



The Breeze of Park Point

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting & Pizza Party**
January 16, 7 PM,
Social at 6:30
Lafayette Community Center

Lafayette Edible Garden
Sunday January 19, 5 to 7 p.m.
Potluck Dinner
Lafayette Community Center

Park Point Rummage Sale
Friday & Saturday
June 13 & 14, 2014

Happy New Year Everyone!

Capt' Tom Mckay has provided several interesting historic documents about Park Point to share in the Breeze. I thought it would be fun to start with this article from the Duluth Herald, from June 16, 1913. More to come in future issues. Enjoy!

PARK POINT IN DISTRESS

**Suburb Calls Attention of
City Commissioners to
It's Grievances.**

**Depopulation Threatened
Unless Improvement is
Made in Conditions.**

Is Park Point to return to the plane of picnic place?

The all-year-round residents on the Point want to know. They have worked long and faithfully to establish the status of the Point as a regular honest-to-goodness suburb of Duluth. They have bought homes there and made them permanent. They have contracted for a sewer system in the shifting sands and after next year the sands of Minnesota avenue will shift no more, for they will be bound by city pavement. The man who moves to Park Point for the summer is told of the glories of living on Park Point in the winter, and a good many of them have succumbed to the arguments.

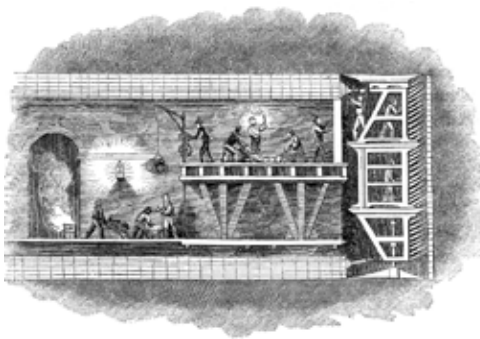
It has been a continual fight on the part of those who have faith in Park Point as a permanent residence place. They are still fighting - in fact they are in the last ditch.

"If relief is not forthcoming soon, this unique suburb, which is one of the special attractions of

Duluth, will be depopulated," is the ultimatum issued to the city commission. Park Point wants attention. It wants the Interstate Traction Company on something other than a hit-or-miss schedule. It wants the aerial bridge run on car connections rather than the minute hand of the clock. It wants provision made to prevent sand being blown all over the place. It wants the city government at least to talk about a tunnel under the canal. It wants it's gas service improved. It wants the contractor on the sewer system to get a move on himself. Most of all, it wants to be considered an integral part of the city of Duluth and not something apart to be given attention after all other parts of the city have been satisfied.

The grievances of Park Point are summed up in a communication written to the Herald today by one who calls himself "Czar," and asks that his communication be called particularly to the attention of the city commissioners. It follows: "To the Editor of the Herald:

As we understand the commission form of government, requests for betterment are invited by our commissioners. Therefore please make room for this cry of distress from Park Point. Conditions here have now come to such a pass that if relief is not forthcoming, soon this unique suburb which is one of the special attractions of Duluth will be depopulated. Saturday night it took the writer one hour to go from (continued on page 3)



**The mission of the Breeze is to
serve the community by:**

1. Publishing the minutes and financial statements of the Park Point Community Club.
2. Informing the community of upcoming meetings, events, happenings and projects.
3. Providing a forum for Park Point residents to air their concerns.
4. Sharing the history, stories and anecdotes that make Park Point a unique place to live.

The Breeze

Editor: Natalija Walbridge
213-3958

Submissions for the February issue are due by 1/31/2014.

Send to:

ppbreezeeditor@gmail.com
OR 2311 Minnesota Ave.

Park Point Community Club Officers:

President: Dawn Buck
parkpointcc@gmail.com
525-1764

Vice President: Jake Kapsner
2810 Minnesota Ave.
jakekapsner@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sheryl Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Treasurer: Al Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Committees:

Art Fair: Carla Tamburro
218-428-1916
coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

Rummage Sale:
Charlene Shimmin
722-6828

Environmental: Kinnan Stauber
722-6255

Hospitality:

Diane Gould 727-4067
Ted Buck 525-1764

Lafayette Square Rentals:
Missy Steichen
218-208-9545
ppccdhlh@gmail.com

The Postcard: Dawn Buck
parkpointcc@gmail.com

Sunshine: Pam Griggs
218-260-6032 pamgriggs101@gmail.com

Park Point Community Club
P.O. Box 16326
Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

Hi Neighbors,

Please join us on Thursday, January 16th for our PPCC membership drive pizza party starting at 6:30pm. We'll be enjoying pizza from the Green Mill again this year arranged by Diane Gould.

