



The Breeze

Of Park Point

Upcoming Events

**Park Point
Community Club
Meeting, February
16th, 7:00 PM
on ZOOM**

**Lafayette Edible
Garden
Nothing Scheduled**

**Park Point Garden
Club
Nothing Scheduled
Contact:
JoAnn Ellison
727-5757**

**Park Point Art Fair
postponed until 2022**

**Park Point Rummage
Sale – still to be
determined**

**Moving
Forward!**

Corps of Engineers cleaning debris inadvertently placed on Minnesota Point

DETROIT - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is coordinating cleanup of aluminum cans and can fragments inadvertently deposited on Minnesota Point during dredge material placement in the fall of 2020.

USACE placed 49,000 cubic yards of beneficial use dredge material on Minnesota Point at the city's request during annual Duluth-Superior Harbor maintenance dredging operations in August and September. In 2019, 53,000 cubic yards of dredge material was placed on the south end of Minnesota Point to minimize erosion due to high water and protect old growth trees. The city requested additional material in 2020 to help restore the eroded beach and dune habitat.

The debris likely resulted from dredge equipment encountering an area containing trash discarded in the harbor in the 1970s based on aluminum can vintage. About 27,000 cubic yards of dredge material came from the area USACE officials believe contained the debris.

The Detroit District's Duluth Area Office staff are monitoring the placement site and collecting can debris as weather conditions allow. Monitoring and cleanup will continue throughout the spring.

Corps of Engineers officials take the situation very seriously and are developing a plan to mitigate the possibility of encountering debris in dredge material in the future. They closely coordinate with city and state officials throughout the project and continue to do so.

Partnering with local, state, and federal agencies, USACE has placed 1.1 million cubic yards of beneficial use dredge material in Duluth-Superior Harbor since 2013. The material is used for habitat restoration and remediation projects – additional benefits from USACE's federally-mandated requirement to maintain navigation in the harbor.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – DETROIT DISTRICT
477 Michigan Avenue Detroit, MI 48226 www.lre.usace.army.mil

The Park Point Community Club is encouraged by the USACE's ownership of this unfortunate situation and their commitment to improving sediment testing and methodology designed to prevent similar situations in the future.

The Club's Erosion and High Water Committee sought guidance and support from City leadership in 2019 to address the erosion of the very busy beach from south of the shipping canal to 13th St. The City's effective collaboration and planning with the USACE led to the completion of the 2020 beach restoration project.

The shredded cans and metal shards were first noted by neighbors in October 2020. Since then, the Community Club has been and remains committed to provide volunteers to work side by side with the City and Corps to return the beach to a condition safe for public recreation and property owners alike.

Park Pointers join the City in taking great pride in providing active and vigilant stewardship of Lake Superior and its shores. Our efforts will continue as long as the cans and shards continue to surface on the beach and wash up on the shoreline.

Dawn Buck

Park Point Community Club President

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

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Submissions for the March issue are due
by 2/27/2021

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,

How wonderful to see forty plus Park Pointers willing to participate in the virtual Traffic Safety meeting on 1/19 with Mike Tusken, Chad Nagorski and Nick Lukovsky of the DPD! Chief Tusken said that the meeting was the first of its type for the DPD- a virtual community problem solving meeting. Thanks to everyone who listened and shared ideas! Neighbors Pat Sterner and Rory Strange will be moving forward with the action items identified; the meeting summary with the next steps is posted on the website. Special thanks to Mike Tusken for his willingness to connect and listen to the ideas with a can-do approach. I have an appreciation for Chief Tusken's realistic candor and the message that we will accomplish more by working together. The chat was filled with really good information from the DPD guests and Park Pointers- stay tuned on this topic and how you might want to get involved; good ideas from neighbors keep surfacing!

