



# The Breeze

## Of Park Point

### Upcoming Events

**Lafayette Community  
Edible Garden Potluck  
Tuesday, November  
12<sup>th</sup>, 6PM  
at Lafayette**

**High Water and  
Erosion Committee  
Meeting  
November 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30  
at Lafayette**

**Park Point  
Community Club  
Meeting  
November 19<sup>th</sup>  
Social at 6:30  
Meeting at 7PM  
at Lafayette**

**Park Point Garden  
Club Thursday  
November 21<sup>st</sup>, 7PM  
Contact: Kathy Jacobs  
722-2375  
All are Welcome**

**Park Point  
Convenience Store  
Focus Group  
December 10<sup>th</sup>, 6PM  
at the Fairfield Inn**

### **What's Next?**

## Survey Says:

Erosion and High Water Survey Results

| Total Surveys | Street |           |       | Side                 |          | #1 Adverse Effects/Damage |     | #2 Effects |                   |                      |                           |                          |                          |              | #3 Actions Taken |     |
|---------------|--------|-----------|-------|----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----|------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|-----|
|               | Lake   | Minnesota | Other | Lake Side            | Bay Side | Yes                       | No  | Erosion    | Water in Basement | Flooding of Property | Property Covered by Water | Beach Debris on Property | Washing away of Property | Other Issues | Yes              | No  |
| 95            | 33     | 58        | 3     | 53                   | 40       | 80                        | 15  | 51         | 53                | 37                   | 21                        | 32                       | 28                       | 22           | 65               | 30  |
|               |        |           |       | Lake Side            | Bay Side | 41                        | 12  | 25         | 28                | 15                   | 6                         | 14                       | 10                       | 13           | 30               | 23  |
|               |        |           |       | Lake Side            | Bay Side | 39                        | 3   | 26         | 25                | 22                   | 15                        | 18                       | 18                       | 9            | 35               | 7   |
|               |        |           |       | % of Total Responses |          | 84%                       | 16% | 54%        | 56%               | 39%                  | 22%                       | 34%                      | 29%                      | 23%          | 68%              | 32% |

## We've Got Problems!

The survey sent out with the September breeze received 95 responses by the September 30 deadline (a few more have come in since then). As could be expected, the majority of those responses (80) were from people who had suffered adverse effects to their property from high water. Some of those effects were predictable -water in basements, erosion of property on both sides of the point. And many residents have already taken mitigating actions on their own. Those dealing with water in basements have added sump pumps (27), had mold removal done (1), did landscaping work, such as fencing, sandbags and yard fill (5) or contacted DBS (Damp Basement Solutions), at quoted costs of \$20,000 -\$25,000.

On the erosion end, 12 have added riprap/rock, 15 have done landscaping work (stone, soil, sod, plantings), 3 have used sandbags, at least 1 has built a seawall, or worked to improve drainage. Costs incurred or estimated have ranged from \$10,000 up to \$55,000.

Along with the survey responses, there were a number of other concerns raised.

(continued on page 3)

## *The Breeze*

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

[breezeditor@msn.com](mailto:breezeditor@msn.com) 726-0110

Submissions for the December issue are due by 11/27/19

### **Park Point Community Club officers:**

**President: Dawn Buck**

[parkpointcc@gmail.com](mailto:parkpointcc@gmail.com)

525-1764

**Vice President: Tom Griggs**

3429 Minnesota Ave.

[Thom0313@gmail.com](mailto:Thom0313@gmail.com)

**Secretary: Sheryl Robins**

722 Minnesota Ave.

720-6518

**Treasurer: Al Robins**

722 Minnesota Ave

720-6518

### **Committees:**

**Art Fair: Carla Tamburro**

[coordinator@parkpointartfair.org](mailto:coordinator@parkpointartfair.org)

218-428-1916

**Rummage Sale: Dave**

**Lavamaki** [pointer12@q.com](mailto:pointer12@q.com)

729-8925

### **Hospitality:**

**Diane Gould** 727-4067

**Ted Buck** 525-1764

**Lafayette Square Rentals:**

**Chris Seversen, Parks Permit**

**Coordinator** 218-730-4305

[www.duluthmn.gov/parks/registration](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/registration)

**The Postcard: Dawn buck**

[parkpointcc@gmail.com](mailto:parkpointcc@gmail.com)

**Sunshine: Pam Griggs**

[pamgriggs101@gmail.com](mailto:pamgriggs101@gmail.com)

218-260-6032

**Park Point Community Club**

**P.O. Box 16326**

**Duluth, MN 55816-0326**

[www.parkpointcommunityclub.org](http://www.parkpointcommunityclub.org)

## **President's Report**

Hi Neighbors,

We opened the Oct. 15th meeting with some happy news about community service. The annual service award from the District Eight-Minnesota State Horticultural Society was awarded to Park Pointer Diane Gould. Diane is also the long serving hospitality chairperson of the PPCC and helps out in countless ways lifting spirits on Park Point and in the greater Twin Ports community. Congratulations, Diane!