Thanks so much to the Community Edible Garden for hosting the wonderful holiday gathering potluck last month. We had some fun with the white elephant gift exchange and talked about some projects for the upcoming year. If you love good food and great company, check out these monthly potlucks. Everyone is welcome.

I have posted the minority reports that came out of the Small Area Planning process to our website. One was penned by Councilor Sharla Gardner and Heather Rand and the other by Park Pointers plus Tom Beery, Parks and Recreation representative. The Planning Commission is now looking at the city staff recommendations, the SAP committee's reports, the PPCC survey, and the public comments collected. Planning commissioner Ms. Zandra Zwiebel said that further public comments can be relayed through City Planning- contact Jenn Reed Moses, Planner II, jmoses@duluthmn.gov Phone: (218) 730-5328. The Planning Commission will have a public hearing prior to adoption then the City Council will discuss a resolution of adoption of the plan. Both meetings are public and will take comments. Watch for a date for the next Planning Commission meeting on the website or in an email.

City planning staff, while talking about the Small Area Planning process, referred to the Park Point community as "engaged." From what I observed several times during the year, the more appropriate term might be "enraged." As one SAP committee member remarked, "There is nothing more discouraging about local governance than the impression of disregard for thoughtful public process."

Hot issues at the Planning Commission meeting that speakers mentioned at the Dec. 17th meeting:

- The S curve- to move or not to move, why should it move, not fair, no changes needed
- Tier 2 entry points to the beach and the bay- bad idea, not fair, why needed, no parking, not enough city support at existing entries
- Street end vacations- Park Pointers value access, eliminate all street end public right of ways, why would we give waterfront away, who is pushing vacations, street ends are dangerous

Whether you're engaged or enraged or both, we'd love to have you in our Club. Look for the reasons to join from our esteemed vice president Jake Kapsner who is our membership chairperson and maintains the member roster.

Stay warm and see you out and about,
Dawn & Klaus

PS When you join the club, please include an email address if you'd like to receive the latest island happenings. Feel free to call me if you have any questions about issues or to report lost dogs. 525-1764

(Park Point In Distress Continued....)

Third avenue West to about half way down the Point. Sunday morning, wishing to go to church it took us an hour to get to superior street and Lake avenue. For over six months the management of the Interstate Traction company on this side has compelled all the patrons wishing to ride further than the car barn to wait for up to five minutes because the cars have to pass each other at this point. There are two tracks, but only one is used. It is claimed by the car company that the other cannot be used on account of the work going on with the sewer. A switch half way down the line would eliminate the nuisance, but this move the management claims it cannot afford to make because the company is bankrupt. If this is the case, a receiver should be appointed. The sewer contract was set to be financed at a certain time. The contractor has been allowed another three months, although he has not met with any conditions which he could have foreseen.

The aerial bridge operators should be made to understand that the bridge was built to accommodate the people on Park Point, and that their work is to carry this out in a common sense way regardless of schedule.

Last year the undersigned spoke to a man about our poor gas supply. Our gas used to give out at meal hours, so sometimes it was almost impossible to finish cooking. He asked my why I wanted to live on Park Point anyway, and he also told me that the gas and water service on Park Point did not pay. I asked him how that could be

as we surely have the easiest soil for excavating and the expense should be accordingly. This he admitted, but said it was the cost of crossing the canal which was so expensive and caused so much trouble.

Yes, there is the rub, the canal is charged against Park Pointers. We did not want it, and did not build it. It is of no benefit to Park Point whatever. It was built regardless of the welfare of Park Point and for the benefit of the city and to our everlasting annoyance, discomfort, and inconvenience, and I believe even our taxes are heavier on account of the bridge.

Next year we figure on having our street paved. How do you suppose the bridge is going to take care of the increase in traffic when this improvement is finished? It is high time somebody was figuring out a tunnel for Park Point. This is the least the city ought to do for cutting us off. Besides the life of the bridge is limited and there must be something to take it's place when it goes out of commission.

For a number of years a lot of the sand that has been dredged from the harbor has been dumped outside the Point. It washes up by action of the waves and the wind is blowing it all over. The city ought to build fences to abate the nuisance. The money would be saved in the first year of less sand and snow shoveling.