Speaking of things surfacing, last week I heard from Kate Van Daele who now works in PR for the City. You may remember Kate, she and her husband lived on Park Point near Lafayette for a time when they first moved to Duluth and you may have met her at a PPCC gathering or on the beach. Kate was reaching out on a couple of items on Park Point- input from the Club and the Erosion and High Water Committee on the matter of the cans and shards surfacing on the beach and in the surf and upcoming Bridge repairs. Link here for CBS 3 Coverage and Kate Van Daele: <https://youtu.be/L9TYUDCVMwM>. The press releases from the USACE and the City are posted on the website; you may have seen the story in the news on Friday, Jan. 22. The January 2021 Breeze contains photos of the cans that have been collected, page 4. Reportedly, the USACE is also working on a signage plan with the City to warn of the dangers of the cans and shards. Kate also wanted to give Park Pointers a heads up on the one-lane Aerial Bridge traffic beginning on Jan. 25. See you in the Tunnel!

The PP Erosion & High Water Committee meeting from January 12 is available on the PPCC website; thanks to the long list of guests who participated in the presentation. Answers to questions that came up after receiving the information from the USACE and MPCA, additional information and any updates will be shared via The Breeze and on parkpointcommunityclub.org. The comprehensive sediment testing results for the materials deposited on the beach in 2019 and 2020 have been requested. Questions came up on the methodology used to spread the materials and the sediment testing plans in 2019 vs. 2020. The sediments deposited on the south end of Minnesota Point in 2019 were tested, read about that project here, page 14, in an article by Dr. Anna Hess of the DNR.; however, it was noted in the Jan. 12 presentation that the dredged materials placed on the north end near the bridge in 2020 were not tested during or post placement and are from different sources in the bay than the 2019 deposits. Melissa Bosman of the USACE has offered to provide answers to questions from Park Pointers and community members; verification that all water quality standards were met is in process. Thanks to the USACE for their willingness to look at what went well in 2020 and what needs to be improved upon for the continuation of beach nourishment.

https://duluthport.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Spring_2020_Magazine_LoRes.pdf

The StarTribune article following the Jan. 22 press release brought up historical regulatory questions and environmental concerns about placing dredged materials from the industrial harbor into Lake Superior and the dire need for solutions to address the problem. (<https://www.startribune.com/duluth-dredging-project-dumped-1970s-metal-shards-on-park-point-beach/600013900/>)

(Continued next page)

(President's Report. Continued)

If you would like to attend the next PP EHWC meeting, watch for the date from Hamilton Smith ,chairperson, hamiltonsmith4857@gmail.com. Thanks to the EHW committee members and residents for their willingness to ask questions, share information, develop long term solutions and work with City leaders to study, plan for and meet the ongoing challenges presented by rising water levels and storm surges. From the press release, "Park Pointers join the City in taking great pride in providing active and vigilant stewardship of Lake Superior an its shores."

Kinnan Stauber, long time PPCC Environmental Committee Chairperson, dropped off extra copies of the Minnesota Point Timeline by Jan Olson, Plant Species Checklist for MN Point, and hard copies of this article from Nature Areas Journal on sand dune restoration and erosion control along Minnesota Point, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/43912282?refreqid=excelsior%3Ac79f37f29f5c309955810900e4231df3>. Let me know if you would like a copy of one of these documents. They will be available at our next in person meeting, date tbd, depending on Lafayette opening date.

Sadly, a number of the white pines planted on Park Point to combat erosion over the years may have been converted to holiday decor this year. Dick Gould, who has led the Club's tree planting initiative for years, reports that he noted a number of small white pines planted in the park were cut down this winter. Also a reminder re. Minnesota Point land stewardship: Verify your private property lines before you cut down vegetation or trees. Researching before you cut, if you have any question about property lines and rules, will save you time, money and a hassle. Call 911 if you see illegal cutting or dumping. The DNR has offered to collaborate with the PPCC on the creation of a guide that might be entitled "Minnesota Point Rules & Best Practices~ A Guide for Everyone." Thank you for your care and vigilance! Have you ever wondered about the difference between Park Point & Minnesota Point? Check this out from September in the DNT: <https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/opinion/columns/6651726-Northlandia-Park-Point-and-Minnesota-Point-are-not-synonymous>.

