



The Breeze

Of Park Point

Upcoming Events

**Park Point
Community Club**
doesn't usually meet in
December, so I don't
imagine we'll ZOOM
either

**Lafayette Edible
Garden**
Nothing Scheduled at
this time

**Park Point Garden
Club**
No Christmas Party
No gifts
No Cookie Plates
Have a Safe Holiday
Season
Contact:
JoAnn Ellison
727-5757

Meeting with Police
Chief Mike Tusken on
Park Point Concerns
January 19th, 5:30 PM
Details to follow

Sky Harbor
stakeholders meeting
January 21 on ZOOM

**All I want for
Christmas is a
good vaccine!**



These are most – but not quite all – of the whimsical and inspirational COVID rocks painted and left out for everyone to take by Lynn Ziemski in front of her Park Point home. A new design was offered each Tuesday through the Summer and Fall, and we hurried down to try to get ours each week before they were gone. Some of them came to rest in our flower gardens, others on window sills and table tops, but all of them added just a little bit of joy to a bleak year.

This is just one of the many efforts made by Park Point residents to brighten our days, like putting up extra holiday decorations to posting signs of support and banging pots and pans for Health care workers, all designed to bring smiles to the eyes above our masks.

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

breezeditor@msn.com 726-0110

Submissions for the January issue are due by 12/27/20

Park Point Community Club

officers:

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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 Robins

722 Minnesota Ave

720-6518

Committees:

Art Fair: Carla Tamburro

coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

218-348-7338

Rummage Sale: Dave

Lavamaki 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

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,

Hoping this note finds you well, wearing a mask and thinking about how we all affect each other's lives every day, whether we like it or not. This fall, the turkey was petite, the gatherings smaller and eye strain from Zoom meetings and online life more profound. Despite the challenges of the current human condition, joy can be found and that's a really good thing. We met a young visitor from Pennsylvania on the beach this morning who was entranced with the beauty and splendor of our daily backdrop; his joy sparked a surge of gratitude for our extraordinary lives on Park Point. He liked our wagging little group of dogs, too.

A note of sincere gratitude for the neighbors who worked at Lafayette polling place on November 3rd. Deb Strange led a crew of newer election judges who had a long day of facilitating our democratic process. Thank you for providing a smooth and safe process for our engaged community during this global pandemic.

Our annual January Membership pizza party has been postponed and instead, mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 19th at 5:30pm, when Mike Tusken of the Duluth Police Department will check in with Park Pointers on improving safety in our community. Watch for details on the website and in your email. To receive community emails, consider joining the community club, and send your email address to parkpointcc@gmail.com. The annual membership fee of ten dollars helps pay for The Breeze, the only community newsletter in Duluth that is delivered to each home, organization & business by neighborhood volunteers. Contact the Vice President, Tom Griggs, if you would like to join or have questions. A membership form will be in The Breeze and on the website, parkpointcommunityclub.org. Club elections will take place in May; contact members of the executive board if you are interested in a community volunteer position with the PPCC.

The Exec. Board hosted the second PPCC Zoom meeting on the 17th. Again, thanks for working through the delays and glitches that accompany these virtual platforms. City Councilor Arik Forsman joined the meeting to check in with us and hear what is on neighbors' minds.

We heard from a neighbor near 11th about post beach restoration observations: shredded aluminum cans, small shards of aluminum, clay like material, oily deposits. Four Erosion and High Water committee members and a representative from the USACE walked the area with the neighbor on 11/19 to see what was on the beach and see if the debris is an unintentional consequence of the project. (If you have not been following the project, the City of Duluth requested that dredged material from the USACE be used to nourish the Minnesota Point shoreline in 2020 to temporarily restore eroded beach and dune habitat. The beach in the stretch was previously restored using dredged materials in 1962 and 1996.) City leaders and the USACE are aware of the concerns raised, have seen the materials collected and are taking a serious look at the issues identified.

A few questions I was thinking about after hearing the concerns raised at the meeting:

(Continued next page)

(President's Report Continued)

- How can beach restoration processes using dredged materials on Lake Superior shores be improved? What are the other options, who is responsible for the development and who will pay for them? What data will be needed/helpful to develop long term management strategies?
- How much of this sharp aluminum is there and will more be uncovered after storm surges? How to get this material off of the beach? Signage to warn beach goers?
- Where exactly did the cans come from? Evidence/ timeline suggests that it came along unintentionally with the dredgings added to the beach. How else could it have arrived?

Who is responsible and now what??