There must be no step children in a commission ruled city and we hope the new elected officers will do all in their power to correct the injustice done to Park Point."

"Czar"

Lafayette Rentals

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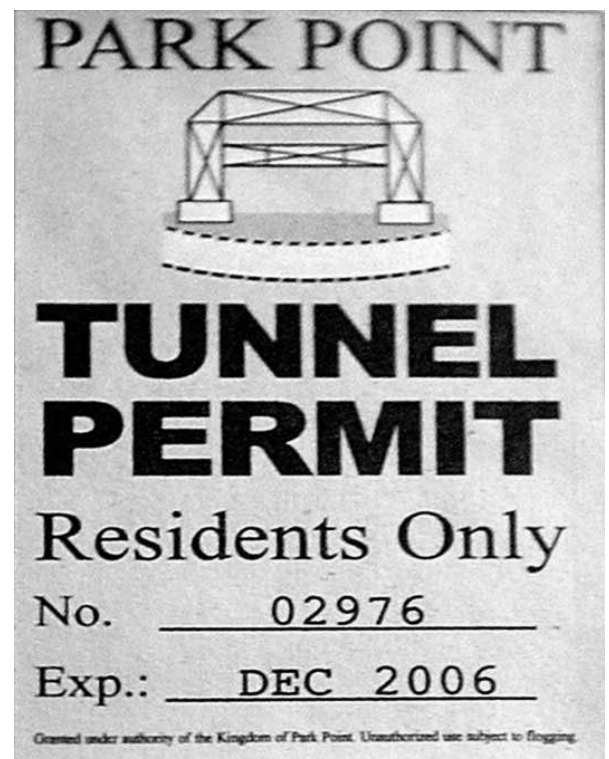
50-100 people - \$200.00

100-125 people - \$300.00

There is a damage deposit of \$100.00, which is refundable, after cleaning & inspection.

Hours available are 8:00 am - 10:00 pm

Contact: Missy LePage at
218-208-9545 or by e-mail at
ppccdhlh@gmail.com



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the opposite of faith is fear.
Doubt is the threshold to belief.*

When you ask someone who is an Episcopalian what they like about the Episcopal Church, inevitably you will hear, "I like that I can ask questions about my faith, any questions and that I don't have to leave my mind at the door."

As a new year begins, and faith, as well as doubt, is born anew, remember your questions about God, faith, hope and love are important to your journey.

We would love to be a part of your journey and explore all the questions you have about God and faith. Bring them along, experience the warm smiles and welcoming handshakes that let you know you are a part of a community committed to knowing, love and serving God.

**We hope you will join us, all are welcome
at St. Andrew's.**

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

2002 Minnesota Ave
722-3078

Fr. John Petrich,

BREAK STRANGLEHOLDS

Bill Parcels, a head coach for the National Football League, survived a heart attack which compelled him to abandon his bad habits and try to establish some healthier ones. He struggled to overcome a weakness for too much peanut butter. His nutritionist warned: "Change your thinking about peanut butter. Peanut butter is the devil. You can't bring him into your house." Parcels admitted that he slipped a few times, but later either avoided peanut butter in the first place or threw it away if he found any in his home.

What is your weakness? Where do you fall, and fall, and fall again? We all have our particular fault or – more likely – faults that appear to have a stranglehold on us. We must break those strangleholds, taking ourselves away from what tempts us, getting it out of our hearts and minds.

O God, whatever my age, I remain your child, a child that falls and sins again and again. I want to do better, but I know my intentions are not enough. Grant me your grace to change my ways. In Jesus, I pray.

Amen

Mass 8:00 AM every Sunday with confessions at 7:40



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Leegepa@brainerd.net

2014 Membership Drive: Please join the Park Point Community Club

HOW

Just fill out the Membership Form below, enclose your \$5 dues and mail to the Club. Or even better; bring it to the next PPCC meeting and pizza party, January 16 at LaFayette Community Center.

