



The Breeze

Of Park Point

**Park Point
Community Club
Meeting**
Tuesday, April 17th
Social 6:30 p.m.
meeting 7 p.m.

**Park Point Garden
Club Thursday**
April 26th
Contact: Liz Mackay
727-1834

**Lafayette Community
Edible Garden Club
Meeting and Potluck**
April 15, 5p.m.

**Run Smelt Run
Smelt Parade**
May 13th
In Canal Park

**Park Point Rummage
Sale**
June 8 & 9

Park Point Art Fair
June 23 & 24

Park Point 5-Miler
July 12th

Waiting Outside the Washroom Doors



City crews and contractors are putting the finishing touches on a long awaited project: new, outside accessible washrooms at Lafayette Square. I can't even remember when this project was first proposed. But it seems like there were an extraordinary number of hoops that had to be jumped through to bring it to this point. Of course finding funding for any city project can be challenging, but in pursuing this one, questions were raised as to whether the city even had clear title to the property, which was, I believe, Duluth's first city park. Then there was a discussion of how, or if, the washrooms should be designated. In the end, it was decided they shouldn't be. We will simply have two either sex washrooms, so you may use whichever one's unoccupied.

Then the construction itself presented its own challenges, with no road access to the rear of the building. Though a temporary route was cleared along the south side of the building, much of the building material had to be lifted with a large crane over the top of the building. Even the concrete for the floors was pumped through a huge snorkel over the top.

But now we're almost there, and soon beachgoers, dog walkers and other visitors will have a place to "go", rather than using the dunes or neighbor's back yards!

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

breezeditor@msn.com 726-0110

Submissions for the April issue are due by
4/27/18

Park Point Community Club officers:

President: Dawn Buck

parkpointcc@gmail.com

525-1764

Vice President: Tom Griggs

3429 Minnesota Ave.

Thom0313@gmail.com

Secretary: Sheryl Robins

722 Minnesota Ave.

720-6518

Treasurer: Al Robbins

722 Minnesota Ave

720-6518

Committees:

Art Fair: Carla Tamburro

coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

218-428-1916

Rummage Sale: Dave Lavamaki

pointer12@q.com

729-8925

Hospitality:

Diane Gould 727-4067

Ted Buck 525-1764

Lafayette Square Rentals:

Missy Steichen

ppccdih@gmail.com

218-208-9545

The Postcard: Dawn buck

parkpointcc@gmail.com

Sunshine: Pam Griggs

pamgriggs101@gmail.com

218-260-6032

Park Point Community Club

P.O. Box 16326

Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

President's Report

Hi Neighbors,

Three members of the Minnesota Point Preservation Society and I met with Dale Sellner, City of Duluth Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, on March 20. Good news for Park Point! The boardwalk at the 12th Street beach will be replaced, a cement pad poured for porta-potties and new signage installed. New garbage cans and recycling bins are also planned and the "Park Rangers" will also take on more park related responsibilities. Thanks to Dale for sharing the plans for updates and for his willingness to collaborate on future improvements on Park Point. If you are interested in learning more about what is going on with Duluth's parks, you might want to attend the Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Meeting on April 11th at 4:30pm, Spirit Mountain Grand Avenue Chalet, 8551 Grand Ave.

Dale mentioned that the annual cost to the city for dog waste bags is \$7500. Park Pointers have mentioned at the club meetings that loose dogs and dog waste on the beach are a problem. Dale said that these concerns have been mentioned as challenges in parks across the entire city. Now that the snow is receding on the beach, you can see the remnants of irresponsible and/or oblivious dog owners. Thanks to all who byo bags and pick up after their own and other walkers' dogs.

Cindy Hakala from Starry Skies Lake Superior shared information on light pollution at the March 20 meeting, learn more here: www.StarrySkiesLS.org. "Celebrate the Night Sky Week" is planned for Sept. 16-22,2018.

Thanks to Nick Smith, a Duluthian & member of Fond du Lac who spoke at St. Andrews last week on the history of native Americans on Park Point and in the Duluth area. He has heard that Park Point was "settled by the Irish" and neighbors were eager to hear the real story.