Hoping to see you out and about on extraordinary Minnesota Point!
Here's to taking good care of each other,
Dawn & Bruno, Stealthy Giant Schnauzer, Connoisseur of fine butter

Park Point Community Club Traffic Safety meeting, January 19, 2021

(Editor's note: I'm just cherry-picking these bits from the report on a very good traffic safety meeting. For the full report, with discussions and both mid and long-term proposed actions, go to www.parkpointcommunityclub.org. Watch for information on the questionnaire)

DPD Chief of Police Mike Tusken spoke about the DPD's efforts to monitor and manage speeding and traffic safety violations, noting that the Speed Signage works to help slow the majority of drivers. He also spoke about the speed surveys done on Park Point in the past, noting that average speeds were 35 mph. However, he also acknowledged that perception is the reality for Park Point residents who do not feel safe in their neighborhood – and that traffic stops for speeding do not reflect the dangerous driving happening on the Point. Chief Tusken said that while the speed signage does help slow most traffic, it is a temporary solution and what is needed is sustainability in managing traffic safety on Park Point. This means changing the behavior of the people who drive on Park Point – including its residents. It also requires the Park Point community to come together as a neighborhood, working with the DPD, to collaborate on solutions and actions. Chief Tusken identified three areas through which we can collaboratively address traffic safety:

1. Police Presence and Enforcement
2. Traffic Calming
3. Prevention

Next Steps and Proposed Actions

Immediate (next 30 days)

- * Pat Sterner, Rory Strange and possibly one other Park Pointer to 'canvass' neighbors about the best placement of the Speed signs.
- * Distribute short questionnaire to gather immediate information:
 - o Would you be willing to 'host' a speed sign in front of your home?
 - o Would you be willing to be a part of Neighborhood Watch?
 - o Where do you think the highest speed zones are?
 - o What days and times of the week do you see the highest number of traffic safety violations (excessive speeds, passing, tailgating)?
- * Establish a Clearinghouse 'site' with protocols for providing information and ideas.
- * Identify the areas of highest concern for speeding and reckless driving.

Park Point Community Club

The January 19, 2021 Park Point Community Club virtual meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Dawn Buck, President. Prior to the monthly meeting, we were fortunate to have another meeting (Virtually) with Mike Tuskegee, Duluth Police Chief. The meeting was to address safety issues that have been occurring on the Point and possible solutions.

There was no meeting in December, 2020 which meant no minutes to approve.

Treasurer's report:	Beginning balance	Dec. 1, 2020	\$13,570
	Ending balance	Dec. 31, 2020	\$14,763

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

Committee Reports:

Art Fair Committee - Carla Tamburro - Due to uncertainty of Covid 19 issues, there will be no Art Fair planned for 2021. The 50th anniversary of the Art Fair is being scheduled for June, 2022 .

Breeze Committee - Alan Dartanyan- Alan spoke on the importance of renewing your PPCC membership. The membership drive, at this point, is our only source of income. So far, there have been 212 paid memberships sent.

Environmental Committee - Dick Gould - Dick noticed 20-30 trees were harvested from the Point this year. These are trees the PPCC plant each year to replenish the ones that have died. The trees are a form of protection for the Point.

Neighborhood Watch Committee -

1) It was brought to the club's attention that snowboarders have built a path at the side of Lafayette building. The users have packed snow down which causes a chance of falling. Also, the railings coming down are sustaining damage to the metal and wood stairs. Parks and Rec will be notified again.

2) Plenty of dog feces on the beach.

3) Another homeless encampment was set up by the airport. It was reported to the City of Duluth and Chum. City has cleaned up the area.

4). The expansion plan for Park Point Marina Inn has been given the go ahead.

Rummage Sale - David Lavamaki - no plans are being made at this time to host the rummage sale this summer. More info will follow.