A community clean effort up may be in order if the shredded cans and shards continue to reappear after lake surges. When you are down in that area of the neighborhood (canal to 18th), would you be willing to pick up beach trash and report back (with photos if possible) of where you are finding debris & what kind of trash is going in your bucket or bag? Be careful with the sharp items; gloves are a good idea. Thank you for your continued stewardship of the park. Another neighbor at the meeting reported that a successful rain garden at 19th is reducing the amount of sump pump discharge into the street. Water flowing into the street and infrastructure questions have been another area of focus for the EHWC.

The Erosion & High Water Committee volunteers will be asking questions, seeking answers and will continue collaborating with city officials, USACE, relevant agencies, scientists, stakeholders, and legislators. Chairperson Hamilton Smith is at 218-343-2600 if you have questions or are seeking information on what the committee has learned.

We are grateful for neighbors and visitors who care deeply about the shores and waters of Lake Superior, sources of joy and awe for everyone.

Wishing you peace, strength and good health; see you out and about,
Dawn & Bruno, Stealthy Butter Snatching Canine Companion

News from the Erosion and High Water Committee

As stated in the Nov. Issue of the Breeze, the EHWC was asked by, the City of Duluth and the USACE, to reach out to the residents of Park Point whose property was adjacent to the areas where the 2020 Beach Nourishment occurred and the proposed 2021 B N is planned. Three members of our committee distributed letters to the two different area of concern asking for their feedback. That info has been sent back to the City of Duluth and the USACE. Thirteen people from eleven different households responded. While most were positive, there were some that raised a few issues that our committee is planning to address.

Four members of our committee joined resident Jan Karon, and Corey Westin from the USACE, to inspect the beach from the Bridge to about 15th ST. To see for ourselves some of the concerns raised. Paul Treuer wrote a full report explaining what we observed. That report is available on the PPCC website.

Paul and I each took, individually, a walk to the south end of the point. That is an area where B N was done in 2019. We were looking specifically for the same signs of those issue raised by some residents close to the 2020 B N project. Thankfully we saw no evidence of those issue in the 2019 project area.

On my tour of the Point, I was specifically observing those area where last year there were considerable areas of standing water at the curb where the storm sewer drainage occurs. There seems to be much less this year than last year. The City had a crew down on the Point this Summer trying to address this issue. I observed them working on the 16th St. Street end where the Bus shelter is. Filling in some low area and making the drainage work away from the Bus stop. Seems much better this year.

Our committee is investigating some long-term solution to the erosion and high water issues. Those long term solutions are more complicated and expensive but need to be explored.

Respectfully submitted by: Hamilton Smith, Chair
PPCC Erosion and High Water Committee

**Park Point Community Club
November Minutes**

The November, 20120 Park Point Community Club virtual meeting was held on November 17, 2020. Dawn Buck, president, called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Request was made to approve the October, 2020 PPCC meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as they appeared in the Breeze. Remaining membership votes were all ayes.

Treasurer's Report - Al Robins

Beginning balance - October 1, 2020 \$13,778
Ending balance - October 31, 2020 \$13,478

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to uncertainty of Covid 19, the following Committees had nothing new to report: Art Fair Committee; Hospitality Committee; Program Committee; Rummage Sale Committee; and Summer Youth Program Committee.

Breeze - Alan Dartanyan

The running of the Breeze publication is going well. Again, Alan says he appreciates articles that can be included in the Breeze.

Environmental Committee - Dick Gould

Nine beavers were taken off of the Point.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

Pam reminded us to call her if cards were needed to be sent.

Old Business

Rory Strange spoke about the traffic safety concerns on the Point. A meeting with Chief Tusken is trying to be scheduled concerning the speeding, reckless driving & other concerns.

Erosion and High Water Committee representative Gale Kerns spoke on the first phase of restoration. Hamilton Smith wrote an article for the Nov 2020 issue of the Breeze concerning the Beach Nourishment program that began this past summer. Gale Kerns reiterated what took place. He addressed several concerns about the project.

New Business

Membership forms for the Park Point Community Club will be included in the December and January Breeze issues.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. Remaining members voted with all ayes.

Submitted by Sheryl Robins PPCC Secretary.

Environmental Report

No ice, no snow! It looks like global warming has come to Park Point. But south of us they are getting a real winter.

A pair of Eagles are hanging around the nest on Hearding island.

I sure hope we get some snow before the cold weather comes our way, the trees would not do too well uncovered.

