



The Breeze

Of Park Point

Upcoming Events

Park Point Community Club Meeting May 17th, 7PM at Lafayette

Lafayette Edible Garden Potluck May 9, 6PM at Lafayette

PARK POINT GARDEN CLUB May 26th at Lafayette to prepare Garden. Contact: Kathy Jacobs 722-2375

Magic Smelt Parade May 8th, 3:30PM in Canal Park

Park Point Rummage Sale June 10 & 11

Park Point Art Fair June 25 & 26,

Remember, as of May 1st of each year, no parking is allowed on the lake side of the avenue. This allows the “recreation lane” to be used by bikers, runners, rollerbladers and others and keeps them out of the traffic. A vehicle parked in the recreation lane, even temporarily, can force users to swerve out into the busy traffic lane!

The Park Point Smelt Patrol



The article on the Park Point Smelt Patrol drew a few responses, which allowed me to identify a couple other Patrol members from the photograph. (Douglas Bourgeois and William (Bill) Boyce were both in the picture)). Best of all, I was contacted by an actual former Smelt Patroller. Long time Park Pointer Walt Pietroski was a member for several years, in the early to mid-70's. He even still has his old badge, pictured at left. He recalls walking the beach with Gene Sabatour, accompanied by his Great Dane. They referred to themselves as

the” Smelt Sheriffs”, but they didn’t arrest anyone, just spoke to them, cautioned them against littering, and destroying residents’ fences and siding for bonfires. They carried shovels to snuff out and bury abandoned fires. He told a story of “rescuing” a smelter who was attempting to pull down a fencepost to burn, and got himself entangled in the barbed wire attached to it. He said most encounters and conversations were friendly – no one got aggressive. But that may have been due to their Great Dane escort. We also talked of the big smelt fry’s, held on both Minnesota and Wisconsin Point, and the commercial fishing of smelt which employed quite a few people seasonally. Those days are gone, but there are still a few smelt out there for the hearty. And we have the Magic Smelt Parade to celebrate them.

A note from the editor: I have traditionally printed a list of Park Point Community Club members in the Breeze each Spring, so you could check for your name, and see who else was – or wasn’t – a member. But due to space constraints, and the cost of adding extra pages, we have decided to simply post the membership list on the website. If you want to make sure your dues have been received and recorded, check out parkpointcommunityclub.org. And if you haven’t joined yet, you still can. We accept memberships all year, just \$10 per person.

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

breezeditor@msn.com 726-0110

Submissions for the June issue are due
by 5/27/2022

Park Point Community Club

officers:

President: Dawn Buck

parkpointcc@gmail.com

525-1764

Vice President: Tom Griggs

3429 Minnesota Ave.

Thom0313@gmail.com

Secretary: Rory Strange

rstrange3@icloud.com

Treasurer: Gale Kerns

ggkerns@mac.com

Committees:

Art Fair: Carla Tamburro

coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

218-348-7338

Rummage Sale:

Deb Strange

debstrange2008@icloud.com

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,

Summer's major events will soon be here despite the contradictory weather conditions! Here are a few of them that will impact our already extraordinary lives:

USS Minneapolis Saint Paul will be commissioned: May 21

Camp Lafayette-PP Summer Youth Program: June 13-Aug. 12

PP Rummage Sale: June 10,11

Grandma's Marathon: June 18

50th Park Point Art Fair: June 25,26

Duluth International Regatta: July 9

PP 5 Miler: July 14

National Night Out: August 2

Thank you for reading The Breeze and keeping up with the happenings in the neighborhood! Staying engaged and learning as much as possible is very important; thank you for your contributions to our community!

We had our first meeting back at Lafayette last week. The City is spiffing up the building, upstairs and downstairs, with upgrades to all of the bathrooms, the lighting and the wooden floors upstairs will be buffed and recoated. The carpet in the conference room and office will be torn out and the floors refinished in July. Thanks to everyone who is helping with the improvements! Brett Odegard, Parks specialist, attended the meeting and filled us in on the upgrades and took down questions and concerns mentioned by neighbors, thank you, Brett.

Cheryl Podtburg from the YMCA presented on the lifeguard shortage situation, how to apply and special offers for new lifeguards. You may have read this in the DNT: <https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/local/lifeguard-shortage-could-cut-into-beach-pool-hours-in-duluth> Cheryl also brought her mom Anne to the meeting. Anne is a relatively new Park Pointer ~ welcome Anne! Please share the need for lifeguards with your friends and family members. To be a lifeguard on Park Point, you must be at least 18. Strong swimmers of any age are encouraged to consider this opportunity and reach out to Cheryl. Questions about working as a lifeguard at the Y and/or Park Point can be directed to Cheryl Podtburg at cpodtburg@duluthymca.org or 218-722-4745, ext. 115.