Summer Youth Program - Plans are sketchy at this time and until we find out if Lafayette Square and other variability needs are met, it is not possible to know what will happen. Again, more to follow.

Erosion and High Water Committee - Hamilton Smith - Information on the quality of material used and metal contaminates for the beach project can be found on the Park Point Community Club website.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs - Pam sends out about 3 cards per month. She encourages people who know of someone who could use a card to call her. Also, for ease of her sending, if you would include an address as this would simplify her job knowing she was sending the card to the correct address.

New Business -

Coral McDonnell from the Lafayette Community Garden stressed the importance of wearing reflective vests at dusk to prevent being hit by a vehicle.

Sally Buck reminded us at St. Andrews by the lake church, there is a prayer box for the community. In the box, there are also face masks and hand sanitizers.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm.

Submitted by Sheryl Robins PPCC secretary.

PPCC Membership Drive

We had received approximately 212 memberships as of our January 19th meeting. Thanks to all who have sent theirs in, and especially to those who have donated a little extra to support the club. For those who have not yet sent in their memberships, I have again printed the membership form in this issue. My hope is to print the membership list in the March Breeze. You want to be on that list!

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

Alas, our merry band of green-thumbers shall meet again, albeit virtually. On Monday, February 8, Melissa King will host an evening zoom meeting so all the gardeners can see each other, socialize, make plans and perhaps learn a thing or two. Thanks, Missy for pulling this together.

The Duluth Community Garden Program has announced its choice for Vegetable of the Year for 2021: Peas. According to Coral, "One suggestion I would like to offer is that we plant black eyed peas this year. I read about them in the 2021 Farmer's Almanac Gardening Guide. Black eyed peas are known as the "lucky legume" -- they are good to eat, good for you, and good for the soil -- and are said to bring good luck! They are also called field peas, southern peas, and cowpeas, but they aren't peas at all, but instead a kind of bean, *Vinca unguiculata*. (Peas are in a separate genus, *Pisum*.)" We can discuss this during our zoom meeting. Please bring your other ideas about peas and garden veggies you like to the meeting, too.

We also need community input on how to raise money in 2021. After we purchase manure, plants and seeds in the spring, our coffers will be depleted.

If you are interested in joining our little band of nature lovers and home cooks, 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.

Winter Squash Apple Brunch Cake Recipe from Ellie Alspach

Yield 12-14 servings

2 1/4 cups all purpose flour

2 tsp baking powder

1/2 tsp baking soda

1/2 tsp cinnamon

1/2 tsp nutmeg

1/2 cup butter

1 1/3 cup sugar

1/2 tsp vanilla

3 eggs

3/4 cup cooked, mashed winter squash

1/2 cup buttermilk

3-4 tart medium apples

1 cup chopped walnuts

1 cup golden raisins

Grease a 10 inch springform pan, 13x9 baking pan or bundt pan.

Stir together dry ingredients,

In a large mixer bowl beat butter until softened. Add sugar and vanilla. Beat until combined. Add eggs one at a time beating well after each addition.

Stir together squash and buttermilk. Add squash mixture to the dry ingredients alternating with the egg mixture.

Mix well.

Peel core and chop enough apple to make 1 1/2 cups. Stir apple, walnuts and raisins into the batter.

Bake in 325 degree oven. Springform takes 1 to 1 1/4 hours, 13x9 pan takes 55-60 minutes, bundt pan takes 1 1/4 hours. Cool on rack for 10 minutes. If using springform pan loosen sides of pan, cool on rack. May be drizzled with powder sugar icing.

-Susan Peters



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!*

You are invited to join St.
 Andrew's virtual Lenten book study
 starting February 24. The book is "**The
 Immigrant Advantage**" by Claudia
 Kolker. We will meet on Wednesdays
 at 6:30 pm, February 24 through March
 31st.

Email
 <info@standrewsbythelake.org>
 if you'd like to join.