With spring in the air, hoping to see you out and about our fair baymouth bar. I heard the first geese honking of the year on Monday, 3/26, early morning while watching a glorious sunrise. My friend the owl is now pestered by the crows who I have seen flying around with twigs the past three mornings. I hear the cardinals at 37th and 29th so the one that hit my window (a trauma) a few weeks back was not the only one around. I have since learned that he was a teenage cardinal, his beak was not black yet. I have my new strike prevent system in place.

Wishing you a happy spring and congratulations on having persevered to longer and brighter days,

Dawn & Klaus, canine companion

The March 20, 2018 Park Point Community Club Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Dawn Buck, president. The normal business meeting agenda was suspended due to speakers Cindy Hakala and Tim Chaney.

Cindy Hakala, Starry Skies Lake Superior, Chapter 10A, was the program speaker for the meeting. She spoke on light pollution in the Twin Ports. The business is a 501C3 and have been in business for 3 years. She described light pollution as wasted light, glare, sky glow & etc. The effects of this pollution impedes our sky view, effects wildlife, interrupts sleep cycles & etc. Their organization educates the population about the negatives of light pollution. A partial list of what we can do to avoid a problem is to use only lights as needed, using energy efficient bulbs, install motion detector lights as opposed to continuous lighting and install property shielding to direct the light source down rather than upwards. For future information about Starry Skies, their website address is <https://starryskiesls.org>.

Second speaker was Tm Chaney from the Duluth Police Department. He is assigned the Duluth downtown and Park Point area. He did not have any specific problems with illegal activity on the Point. He suggested you know your neighbors and keep up on happenings in your neighborhood. Again, he said to call 911 if you needed to report problems.

Minutes approved from February 20, 2018 meeting

Motion was made and seconded to approve as written in the Breeze. Remaining membership votes were all ayes

Treasurer's Report – Al Robins Beginning balance: \$17,940

Motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report as given by Al Robins. Remaining membership votes were all ayes.

Committee Reports

Art Fair Committee – Carla Tamburro. Nothing to report

Breeze Committee – Alan Dartanyan. Alan is the new Breeze editor. Alan reported at this time all was okay.

Environmental Committee – Dick Gould. Large raccoon on the Point. Also, it was reported a wolf sighting at 17th and 32nd Sts.

Hospitality Committee – Diane Gould and Ted Buck. Thank You Ted for supplying the treats for the meeting. They were super

Neighborhood Watch Committee – All present. Nothing to report.

Rummage Sale Committee – David Lavamaki. June 8th and 9th are the dates.

Summer Youth Program – Sally Buck and Rhonda Strum. A grant from the City of Duluth has been applied for. A first vote for spending up to \$2000 for expenses was taken. Motion was made and seconded to approve the cost. The remaining membership votes were all ayes.

Sunshine Committee – Pam Griggs. Nothing to report

Old Business: A second vote was taken to approve up to \$400 for the yearly tree planting project. The remaining membership votes were all ayes.

Pamela Paige from the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation told of upcoming summer events with Parks and Rec. For more detailed information, look on Parks and Rec website.

New Business: Jim Ouray, director of the Run Smelt Run event, requested \$250 to help defray costs for the event. A motion was made and seconded to accept this request. Remaining membership votes were all ayes. Then, it was requested the dollar amount be reduced to \$150. An amended motion was made and seconded, to support the project for \$150. The remaining membership votes were split. Two members said they wanted to support the project for \$250. Another motion was made and seconded, to support the project for \$250. The remaining membership votes were all ayes.

There was discussion on forming an audit committee for the Park Point Community Club finances last year. Three members offered their services to confirm an audit was done according to our bylaws.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the March, 2018 Park Point Community Club meeting at 8:35 PM. The remaining membership votes were all ayes.