Enthusiasm levels for "Camp Lafayette" are very high with curious and excited campers stopping by Lafayette last evening for the open house. Kevin Chederquist and Sharon Brown will be the camp leaders. Sharon worked at Lafayette years ago while in college when the City ran summer youth programs across the city. Sharon said she is thrilled to be back on Park Point for the summer. She currently works in education at several Duluth schools. A returning camper was sharing her experiences with new prospective campers, "it was the best summer of my life."

Coral and Ellie from the Edible Garden stopped in to say hi. The campers spend one day a week with the gardeners and its great fun for all ages:)

Here's to the good life on Park Point!
See you on the water!

Dawn & Chilly Bruno, who had his summer cut on 4/19!

Warrior Chickadees

A particularly interesting event occurred one March morning. A saw-whet owl had flown into a window and sat on the ground recovering from the blow. My first thought was, "did it break a wing, was it dead?" I stood watching the owl looking for signs of movement. I didn't see any. The owl sat motionless for what seemed like a long time. I started to believe the owl was dead. I also started chastising myself for not having any stickers on the window the owl hit. I have hawk silhouettes on several windows, but not this particular one. As I stood, myself motionless, looking at the owl I noticed chickadees flying between the bushes on either side of where the owl sat. There were from 25 to 30 chickadees flying and flitting from branch to branch just feet away from the owl. That was unusual, to see so many chickadees in one place just flying back and forth. What I then noticed were three crows about 20 feet away. The crows were pacing back and forth on the ground also watching the owl. They were ready to pounce! What I realized in seeing the owl, the chickadees and the crows was that the chickadees were keeping the crows away by flying in front of the owl. They were creating a protective barrier preventing the crows from attacking an injured bird, though be it not one of their own kind. Almost as soon as I realized the dynamics of the situation the owl flew away. Luckily, it was only stunned. As soon as the owl flew away, the chickadees were gone.... What a show! Warrior chickadees saving the life of a saw-whet owl.

Marie Margitan

Environmental Report

Some time in May we will be getting at least three hundred White Pines for planting here on the point. I would like to finish connecting our plantings with the old forest down at the end. That would re-establish the beginning of the forest that went all the way from about 12th street to the Superior entry.

Please don't feed the Crows! There are many of them and their numbers keep going up. One of their favorite foods for their nestlings are the baby birds they take from song bird nests.

Dick Gould

There have been an increasing number of reports of coyotes and even wolves on Park Point. Watch your pets! Cats and small dogs can easily become a meal for a hungry predator!

The 50th Park Point Art Fair is happening on June 24th, 25th & 26th.

We will be needing volunteers to make our 50th special. We only ask for a couple hours or as many hours as you want. Some of the tasks are as follows:
Friday, June 24th we set up the fair and tent set-up is especially helpful. Friday afternoon the Artist's start arriving and help is needed to check them in and get them to their space.

Saturday June 25th and **Sunday** June 26th we need people to welcome visitors and relieve Artists who may need a short break. Also needed are people who will work with the children at our Make and Take area. We also can use people who will walk the park and pick up garbage.

Later on Saturday we need help setting up the Beach House for the Artist and Volunteer dinner and Award Presentation.

Sunday the 26th, late afternoon we need help breaking down the Fair and returning things to Lafayette. This is a fun event that helps support all the programs the Park Point Community Club sponsors.

Contact: Diane Gould at 727-4067 to secure the hours that work best for you.



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PPCC Minutes

The April 2022 monthly meeting of the Park Point Community Club was called to order by Dawn Buck, President, at 7:05pm on April 19th, 2022. Dawn welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Brett Odegard from the City of Duluth and Cheryl Podtburg from the YMCA.

Cheryl spoke on behalf of the YMCA and updated us on the status of the Lifeguard situation on Park Point beach this summer. Cheryl encouraged the membership to spread the word to those that might be interested in becoming a lifeguard to contact her at the YMCA at CPodtburg@duluthymca.org

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Motion was approved to accept the minutes as written in The Breeze. All in attendance voted aye.

Treasurers Report – Gale Kerns

End of February balance \$10,584

End of March balance - \$13,499

Motion was made and approved to accept the report.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

4 cards sent this month.

Rummage Sale - Deb Strange

Rummage Sale is June 10th & 11th – Don't delay preparing your sale items. Reminders that food vendors are only allowed on private property. Request that the PPCC Facebook page be updated to remind people of this event.

The Breeze - Alan Dartanyan

Brief discussion about including the membership roster in The Breeze. Consensus was to post the roster on the website to conserve space and save money.

Program Committee - Dave Poulin

No report.