Park Pointers' spirits are in need of a lift during these days of rising water, shrinking yards, and sheltering in place warnings. I have heard neighbors describing their stress about the unknown and their future lives on Park Point-worries about costs for mitigations and destruction repair and how to prepare for challenges ahead. Who is willing to help with the problems of too much water in the wrong places, ailing infrastructure, sewage on the street, failing storm drains, fetid standing water and ice from the sump pump discharges, pine forest and beach threatened, homes in peril, parks taken by rising waters, roadways threatened, docks, boats, planes damaged?

The inability to get home from work on stormy Monday, Oct. 21, due to high water in the street by the bridge was stressful indeed. Hoping all of you who were stranded, either on the island or off, fared well until the water retreated. Thanks to those who tended pets and kids until the road reopened and Park Pointers could get back to their homes and families. A huge thanks to those who were tasked with problem solving, taming the water, managing the traffic, and addressing safety concerns. A lot of stress on many fronts.

The Erosion and High Water Committee presented their data at the PPCC meeting on the 15th. Members present thanked the committee and asked them if they would be willing to continue to seek solutions & bring education on the matter to the membership. Committee members met with City leadership and department heads on Oct. 14th; State Senator Erik Simonson and Patricia Fowler with the DNR also attended the sharing of information meeting. The City is relining the sewer line on Park Point and is overseeing the creation of a rain garden at 19th. A grant application is in the works for FEMA coastal hazard funding which would be used for protecting public assets, including the first block of the beach past the bridge. Senator Simonson urged the City to seek funding for the infrastructure upgrades at the next legislative opportunity in February.

Facing the challenges of erosion and rising water levels, scientifically, collaboratively, and efficiently will be vital to maintaining the existence and integrity of our abundant coastline assets. A high degree of leadership from City officials will be necessary to face and solve the complex issues at hand. Park Pointers may be asked to provide data for the City's grant application, thanks in advance for your participation.

Onto another distressing issue-I had a text from a neighbor yesterday who was out walking her dog and discovered three hypodermic needles at Lafayette near the building on the basketball court side. The police responded quickly and picked up the needles. A bunch of little kids were at Lafayette for a party today; thanks to neighbors who pay attention and take action when seeing a problem. Remember to dial 911 right away if you see suspicious activity. Hoping your winter preparations are going well! It's about time to get that snow blower prepped for the season and pull out the woolen garments.

See you out and about on our extraordinary yet shrinking island,

Dawn & Bruno, newly adopted furry canine companion

### **(Problems, from page 1)**

Those included: Loss/ reduction of property value, Dune reduction, Effects on public/city property, resulting in impaired aesthetics/enjoyment/tourism, loss of beach and unappealing nature of beach. Then there's the lack of an accurate/consistent permitting process, and accurate, legal, available property protection options from the City, DNR and Corps of Engineers. There's also a lack of accurate information regarding availability and efficacy of flood insurance. With Winter approaching there are concerns about ice accumulation on sidewalks and streets from properties pumping out water and inadequate street drainage, as well as loss of animal/bird habitat and the dangers of growing dune height, and the proximity of beach fires due to the narrowness of the beach.

So, lots of problems. Where do we go from here? The High Water and Erosion Committee continues to meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month (next meeting November 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM at Lafayette). The committee has met, and continues to be in contact with City, DNR and Corps of Engineers officials. Finding solutions will not be easy, but finding accurate information should be possible, such as what we can do, individually or as a community, and what help, if any, we can expect from various levels of government or government agencies. If you like to get involved, consider attending a committee meeting.

### **News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden**

We had a full house of convivial potluckers at our October 14 dinner meeting. We shared fabulous food, gave out beautiful pumpkins and learned all about the start-up and rise to fame of Essex Farm and its Institute on Lake Chaplain in upstate New York. Liz Wilson was our speaker. In 1999, Liz met a young couple starting a CSA farm in Essex-on-Lake Champlain, New York. She became their first volunteer where she honed her skills washing bottles and cooking the noontime meal for all the farm workers. Liz talked about the natural beauty of the region, the historic charm of the town of Essex, and how hard everyone worked at the farm. Essex Farm has since grown into an enormous operation and has inspired other folks in the region to expand farming endeavors. Today, it is easy for habitants of the area to really eat 100% local year-round. Essex Farm also runs an institute to train would-be farmers with the skills they need to be successful.

