made changes in behavior) = "proof in the pudding"
 - Need from Coalition members would be providing resources (panelists?)
- *MPRB* could put on April 10th, 6-8pm Safety + Design meeting, *Wako* agrees townhalls could be embedded in existing work (ex. *NCU* security staff sharing)
 - Could be organized and planned at Coalition sessions combined with show-and-tell
 - *Is naming safety encouraging high emotion?* *MPRB* felt Forum led to optimistic conversations around design
- *MPD* shares that safety meetings being 2 hours is long, most other meetings are 1 hour, *EPNI* neighborhood vitality committee is broad and has some gaps in safety
 - Jessica asks if there are ways to overlap the committee with forums or other events like CC de-escalation trainings
- *Aeon* reflects on coffee hours as opportunity for alternative to evening meetings, could be hosted by Coalition orgs & CC shares if issues are reported, directing to other orgs 'point person'
- *NCU* had committee with *EPNI* Board members, residents, etc. in past, hopes committee could systemize symbiotic work and regular communication
 - *MPD* calls out meeting as a Safety Consortium with public safety officials to talk about repeat offenders (last coordinated around Superbowl)

- Coalition will put out email for security point persons to organize timing, etc.
- *ETBP* can host ~3 forum sessions + encourages other orgs to bring many staff people so more conversations can be had (less on one person)
- *Hope CC* wonders if there are deliverables/hand-outs to share with residents and others needing services- [Handbook of the Streets \(Agate\)](#) but simpler
- *EPNI* is cautious of capacity- starting quarterly might be useful and meeting needs (can grow as need be)
 - Urgency around meeting regularly- starting June? + Quarterly would allow for time/changes to take place
 - Coffee hours could be done monthly (lower touch opportunity)
- *MPRB* programming (music, movies, etc.) = Music is good unless needing show mobile (\$500), movies are free due to grants- limited dates and need to lock down by August (also needing funding)
 - Wako + Shannon will present more on funding next meeting (Wako will not be in attendance then)
 - City + Parks budgets are different- Mike Fox hasn't seen Elliot budget yet
 - Shannon asks for estimated cost "menu" of events
 - Rental equipment should be part of Coalition budget
- Will discuss Coalition/upcoming events at next meeting, ask for event info brought to Coalition and sent to EPNI newsletter
 - EPNI Events: [Spring Clean Up around Earth Day](#) (business team members will be in attendance), [Tree Plantings around Arbor Day](#)
 - [MPRB + ETBP "Improving Safety through Design" for businesses – March 28th](#)
 - **Just announced today:** [City received money around Opioid Crisis, survey for input on how to utilize funding](#)
- What should meeting schedule look like? Can discuss further at next session- communicating digitally? sharing events hub? take a poll of session times?
 - [Coalition page on ETBP website](#)
 - Shannon + Wako will create list of needs for events, Wako will talk with MPRB to plan Summer Kick-off BBQ