Summer Youth Program - Kari Speer

Open House will be held at Lafayette 4/26 from 6 – 8pm. Registration is currently online. Volunteers are needed to provide support for field trips and other activities. If interested in volunteering, please contact coordinators.

Environmental Committee - Dick Gould

300 trees will be available from a Two Harbors organization in early May. No further information is available at this time. Please contact Dick at 727-4067 to volunteer to plant.

Edible Garden - Coral McDonnell

No update on the potluck at this time. Garden clean-up is beginning.

Neighborhood Watch / Traffic Safety - Pat Sterner

The City of Duluth is continuing to look at additional plans for this Summer. We are hopeful that the DPD will be at our next meeting to unveil ideas to be implemented this summer. Volunteers are needed for traffic calming as nicer weather approaches. Please reach out to parkpointtrafficsafety@gmail.com if you would like to be involved.

MP-50: Paul Treuer

Paul provided a brief update on the two-day Charette. For additional information, please contact Paul directly at Paul.Treuer@gmail.com

High Water & Erosion – Hamilton Smith

Hopefully the snow/sand fence at 8th Street and Lake Ave will be installed next month. A test project at 15th and 16th Street utilizing catch basins will hopefully be installed the end of May. For information on beach grass planting, contact Boreal Natives for seedlings. Date has not been set for beach clean-up. Please contact Hamilton if interested in volunteering.

Art Fair - Carla Tamburro

Carla unveiled the new poster for the 50th annual Art Fair. Posters along with suggested sites to be displayed are available. Please contact Carla directly for posters at coordinator@parkpointartfair.org. There are currently 118 artists that have been invited and 70 of these are new. Lake Superior magazine will be doing an article on the Art Fair. The Artist's Dinner will be held at the beach house this year. As always, volunteers are needed. Please sign up early and often!

Other Business:

Other topics discussed were the Smelt Parade. This year's parade and smelt fry will be held May 8th at 3:30pm. The parade starts at the Aerial Lift Bridge.

There was discussion regarding a letter sent to the club expressing concern over the timeliness of Emergency Services during events on Park Point. Thanks to all who came and sorted and cleaned at Lafayette so the City of Duluth could continue improvements on the lower level.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted, Rory Strange, Secretary

MP 50 Minnesota Point Long-range Resiliency Planning



US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 111 Charrette. The USACE sent summary meeting report of the Minnesota Point Section 111 Charrette meetings Duluth March 10/11, 2022. Significant parts from the report are included below.

Participants included representatives from the following agencies and stakeholders:

- City of Duluth (Non-Federal Sponsor)
- Duluth Port Authority
- Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Natural Resources Commission
- Parks Commission
- Park Point Community
- Izaak Walton League
- Coalition to Protect Lake Superior
- University of Minnesota Duluth
- University of Wisconsin Superior
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Geological Survey

The Charrette attendees developed the following stakeholder vision for Minnesota Point and Lake Superior and participated in the first iteration of the planning process:

A collaborative, fiscally responsible solution that results in a resilient, sustainable MN Point shoreline that balances the protection of natural resource and ecological functions and values, cultural resources, and community wellbeing health and safety across the entirety of MN Point and Lake Superior and its waters now and into the future.

The purpose of the Minnesota Point Section 111 Feasibility study is to: 1) determine whether and to what extent the Federal navigation structures at Duluth and Superior Entries are contributing to the erosion damage on the shoreline of Minnesota Point; 2) to develop a feasible, economically justified, and environmentally sustainable solution that will prevent or mitigate further shore damage caused by the Federal structures.

The next steps in the development of the Minnesota Point Section 111 feasibility study include: Defining the existing conditions of Minnesota Point, Data Collection, Modeling, Alternative Screening, and Selection of a Tentatively Selected Plan.

Contact Paul Treuer, MP50 Coordinator (paul.treuer@gmail.com) to receive a full copy of the USACE Report.

Neighborhood Watch/Traffic Safety

PP residents provided a lot of good feedback and information about traffic safety concerns and ideas at the last PPCC meeting. I will continue to follow up with DPD through Sgt. Ethan Roe about the speed study (sometime in June), and other ideas as we head into Memorial Day.

Please consider volunteering for the Neighborhood Watch. You can contact me at 720-839-4238, or via the parkpointtrafficsafety@gmail.com website. We will be purchasing additional vests and signs for use in our traffic calming efforts. The plan is to start Neighborhood Watch efforts beginning the week of May 23. More detailed information to come!

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Sterner

Lifeguards Needed

The YMCA, which provides lifeguards at the recreation area on Park Point, as well as area pools, is in desperate need of more lifeguards. If you, or anyone you know, has the interest and ability needed for this “essential” job, you can apply through the YMCA website. They will assist with training and certification.