WHY JOIN

Your neighbors welcome and value your participation. It gives you a vote in all Park Point Community Club (PPCC) matters. And this Club matters: For decades, people like you have helped the PPCC do amazing things:

- protect and care for our Duluth parks and unique Park Point ecology
- offer a Summer Youth Program (formerly provided by the city)
- host a premiere annual Art Fair for 43 years that draws 10,000+ visitors
- host an annual Rummage Sale (Duluth's largest)
- create a forum for civil discussion and a stronger voice on a range of issues
- publish the Breeze newsletter 12 times/year and maintain parkpointcommunityclub.org and the S-Curve "postcard" message board
- renting out Lafayette Community Center and keeping the warming house open for ice skating
- much more—from sharing educational forums, gardening and neighborhood watch to welcoming new residents

Have other ideas? As a member, you can help shape the Club while supporting a non-profit 501c4 that keeps neighbors connected to each other and this place we call home.

More ways to get involved

1. Help recruit members on your block. Just grab some member forms and start door-knocking. Contact jakekapsner@yahoo.com for more info.
2. Join a PPCC Committee. See the list of committees on page 2. It's easy, informal and really helps.
3. Propose new activities, ideas or initiatives at our monthly meetings or via the Breeze or website.

Thank you—and may you have a healthy, involved New Year!

Jake Kapsner, PPCC Vice President

Park Point Community Club Membership Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Number of Memberships _____ X \$5.00 _____

Please mail checks to:
Park Point Community Club
PO Box 16326
Duluth MN 55816-0326

Winter-Time

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Late lies the wintry sun a-bed,
A frosty, fiery sleepy-head;
Blinks but an hour or two; and then,
A blood-red orange, sets again.

Before the stars have left the skies,
At morning in the dark I rise;
And shivering in my nakedness,
By the cold candle, bathe and dress.

Close by the jolly fire I sit
To warm my frozen bones a bit;
Or with a reindeer-sled, explore
The colder countries round the door.

When to go out, my nurse doth wrap
Me in my comforter and cap;
The cold wind burns my face, and blows
Its frosty pepper up my nose.

Black are my steps on silver sod;
Thick blows my frosty breath abroad;
And tree and house, and hill and lake,
Are frosted like a wedding-cake.



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Lafayette Community Edible Garden News

Community Edible Garden Events:

Sunday, January 19, 5 to 7 p.m., monthly potluck dinner at Lafayette Square. Troy Salzer, owner of Sandy Hills Ranch in Barnum, will speak to us about sustainable farming. He raises cows fed on a grass diet (as much as is possible), and also produces vegetables. Troy is also an Extension Horticulture educator.

Sunday, February 16, 5 to 7 p.m., monthly potluck dinner at Lafayette Square. Dr. John Pastor, a professor at UMD, will discuss climate change and its impact on northland forests and our gardens.

Save these dates for future monthly potluck dinners: March 16, April 27, May 18 or 19, June 23, July 21




A new year brings new opportunities to meet your neighbors, cultivate your gardening skills and grow community spirit. Our monthly potluck dinners are a perfect place to experience such opportunities.

Here's what one attendee at our December potluck dinner had to say about the event, "It was a very cold and icy night outside but inside the Lafayette center we had a warm and rousing time around the food and white elephant gift game. One of the highlights was Nancy Olson leading us in singing 'Rudolf the Red-Nose Reindeer'. It is hard to say who got to keep what they picked since it was encouraged to be a bit naughty and take the gift from your birthday month neighbor so you had to be there to see who was naughty and who was nice. Varied topics, conversations and ideas were shared among us. It was a warm event fueled by the great holiday foods. There was of course a beautiful array of holiday specialties with the Scandinavian treats outnumbering even the soups."


Think of participating in the community garden events as your one-stop-shop for having fun while learning a thing or two. Our monthly potluck dinners are open to all Park Pointers – you don't have to be a community garden member. However, membership does have its privileges, such as enjoying fresh-picked produce in the summer. For more information about the community garden or our events, contact Coral at 727-6455.



Photos from the Community Edible Garden Potluck & White Elephant Gift Exchange



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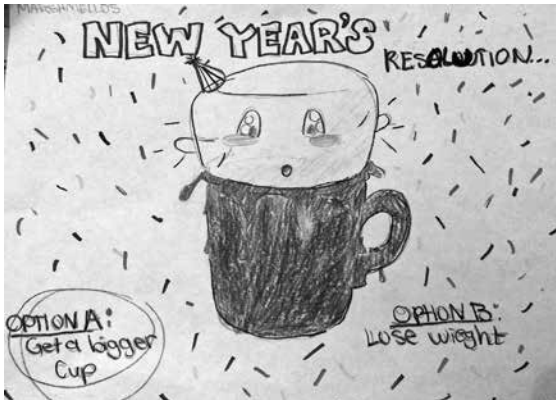
Duluth Native & Park Point Resident
23 years of experience

Calling all poets:

Submit an original poem or haiku to be featured on the S curve sign and in an upcoming issue of the Breeze.