Our speaker on November 12 will be Duluth News Tribune food writer Bonnie Ambrosi. Her talk "Why Vegan?" will explore the three main reasons why people choose a plant-based diet: health, the environment, and animal welfare. Bonnie will share tips on how easy it is to steer your diet in a vegan direction!

Coral McDonnell is the contact person for folks interested in our community garden and potluck dinners. She can be contacted at 727-6455, coraljean@charter.net. Our monthly potluck dinners are FREE and open to all Park Pointers. They take place at the Lafayette Community Club. Please bring your own plates, silverware, beverage and a dish to share.

**We Need Your Leaves:**

Our compost bins are dwindling. When you rake up your leaves this fall, consider bagging them up and bringing them to the community garden. Just pop the bags inside the fence and the gardeners will do the rest. The Lafayette Community Edible Garden is located at Lafayette Square next to the tennis courts.

**Upcoming Events:**

November 12, 6 p.m., Monthly potluck dinner and program by Bonnie Ambrosi about the joys of eating vegan. NOTE DATE CHANGE TO TUESDAY INSTEAD OF MONDAY FOR THIS MEETING ONLY. Tuesday,

Submitted by Susan Peters

## **Park Point community Club Minutes**

The October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Park Point Community Club meeting was called to order by Dawn Buck, President, at 7:00 pm. The regular business meeting agenda was suspended to accommodate speaker, Benita Crowe, SHE engineer. Benita brought the club up to date on the progress of the Sky Harbor Airport Project. The project has reached Phase #3. This is the third and final Phase of the project. Prep work is being done at this time. Next summer, the permanent runway will be constructed. Brian Madsen from Sky Harbor Airport says progress of Phase 3 can be seen on Sky Harbor Facebook page.

Diane Gould was presented a Garden Club Award from the Minnesota Horticultural District 8 Community Service Award. The award was given to Diane for her great garden club work. Congratulations, Diane.

The committee working on the erosion and high water problems put together a survey which was sent with each Breeze. The results were read at the meeting. Results of this survey can be found in the Breeze. Gale Kerns met with the City of Duluth and discussed the results with them. Dale said if anyone is interested in attending the committee meetings, they meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at Lafayette Square.

### **Business Agenda**

#### **Approval of minutes for September, 2019 meeting**

There was a correction noted to the meeting minutes. The Park Point Art Fair will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year and not the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as they appeared in the Breeze with the exception of the above amendment. Remaining membership votes were all ayes.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Al Robins**

|                   |                                   |          |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Beginning Balance | September 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2019  | \$29,536 |
| Ending Balance    | September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2019 | \$28,388 |

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as given by Al Robins.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Art Fair Committee – Carla Tamburro**

Jake Kapsner invited anyone that might be interested in attending the committee meeting to come to a meeting they will be having on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

#### **Breeze – Alan Dartanyan**

Going well at this time

#### **Environmental Committee – Dick Gould**

Nothing new to report. Dick has seen 4 deer, several foxes & etc.

#### **Hospitality Committee – Diane Gould and Ted Buck**

Thank you for providing refreshments at the meeting. The cookies and apples were great and truly appreciated.

#### **Neighborhood Watch Committee – All present**

It was brought up at the meeting that there is an increase in people sleeping in their vehicles on the Point. Also, another incident was mentioned where there is an increase in people wandering around on the Point. As per information from previous meetings where Police Officers were present, call 911 when you see these types of activities happening.

FYI – the Army Corp of Engineers are pumping sand onto the beach to help restore the beach surface.

#### **Program Committee – David Poulin**

David asked if anyone knew of program information meeting ideas to please contact him.

#### **Rummage Sale – David Lavamaki**

Nothing new to report.

#### **Summer Youth Program – Rhonda Strum and Carrie Spear**

Sally Buck has passed her organizing skills to Carrie Spear. I hope the name has been spelling correctly. Welcome, Carrie. The Summer Youth Program for last summer went very nicely. The program made a profit this year with the help of everyone involved. Attendance was up, comments were good. Thank You.

(Continued next page)

**(minutes, continued)**

**Sunshine Committee** – Pam Griggs

Cards sent out last month included 1 sympathy card, 1 get well card and 1 congratulation card.

Old Business

Nothing new to discuss.

**New Business**

There will be no Park Point Community Club meeting in December due to increased activities for all during this season. A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. The remaining membership vote were all ayes.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. Remaining membership votes were all ayes.

Submitted by Sheryl Robins

### **Environmental Report**

The water is at an all- time high and the wind keeps blowing! Proof that Mother Nature is in control. One good thing about the high water is that it got rid of a lot of mice on the bay side!

We have a lot of birds going thru on migration, Eagles, Hawks and other large raptors, watch out for your cats and small pets.

Have a good Thanksgiving!