Editor's Corner



I guess my "corner" is just going to keep bouncing around until I find a proper home for it. Lots of things I could write this month, but first I have to clear up something from the last issue: **The Membership list I printed last month was not complete (and it contained a few spelling errors.) If you didn't see your name, and want to make sure your membership form was received, (and that they got your name right) you can contact Vice President Tom Griggs (head of the Membership Committee) or Treasurer Al Robins (he who counts and records all those membership fees). Their records are a lot more accurate than mine. And remember, just because our "official" membership drive is over, that doesn't mean you can't still join this year. We'll take your money any time you want to give it.**

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

At our March 18 potluck dinner meeting, we were joined by two of our favorite local gardeners: Michael Gabler and Kristin Stuchis. Michael got us to sing along to his kohlrabi song to celebrate it as the vegetable of the year. They talked about the importance of saving seeds. Some are easy to save and some are more difficult. They also advised us that the Seed Saver Exchange program is now up and running again at the Duluth Public Library. You can pick up seeds and bring some of your saved seeds. They gave us some kohlrabi and other green veggie seeds to add to our collection. In return for having them come to teach us, we agreed that we would spend some time helping at the Hillside Public Orchard this year. The first day we do that will be May 5 between 2 and 4 p.m.

On April 15, we will gather once again for a potluck dinner and program. This night Mike Lo, Head of the Home Depot Gardening Department, will be our guest speaker. Mike's Topic will be "What's New in the Gardening World?". Also, if you have problems with your garden, Mike will be happy to make suggestions to make your garden grow. Mike has been an active and prolific gardener since age 4. His first full time job at age 15 was as a head gardener on a private estate in central Wisconsin. The lessons learned there have stayed with him his whole life. He moved to Minneapolis in his early 20's to work for wholesale growers and floral wholesalers. He has worked for Home Depot for the last 21 years, sharing garden knowledge the whole time.

All Park Pointers are invited to our events. For more information, or if you are interested in becoming a member, contact Coral 727-6455, coraljean@charter.net

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, April 15, 5 p.m. monthly potluck dinner and meeting.

Sunday, April 22, EARTH DAY. Join Earth Day Network to help end plastic pollution. Plastic is threatening our planet's survival, from poisoning and injuring marine life to disrupting human hormones, from littering our beaches and landscapes to clogging our streams and landfills. Together, we can make a difference.

Registration Open for Park Point Community Club Summer Youth Program

The Park Point Summer Youth Program registration is now open. Registration forms are posted on the PPCC website. Please remember space is limited, giving first priority to Park Point Residents, relatives of Park Pointers. Confirmation will be sent as registrations are received. Payment due upon first day of attendance.

The 2017 program staff are returning, Kevin Chederquist and Karen Boynton. Kevin is a teacher at Duluth Denfeld High School and Karen is a student at UMD studying education. They have many fun ideas for summer and are excited lead the program again this year.

The Summer Youth program is for ages 5 years old (completed Kindergarten) thru 12 years old and kids who want to have an especially amazing action packed super summer from June 11th thru August 9th, (CLOSED July 4th). The Program opens at 8:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday at the Lafayette Club House at 3026 Minnesota Ave. Plan to spend the entire summer or just a few weeks or days, the choice is yours. The Program includes gardening at the PP Edible Garden, going to the Beach, field trips, educational sessions, crafts and activities at Lafayette Community Center.

The cost for the nine week program is \$500.00 for the first child per family, \$425.00 for any child thereafter, same family or \$100 per week and \$30 per day. Field trip costs are additional and typically run \$5-\$10. The kids ride the DTA, but the fee is included in registration. A survey of grandparents and parents indicated that the 2017 Program was positively received with parents supporting the flexibility of staff, open play and hours.

Questions, please contact Sally Buck at timnsalbuck@gmail.com or <http://www.parkpointcommunityclub.org/>



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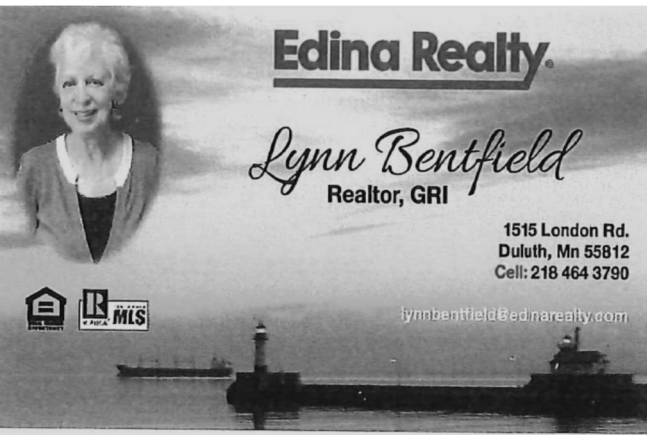
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**We are a people on the
Way to knowing, loving,
and serving God and
Neighbor**

Keep Out! No Trespassing!