Dick Gould

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

Ellie Alspach recently surveyed the 2020 community garden participants to determine how successful our garden experience was and what we liked best this past year. Here are some of the outcomes: We owe Ellie and Ted Buck a big thank you for the many plants they started indoors last spring and transplanted into the garden; Through Ted's University of Minnesota Extension basil seed trail we discovered an Asian basil that was unusual and delicious; Kale was not only popular, but also the last edible plant standing in the garden; Cucumbers, carrots and beets all need to be thinned better to produce a larger yield; And, everyone loved the banana-shaped Federle tomatoes, the yellow-fleshed kuri squash, and the heirloom Fairytale French pie pumpkins, all items that are hard to find in our local grocery stores. The gardens have been put to bed by planting them with winter rye to help protect the soil, deter weeds, and form a green manure come spring.

Many of us look for ways to continue to enjoy our crops after our gardens are shut down. Some folks preserve, can and dehydrate, while others share their bounty, such as Charlene Shimmin and Don Lemmerman. In their home garden, they grew 146 spaghetti squash, many of which they gave away to other Park Pointers. Each squash has its own personality and Don found a way to embellish that by giving them their own identities. He probably named each one, too.

This past season, we missed seeing some of our members whose names are on our rosters. If you no longer wish to participate in our community garden, please contact Coral and let her know. Likewise, if you are interested in being a new member in 2021, contact Coral. She can be reached at 218- 727-6455, coraljean@charter.net. The Lafayette Community Garden is located at Lafayette Park, 3016 Minnesota Ave. on Park Point. Coral McDonnell is the contact person for folks interested in our community garden and potluck dinners. When we have them, our monthly potluck dinners are FREE and open to all Park Pointers. They usually take place at the Lafayette Community Club.

Don Lemmerman's spaghetti squash "family." Photo courtesy of Charlene Shimmin.





Len and Lois
 (218) 606-1670 (727) 207-1705
 Park Point Residents/ Musicians
 You're going to like what you see and hear




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

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2020 at 4:30 on Zoom
 If you would like to attend,
 please email for the link.
info@standrewsbythelake.org

Many thanks to the people
 who are still packing 90 bag lunches
 per month for CHUM.

The Rev. Marta Maddy
 Sunday Eucharist Service: 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday Service Zoom link: standrewsbythelake.org
 2802 Minnesota Ave 218-727-1262
standrewsbythelakeduluth@gmail.com
 We are on Facebook

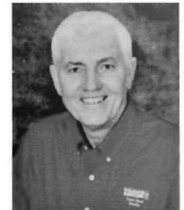


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phone calls unavailable, Prices by project.

Thank you



There is no poop fairy!

Although it's the season to decorate, this really isn't what we want to see! These green bags of dog poop have been left in various locations around the neighborhood. Most dog owners are responsible, but a few people give them a bad name by leaving them around.

This year, as the Park Point Community Club prepares to kick off its 2021 Membership drive, I can't stress enough how important your annual dues are to the club, and the community. In a "normal" year, The Park Point Art Fair generates most of the income that the club uses for such things as the Summer Youth Program, the annual tree plantings, and of course the Breeze. But, 2020 being far from normal, there was no Art Fair, or Summer Youth Program. But we did plant trees, the Breeze continues to be printed, and the only real source of income we can count on is the modest \$10 per person membership dues we ask for. So please, join your neighbors, join up, or re-up, and help support the Park Point Community Club, and of course, The Breeze!

Park Point Community Club Membership Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

e-mail address: _____

Check this box for email subscription

Number of Memberships _____ X \$10.00 _____

Please mail checks to:

Park Point Community Club

PO Box 16326

Duluth MN 55816-0326

The Park Point Community Club publishes a list of member names (w/o contact details.)

Check here ___ if you agree to be included on the list.

Check here ___ if you prefer to remain anonymous.

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

Dog issues: clane@duluthmn.gov

City Councilor Roz Randorf rrandorf@duluthmn.gov

Quotations from *The Farmer's Mother's Almanac, 2020* by Janne Goldbeck and

Paula Jull

December:

Because this is a very hectic season, doctors recommend standing still often, preferably in a quiet spot, away from traffic. A clothes closet is a good choice. Close your eyes, breathe slowly, touch nothing. Feel only your feet and gravity. You will emerge lighter than when you went in. Don't worry if you find yourself standing still for more than fifteen minutes in front of the open oven door or wondering how it would feel to sit under the kitchen sink.

This is normal.

A Gentle Reminder

Now that Lafayette is not hosting meetings or events, the dumpster outside is no longer being emptied on a regular schedule. Instead, to save the city money, it has been changed to an "on call" schedule – and it's level is being monitored by our very own "Dumpster Diva", Dawn Buck.

The dumpster is intended for use by those picking up trash on the beach, or dropping in those "doggie bags" pet owners use to clean up after their pets. It is NOT intended for Park Point residents, or off Park Point residents, to use to dispose of their own household waste.