Send to: ppbreezeeditor@gmail.com

Drawing by Sophia Kapsner



Is a **Reverse Mortgage** something *you* should consider?



A checklist to see if a **Reverse Mortgage** might make sense for you.

- Could you use extra cash or monthly income?
- Do you have quite a bit of equity in your home?
- Do you want to remain living in your home for as long as possible?
- Are there repairs or improvements you would like to make to your home?
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A wonderful drama reminiscent of an Aesop’s Fable story unfolded on our bay front during the Thanksgiving holiday. This one didn’t involve a fox and a goose---but had an otter and three crows as the principals. The stage was a tiny open water space amid the frozen inner harbor near the Sand Point Yacht Club at 19th.

Sandy Carlson, watching intensely from her window in a nearby apartment, told me the otter was lying contentedly on its back on the ice shelf...scratching its belly and enjoying a break from chasing fish under the ice. Three of our curious resident crows decided to fly into the scene and check out the rarely seen visitor. Though otter never “eat crow”, the birds discreetly stayed back a few feet and just stared. Not taking the intrusion any longer, the otter flipped over, sunk its claws into the ice, and lunged. The trio simply hopped out of range, the animal resumed its lazy composure, the birds moved closer, and the otter lunged at them again. Sandy said the action was repeated over and over in what she believes became just a game with no intent of harm by the players, just a bit of fun on a cold wintry morning.

Technically, where is the north end of Park Point? I have now lived sixty years of my life in Duluth but, if anyone asked, I couldn’t positively answer that question. I would assume, perhaps, that the peninsula begins after coming onto the Point from Canal Park. Geologically it could be argued, I suppose, that the northern “neck” should include all real estate south of Railroad Street. As a matter of pride, can we say that the Aerial Bridge traditionally “belongs” to Park Point? Excuse the pun, but in the final analysis, is the matter so trivial one could say it’s “point-less?”

Life below the bay ice...looking upon the barren stretches of snow covered, inanimate St. Louis Bay in the year’s coldest month, it’s hard to imagine any living thing under that mantel. Nevertheless, in the murky ooze lives, among other life, the future “flying jewels” to emerge in the spring. The nymphs of the dragonflies (with ancestors pre-dating dinosaurs by millions of years) will again charm us with their brilliant colors and aerial stunts.

In his excellent, thoroughly researched book, *Dragonflies of the North Woods*, Kurt Mead tells of being bitten on the flesh between his fingers while holding one of the larger specimens he had caught. The Finland, MN. resident fills his guidebook with great close-up photos of these insects. Older readers may remember parental warnings that a dragonfly, called the darning needle, sews children’s lips together if they lie. I had no idea that we have 102 species of them in our area. A few of them, including the Common Green Darner, migrate south in the fall and their offspring, like those of the Monarch butterfly, return in the spring.

No fox have been seen lately but a coyote was spotted walking on Lake Ave So at the height of the last big snowstorm.

Copy by Glenn Maxham with technical assistance from Anita Neinstadt



Winter is good - his Hoar Delights (1316)
by Emily Dickinson

Winter is good - his Hoar Delights
Italic flavor yield -

To Intellects inebriate
With Summer, or the World -

Generic as a Quarry
And hearty - as a Rose -

Invited with asperity
But welcome when he goes.

Call for Artists: 44th annual Park Point Art Fair

Be part of an inspiring celebration of arts, community and environment during the 44th annual PARK POINT ART FAIR on June 28-29, 2014. If you or someone you know wants to apply as a visual artist, please visit parkpointartfair.org or zapplication.org and submit work samples and payment by March 1, 2014. The application explains the requirements. If you have further questions, please contact us at coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

Focus groups: planning, staging and evaluating the 44th Park Point Art Fair

This year, as part of a grant through the Minnesota State Arts Board, we're stepping up every aspect of the Park Point Art Fair—and your feedback and participation is valued in making it happen.