For Members Only! No Loitering!

We have all seen signs like this encouraging us to move along. Signs designed to exclude and keep people away. It is the desire of the St. Andrew's community to take the opposite approach. We want our "signs" to read: All are welcome here! Feel free to walk on our

lawn, sit on our benches!

To support this vision of an open and inclusive community, starting in late April (weather permitting) St. Andrew's will begin a landscaping project to make the outside area in front of the church a welcoming space for all to enjoy. We are excited and hope you will be too!

The recent meetings with members of the Park Point Community Club elicited the following response from City Councilor Em Westerlund

Dear Dawn and PPCC members,

Thank you for your letter and for our meeting last month at Lyric. I appreciated having the opportunity to connect with you directly about your concerns. It's always fun to get together, whether it be at National Night Out, city-hosted events, or at Park Point Community Club meetings.

Since I received your letter the week of February 26th, I have been carrying forward your inquiries to the appropriate city staff members who will be able to respond to them directly. I have directed your questions about the status of South Lake Avenue to our streets maintenance division. They may not be able to provide you with a specific date when patchwork will be done, but I know that already crews are conducting routine maintenance across the city. You also inquired about the long term timeline for street repairs on Park Point. As you may be aware, the dedicated sales tax for streets is currently being debated at the Minnesota legislature. Should that tax be approved, the city will be on a much firmer footing to begin work on deferred maintenance across the city, including Park Point.

Regarding infrastructure, sediment in the water, and sewer lines, the Public Utilities Commission is currently studying a new grant incentive program to help homeowners who wish to replace their sewer lateral lines. These laterals are a key source of the sewage overflows that have been plaguing Park Point, and replacing them proactively is one piece of the puzzle. Your other questions require more technical expertise than I possess but I am confident that city staff will be able to address your concerns that you have expressed.

The erosion that you describe is a concern, especially in a climate that continues to change. As more intense storm events come more often, our city needs to invest in resiliency efforts that will protect our public amenities. Private homeowners will also need to invest in mitigation efforts that will protect their private property from damage. Minnesota Sea Grant is a great resource for those affected homeowners. I recommend that you refer folks to Tom Beery, who is an expert in this area and eager to help folks impacted by these issues. His contact information is

here: <http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/about/tom><http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/about/tom>

I appreciate your invitation to attend PPCC meetings. I have made efforts to attend whenever I can, and I will continue to do so as my schedule allows. I have enjoyed the meetings I have been able to attend and always appreciate the chance to connect directly with Park Point residents. While my schedule precludes my attendance this month, I have the PPCC meetings noted on my calendar every month and commit to attending again as soon as my schedule allows.

Also, as you may be aware, Mayor Larson and I will be co-hosting our City Hall in the City event at Lafayette on June 20, and it is my hope that many residents will turn out. Often city staff ranging from Public Works to Duluth Police Department to Duluth Fire Department to the Planning Division come along.

Please know you are always welcome to contact me via phone or email with your concerns and I will do my best to lift them up to the city staff members who have the technical expertise to respond. I will also convey your concerns to members of the administration as appropriate. It is my privilege to be your district representative on the council. Please continue to reach out and share your thoughts, ideas, and concerns with me and I will do my best to respond to them in a timely and thoughtful manner.

Sincerely yours,

Em

Em Westerlund

Duluth City Councilor, District 3

ewesterlund@duluthmn.gov

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 Sargent Gayle Holton 730-5625 (cell 390-2266) or email gholton@duluthmn.gov

Dog issues: clane@duluthmn.gov

City Coucilor Em Westerlund (218) 355-1137 ewesterlund@duluthmn.gov

A Sure Sign of Spring



Dennis Hoelsher sent this picture of the Coast Guard boat USS Alder, looking more like a zamboni on ice than a ship on the water. But it was breaking a path through the ice, and the Lakers are moving out on the lake, though I haven't seen a "Saltie" yet



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body, a peaceful mind
and a useful life."
-Swami Satchidananda

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