Dick Gould

### **Park Point Convenience Store Focus Group**

#### **FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES WATERFRONT**

Hello neighbors! We are inviting fellow Park Pointers to join us for a discussion on ways to make the hotel's convenience store more useful for everyone. We would love to hear any and all ideas on products you would like to see in the store. Our goal is to provide a convenient store that can be utilized by the community. Please join us Tuesday December 10th, 2019 at 6:00 PM at the hotel. We will provide snacks and refreshments. Also, all participants will be entered in a drawing for a gift certificate for a free room night at the Duluth property.

If you have any questions, concerns, comments or you would like to attend please reach out to Ellen Betzold by phone 218.722.6001 or email [ebetzold@golderhospitality.com](mailto:ebetzold@golderhospitality.com).

Fairfield Inn and Suites  
1000 Minnesota Avenue  
Duluth MN 55802

Need music? Call: (218) 606-1670



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*Park Point Residents*

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knowing, loving, and serving God  
and neighbor!*

**Worship—What Is It?**

**A communal spiritual practice** that deepens our hearts in the Way of Love, leads us to share one another's joys and tough times and transforms us to walk in love in our daily lives.

**Special Worship Events**

**November 10, 9:45**

**Veteran's Day worship**

**December 1, 9:45**

**St. Andrew's Day (Amazing Grace,  
bagpipes and scones)**

The Rev. Marta Maddy  
Sunday Eucharist Service: 9:45 a.m.  
[standrewsbythelake.org](http://standrewsbythelake.org)  
2802 Minnesota Ave 218-727-1262  
[standrewsbythelakeduluth@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsbythelakeduluth@gmail.com)  
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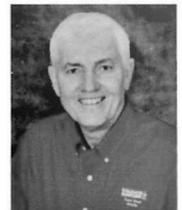
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Duluth, MN 55812



**DOCK 5 Open Studio**  
 2311 Minnesota Ave  
 Saturday November 30th  
 11:00-3:00

ARROWHEAD REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

You're invited to visit the DOCK 5 studio to celebrate the culmination of my Career Development Grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council.

A series new designs will be featured along with a storyboard showing of the creative process of making a Kingfisher sling bag.

Shop local on Small Business Saturday!  
[www.dock-5.com](http://www.dock-5.com)

This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to appropriations from The McKnight Foundation and the Minnesota State Legislature's general and arts and cultural heritage funds.



Interested in being more involved with the Park Point Art Fair? The committee is looking for new people to join and help planning for our 50th annual event. Big deal! Big ideas? Join us. Call Carla Tamburro 218-348-7338

**Welcome little puppy pooper to our neighborhood,**

You're so happy and we know you are good,  
 One thing though you can help us so, when you have to go,  
 Look your owner in the eye and say "please make this pile go bye-bye".  
 It's only fair to keep it clean, and keep the poop from being seen.

POOP ALERT! 33rd to 36th St on the Lake side.  
 Please pick it up.

--  
**Thanks**

Tom Griggs

## *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

Public Works and Utilities 24 hr. emergency contact numbers:

Natural Gas 730-4100, Streets, Water & Sewer 730-4000

Lift Bridge Supervisor Dave Campbell 723-3387

Community Police Officer Ethan Roe 218-730- 5747 [eroe@duluthmn.gov](mailto:eroe@duluthmn.gov)

Dog issues: [clane@duluthmn.gov](mailto:clane@duluthmn.gov)

City Councilor Em Westerlund (218) 355-1137 [ewesterlund@duluthmn.gov](mailto:ewesterlund@duluthmn.gov)

### **"Trim a Hedge, Clean a Gutter"**

The Breeze Editor was contacted recently by a resident who suggested we remind Pointers once again about the need to keep hedges, trees and other brush cut back well away from the sidewalk in front of our homes. Two feet back, inf fact, according to City ordinance. Plant-free sidewalks also make it much easier to clear snow and ice in winter. Sec. 35-30 (b) of the City Code further requires that tree limbs and shrubs must be "so trimmed by the owner...that there is a clear height of 14 feet over...the easement that is used for vehicular traffic, and a clear height of ten feet over that portion of such easement used for pedestrian travel." Are you in compliance? Scratched-up leather coats and bare arms, as well as the high number of footpaths that extend into the boulevard section, forcing young bicyclists and walkers into the street) indicated that many of us are not. Please cut back your shrubs for the safety and convenience of your neighbors!

And while we're nitpicking...City Ordinance #45-98 states that "Every person, whether owner, tenant, occupant or agent (living) wherein is located a culvert, drain, pipe, or main...shall keep and maintain the same continually in a state of good repair." This means that keeping your curb gutters and storm drains clear of debris is not only good environmental policy, it's the law!

**(This article, by Natalija WalBridge and Ellen Dunlap, was originally printed in November 2017. It's being reprinted here, because, well, it bears repeating)**