If you'd like to participate in an Art Fair planning session, please contact Carla at coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

Meeting 1: If you've volunteered in any capacity for the Art Fair in past years, your insight is particularly welcomed at the first meeting, where we'll assess event logistics, including potential changes in the short and long term. Tentative date: 7pm Monday, Jan. 20 (email confirmation will be sent to those who RSVP)

Meeting 2: We'll host a session focused on marketing (word of mouth, social media) before the event and evaluating (via surveys) during and after the June 28-29 event. You need not have volunteered in the past to participate. This meeting may coincide with an Art Fair committee meeting. Date TBD; tentatively set for late April.

Meeting 3: After the art fair, we will host a session focused on evaluating all aspects of the event. Date TBD; tentatively set for mid July.

Learn more about the event at parkpointartfair.org (and look for exciting changes to the site in coming months.) Most importantly, thank you for volunteering your time, talent and energy to your Park Point Art Fair. It wouldn't exist, and do so much for our community, without your support.

Carla Tamburro, Art Fair Coordinator



Drawing by Anna Kapsner

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From the Editor:

Since one mission of the Breeze is “to provide a forum for Park Point residents to air their concerns,” this month we have a “letter to the editor.” Please note that this letter is provided to inform the neighborhood about a group that has formed to represent a point of view on the proposed development plans. The views of this letter do not necessarily represent the view of the Park Point Community Club on these issues.

For future reference, letters that are informative, relative to the greater neighborhood and presented in a fair and civil manner will be considered for the Breeze letter to the editor space. Please limit letters to 250 words and include contact information for follow-up questions.

As we are all aware, there are many differing opinions about the development proposals, but perhaps an open dialog will help us also find some common ground.

Natalija

Letters to the Editor:

The Park Point Neighborhood Coalition is a coalition of Park Point residents, homeowners and concerned citizens seeking to protect our Park Point neighborhood. We recognize that it is a unique and special place, and we recognize that it is important that the thousands of visitors we get each day should be funneled to the parks where there should be adequate resources. We are seeking additional members who support and are willing to advocate for the Coalition position. We are collectively dismayed by several facets of the final Park Point Small Area Plan and oppose two of the three major proposed changes. The proposed changes with respect to residential street ends are contrary to longstanding property rights and would be harmful to the environmental integrity, safety and property values of our community and simultaneously fail to produce a net increase in public good and betterment.

The Coalition supports:

- Maintaining Minnesota and Lake Ave in their current configuration, but support improvement of both to facilitate orderly traffic and access to and from the commercial development occurring from the Bridge to the S-Curve. City Consultants have already determined that the current configuration accommodates current and future traffic needs.

- Addition of bike paths to facilitate safe recreational biking for residents and tourists with minimum intrusion on private property

- Improvement of six identified existing public access facilities (Tier One), three on the Bay side and three on the Lake side, to facilitate access to the waterfront for recreation and water-sports including kayaking, canoeing and small boats. These Public Access points should include signage for beach access, rest room facilities, garbage receptacles and services, supervision by Parks and Recreational personnel and adequate City policing to maintain order and safety

- Continued informal access to the bay and lake by Park Point residents on street ends provided it is respectful of neighbors' privacy and homes.

The Coalition opposes:

- Reconfiguration of the S-Curve and re-routing of bridge traffic onto Minnesota Ave because of its negative effects on traffic congestion, commercial interests, and damage to current residents whose homes would be destroyed and/or devalued.

- Designation of additional public access points on residential street ends (Tier Two) as proposed by the Park Point Small Area Plan because of increased security risks to adjacent homes, negative environmental impact, markedly diminished residential privacy, decreased home values, unjust discriminatory impact, and lack of demonstrated public need and demand.

Our Coalition is growing and we are actively seeking membership, help and support from our neighbors living on Park Point. Please contact us at parkpointneighbors@gmail.com or call Brian Nelson at 218-393-3702 (please leave contact information if you get voice mail). Please do contact us and join us as we seek to improve public access and safety on Park Point without diminishing the property rights of our community.

Sincerely,

Brian Nelson 218-393-3702

The Breeze

Park Point Community Club

P.O. Box 16326

Duluth, MN 55816-0326



Park Point Resident

Numbers you can use

Got (non-emergency) issues you'd like to discuss, but don't know whom to call?

Here are some helpful contacts:

Community Police Officer Craig Lindberg 730-5727 clindberg@duluthmn.gov

Parks Maintenance Division: 730-4491 (after hours 730-4150)

City Councilor Sharla Gardner: 724-4701 sharla.gardner@gmail.com

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Ryan Novitzki • (218) 341-4948 • ryannovitzki@yahoo.com