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

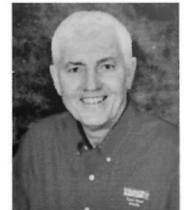


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**POOP COMPLAINTS
 WALKERS FINDING POOP NEAR
 LIFT BRIDGE, LAFAYETTE,
 AIRPORT
 POOP FREEZES FAST, THEN
 STUCK 'TIL SPRING
 TAKE YOUR BAG--PICK IT UP**

Environmental Report

Trees!

The trees that the club has purchased and planted over the last twenty plus years are making a great change here on the point. They are stopping much of the sand that was drifting onto the street and other areas. As well they are making homes for many nesting birds and other animals as well.

Problem! Just in the last two years at least forty of the white pine have been cut down to be used for Christmas decorations. Whoever is doing this, PLEASE STOP!

If you see anyone doing this please dial 911 and turn them in. There is a fine for cutting them that would cost much more than the price of a tree that was farm raised to be used for a Christmas tree.

Dick Gould

PPCC Erosion and High Water Committee Report

Two items to report on this month. The first is an update on the ongoing issue with the continued reappearance of the shredded cans in and around the 2020 Beach Nourishment area. Due to the lack of ice on Lake Superior this winter the shredded cans have still been appearing after wind events. It looks now as if enough ice has formed to slow or stop the debris from appearing for a while. Considering how this winter is going, no guarantee on that. The USACE is monitoring the situation and patrolling the beach on a regular schedule looking for this material. We also have several concerned citizens who are also patrolling the beach on a regular schedule looking for these pieces of shredded cans. Some of their reports can be found on the PPCC website. I have been assured that some kind of advisory signage will be placed at beach entry sites in the affected areas soon.

The second item to discuss is the Erosion and High Water Committee meeting of 1-12-2021. Over 40 people connected to our Zoom meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together our strategic partners in the 2020 and proposed 2021 Beach Nourishment projects. The USACE, MPCA, Duluth Seaway Port Authority and the City of Duluth were in attendance. Many of the invited guest have first-hand knowledge of these projects. The USACE was well represented. Melissa Bosman, Project Engineer for the Duluth/Superior Harbor Dredging Project, was joined by USACE associates from the Duluth office and the Detroit office. Melissa and DR. Kevin Meyer did a 40-minute power point presentation on the harbor dredging/beach nourishment project from 2019 and 2020. Melissa showed where the dredge material was taken in 2019 and 2020. She also showed us where the dredge material will be taken in 2021. She also covered the question of turbidity and where that turbidity area was.

DR. Kevin Meyer covered the sediment sampling testing portion of their presentation. Defining the coarse/fine composition of the core samples and the toxicology done on a wide range of chemicals for the samples from the 2019 and 2020 dredging operations. What chemicals were tested for can be found at the PPCC website. Look for the link to the 1-12-2021 meeting PDF and go to slide 35.

The MPCA was well represented at the meeting. Anna Hotz is the Supervisor of the agency Rules Unit. Her office oversees the 401 Certification, water quality standards and Human Health Risk Assessment. She was joined by Kevin Molloy, 401 project manager and Phil Monson, Water Quality Standards and Risk Assessment. They covered the MPCA oversight responsibilities and the process for 401 certifications for the 2019 and 2020 Beach Nourishment projects. They also covered the post 2019 placement testing and why they did that testing. MPCA letters regarding HHRA and 401 certifications can be found at the PPCC website

Questions then followed from the EHWC members and then the public attendees. A wide range of question was asked.

Concerns about turbidity, algae, oil sheen, chemicals tested for and smell of the dredge material were asked and answered. Several questions were asked about the shredded cans appearing on the beach. More info on that topic is coming to us as we move forward.

The meeting lasted over two and a half hours. I hope that we all came away better informed than before the meeting. A date for our next meeting has not been set at the time of writing this article.

Respectfully submitted by:

Hamilton Smith Chair

PPCC Erosion and High Water Committee

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

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.