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 knowing, loving, and serving God
 and neighbor!*

A Prayer for Earth Day 2022

Creator God,
 Thank you for the waters of the earth,
 for the life-sustaining rains,
 lakes, and deep oceans.
 Keep us mindful of how precious these are,
 and how vulnerable they are.
 Help us to work together for clean water,
 and for the sharing of it
 with those who have need of it today.
 Amen.

~Right Reverend Christine Hardman,
 Bishop of Newcastle

The Rev. Marta Maddy
 2802 Minnesota Ave | 218-727-1262
info@standrewsbythelakeduluth.org
 We are on Facebook

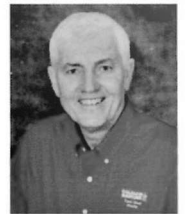


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News from Lafayette Community Edible Garden

Our first potluck of the year was held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church since Lafayette Community Center is being renovated. It was delightful to see everyone after a long winter. We were thankful that we were given permission to use the church. As Coral mentioned in the last Breeze, seeds are getting started. Ted and Ellie planted trays of tomatoes and other veggies the day after Easter. Now three days later the lettuce has sprouted anxious to be planted in the garden. As mentioned previously, this is the year of the tomato so we have 7 varieties to plant this year.

We were able to plant rye grass last fall as a green manure. It adds nitrogen to the soil when incorporated into the soil. Many hands have helped cut it and dig it under. Thanks to Dan O'Neill, Don Lemmerman and Rich Peterson along with Mary Meyers and Brooks Anderson for getting this done.

Many committees were set up for watering, weeding, & helping with the Kid's Camp. A planting committee will be organized mid-May when we actually plant the cool weather seeds and seedlings.

This year we are needing to add to the coffers so a silent auction will be held at the June potluck at Lafayette Community Center. Hopefully this will help build the treasury. Several members have agreed to organize this event. If you might like to join this group please call Coral. Think about bringing something from home that you are no longer using. We'd especially like garden related items like books, tools, jam you've made from your own grapes, a gardening apron, perhaps a coffee mug with a Peter Rabbit motif. It should be fun. Also join us for the next potluck on May 9, 2022 at 6:00. Bring a dish to share. Dates for the next potlucks will be June 13 & July 11.

The garden compost bins could use some filling up so please bring your leaves after your spring raking trying to leave out needles and bigger sticks. Also bring your kitchen scraps and coffee grounds. Please smash egg shells. We have been picking up a couple of buckets of coffee grounds from Great Harvest Bread and are starting that again. If you go to a coffee shop, please ask if they have a bag of used grounds to donate as they are always welcome in the compost pile and most places are happy to give them away.

If you are interested in participating in our garden please contact Coral at 218-727-6455 or coraljean@charter.net.
Ellie Alspach

Report from the Erosion and High Water Committee

We have several items to report on this month. As I'm sure many of you have noticed there has been a large amount of sand blowing down the 8th street opening to the beach. The City committed, last fall, to erecting some snow fencing on the beach and that street end to help alleviate the issue. The City has been contacted this spring and they said they would erect the snow fence soon.

The City also has a project planned for late May or early June, to install couple of catch basins in the 15th and 16th street areas on the lake side. In the past few summers there has been a large area of the bike lane with standing water. This is due in part from residents in this area pumping water from their basements into the street. As recommended by the City. The City will be putting in those catch basins so that the water will not have to be pumped into the street.

There has been a lot of talk about the planting of native beach grass on Park Point to help mediate the erosion and blowing of the sand. There is a company in the area that is authorized to propagate the native Minnesota beach grass and make it available for Park Point residents to plant on their property. If you want plant material for this summer, you need to contact them this month @ prairieresto.com or call 218 729 9044. The DNR is also working on recommended plant list for Park Point. We hope to see that soon.

Last, but not least. The continued monitoring and clean-up of the shredded metal on the beach from the 2020 Beach Nourishment project. I reached out to the USACE to see what their plan for their monitoring this spring and summer. At first, they were reluctant to commit to any such monitoring in consideration of the highly decreased amount of debris found on the beach prior to freeze-up. I suggested to them that last year the most debris was found in the spring and that I believed further monitoring was prudent. They will do at least one walk of the area this spring.

I would like to continue the citizen beach patrol from last year. If you collect any shredded metal from the beach, please bag it up, label it as to when and where you found it and place it on my front porch at 1620 Minnesota Ave. I will, on a regular basis, deliver it to the USACE. Please send a quick report to Gale Kerns ggkerns@me.com to help document the findings.

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 218-443-8364

City of Duluth/home 218-730-5000

duluthmn.gov/contact

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