

Neighborhood Organization Information

1. NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Neighborhood Organization Contact: Organization Address: Organization ZIP: Organization Email Address: Organization Phone Number: Lynn Regnier 609 10th Street South, Suite 170 55404 info@elliotpark.org 612-335-5846

3. DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL

Once your board has reviewed this draft annual report, please provide the date of the meeting at which the board approved submission of this report to NCR. Note: Meeting minutes may be requested by NCR.

3/13/2017

Stakeholder Involvement - Basic Outreach & Engagement

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES DID YOUR ORGANIZATION USE IN 2016?

4. MEETINGS (please check all that apply)



Held regular committee meetings or discussion groups that are open to all stakeholders.



Held at least one general membership or community meeting (in addition to the annual meeting) to gather input from residents and other stakeholders for a neighborhood specific initiative.



Hosted at least one general membership or committee meeting in response to a City request for input - such as a development proposal, transit planning or public works project.



Conducted one or more focus groups.

5. DOOR-TO-DOOR (please check all that apply) Door-Knocking or Dropping Flyers Door-to-Door

At least once with goal of reaching a portion of neighborhood.



At least once with goal of reaching most or all of neighborhood.



For more than one issue/outreach effort.



On a routine basis.

6. Door-Knocking/Flyering



Was carried out primarily by staff



Was carried out primarily by volunteers

7. Door-Knocking/Flyering

Was carried out primarily to increase membership and participation

Was carried out primarily to get input on specific city or neighborhood issue

Was carried out primarily to inform stakeholders of a city or neighborhood issue

8. Approximately how many households did your organization reach through door-knocking in 2016?

0

9. EVENTS (please check all that apply)

Staffed a booth or table at neighborhood event or other community event that included sign-up sheets, surveys or information about your organization.



Organized one or more issue specific event (such as a safety forum, housing fair, Open Streets, Creative Citymaking, etc).

Organized smaller events for specific outreach to target audiences (e.g., sidewalk tabling to reach renters, lemonade stands, tabling at Farmer's Market, etc.)

10. OTHER (please check all that apply)



Conducted at least one community-wide survey (such as a random sample or all-household survey).



Conducted another form of survey (e.g., intercept survey).

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Developed partnerships with cultural, religious, professional or business associations to expand outreach into under-represented populations.



Distributed a quarterly or semi-annual newsletter to all households.



Other activities (please describe here):

Through our monthly E-Newsletter and community bulletin boards EPNI invites community members to participate in focus groups and to respond to surveys that are hosted by organizations and city groups as relevant to neighborhood life.

11. Please provide an estimate of volunteer hours provided to your organization in 2016

2,250

12. How did your organization reach out to under-represented groups in your neighborhood? (Please check all that apply)



Worked on an issue of particular interest to an under-represented group within the neighborhood.



Provided notices of annual and special meetings in multiple languages.



Provided newsletter articles or web pages in multiple languages.



Targeted outreach in apartment buildings or blocks to reach renters.



Targeted tabling at other events or locations (such as farmers markets, cultural events, etc.).



Held focus groups or open meeting formats for under-represented communities.



Met with other agencies in the community that work closely with underrepresented constituencies in the neighborhood.



Included an Americans with Disabilities Act statement on meeting and event notices.



Reviewed participation activities, and identified new leaders and volunteers for volunteer, committee and board participation.

Held one-time/pop up events in areas of the neighborhood that don't often have neighborhood meetings

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Other activities (please describe here):

EPNI partnered with many other local organizations to support the Islamophobia Town Hall, jointly sponsored by Wards 6 and 3. Elliot Park is home to a large Somali population and the 2016 presidential campaign rhetoric was particularly troubling for many. EPNI also worked with Augustana Apartments to add programming of interest to seniors living in that complex. Two successful programs of note: an historic neighborhood walking tour and a Place It workshop.

13. What more would you like to tell NCR or the community about your Stakeholder Involvement? What are you doing that is new or particularly successful to involve residents and others?

Traditionally members are invited to community meetings with agendas that are often of no personal interest to them. We have begun, instead, to create events around shared interests to bring the community together around friendly topics that create opportunities to connect with one another and to build new relationships (i.e.Elliot Park on Wheels and the Neighborhood Free Arts Day).

Neighborhood Priorities

PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY NEW PRIORITIES YOU HAVE APPROVED.

No new priorities were added in 2016. The EPNI Board will be reviewing goals and strategies again in 2017.

2016 Highlights

PLEASE DESCRIBE ONE OR TWO MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

- What was the issue or opportunity the neighborhood was facing?
- Who was impacted?
- What steps did you take to address the issue or opportunity?
- What was the outcome?

15. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #1

Several years ago the city approached EPNI regarding plans to build a new I-94 ramp at 7th Street. Public Works presented these plans to the Elliot Park community at several Building, Land Use & Housing community meetings as well as at a public open house in the neighborhood. Throughout this process the community was particularly concerned about safe pedestrian crossings and the increased traffic flowing into the neighborhood. When ramp construction was completed in 2016 Hennepin County Medical Center expressed their ongoing concerns about pedestrian safety along 7th Street. EPNI then convened a community meeting after which public works agreed to conduct a pedestrian/traffic analysis. They have since presented their findings to the neighborhood and a permanent solution is still in process. This issue, however, demonstrates the value of long-term and ongoing relationships that EPNI has established with city departments and the community. It was an opportunity for community voices to be heard and to responsibly effect a positive outcome to a shared problem.

16. MAJOR HIGHLIGHT #2

The Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, with funding from The McKnight Foundation, is collaborating with EPNI on a Cultural Asset Mapping project to uncover non-tangible community assets and their value to the neighborhood. As we explored this work we determined that it was important to build relationships and trust between neighbors based on their shared interests and goals. To that aim we partnered with Nice Ride and Minneapolis Parks & Recreation to host Elliot Park on Wheels, an event that promoted safe urban biking habits.

The event enjoyed moderate success and encouraged us to expand the overall purpose to promote healthy lifestyle habits in a number of ways. Plans were launched to host a new event in 2017: Elliot Park Earth Fest: Hike It. Bike It. Green It. Live It. This new event is also the kick-off for a year-long initiative to develop the Elliot Park Green Team, a contingent of like-minded neighbors pledging to monitor garbage and graffiti on their blocks throughout the year. This project is the direct result of neighbor requests at community meetings and is funded with a grant from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. It is scheduled for April 20th, 2017 and includes participation from nonprofit organizations, city departments and neighborhood groups.