

PPCC Tuesday 6/21/2022 Lafayette

- Next meeting is Tuesday, July 19th

Call to Order, 7pm, Welcome!

"The purpose of the Park Point Community Club is to work for the betterment of the Community and the welfare of its residents."

- Guests:
None scheduled.

Presentation and action on the minutes of the previous meeting,
Rory Strange, secretary

Presentation and action on the treasurer's report: Gale Kerns,
treasurer

Reading of communications received:

Report of the Committees:

- Watch- All of us

Tipped biffies at s curve and at the beach house parking lot- note
from Cheryl Skafte

Cheryl Cheryl Skafte | Parks and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor | City of Duluth | 411 W. 1st Street | Duluth, MN 55802 218-730-4334 (office) | cskafte@duluthmn.gov | www.duluthmn.gov

Hey Dawn. We are have major tipping issues with the portables at 12th Street and at the end of PP. If this persists we may need to remove the units. Any ideas on how the community club might want to watch and help? We are looking at attaching the units to secure them. Screens would be preferable but cost around \$8k.

Laura Walsh



12th st Mn Av Beach

- Youth-Britta DeSutter, Camp Lafayette Launched on June 13th with Kevin, Sharon and Baamlak leading the program
- Art Fair- Carla Tamburro, **June 25,26 2022**
- Breeze- Alan Dartanyan
- Environmental- Dick Gould
- Hospitality - Diane Gould

- Sunshine- Pam Griggs- sent three cards: Sympathy, get well, thank you.
- Rummage Sale- Deb Strange, June 10,11 2022
- Program- Dave Poulin
- Executive Committee

Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

- Park Point Traffic Safety/Neighborhood Watch- This report from Pat Sterner, has another meeting

From Ethan Roe:

Dawn and Pat,

Neither Josh nor I will be able to make it to the meeting again tonight unfortunately. Here are some things that could be mentioned:

- Thank you to everyone that is helping with the neighborhood watch and getting people to slow down. We really appreciate it!
- We continue to have officers do enforcement as they are able. Our busiest times of day are about 3pm – 11pm. Unfortunately, I know that is when we have a lot of the issues that concern the residents on the Point as well.
- Parking services got back to me today about yesterday's issues. They will make sure to spend some more time on the Point and will pay attention for nice days when there probably will be more people utilizing the beaches.
- The biffies getting tipped over is frustrating. I would keep working with Cheryl Skafte from Parks and the vendor to see if they can be secured.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, they can either email me or if you wanted to note them and send them to me I could let you know the answer. We lost another officer out of our office and they won't be replaced for a while, so we continue to get spread more thin. Sorry for slow responses on some items, I try to keep up as I can.

Thanks,

Sergeant Ethan Roe
CORE & East Area Community Policing Units

City of Duluth – Police Department
Duluth Transit Center Substation

228 W. Michigan St.

Duluth, MN 55802

www.duluthmn.gov

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218-730-5747 – Desk

Hi Dawn:

Thanks again for inviting me to meet with you and KBRJ re: Park Point and our 'issues'!

I'm sending along email correspondence I've had with Ethan re: the drag racing, traffic studies, etc. These are updates for tonight.

I've also reached out again to Jim Gittermeier (via email and voicemail) for update on the curb extensions. Will let you know if I hear anything today before the meeting.

If you would, please remind folks to volunteer and help calm traffic, and also to send license plate numbers for speeding/reckless cars they see. We've definitely seen an uptick, so more reports are better.

Sorry I can't be at the meeting tonight.

Thanks!

Pat

--

Patricia Brownell Sterner
President/CEO
JFB & Associates, LLC
720-839-4238

6-20-22 email to Ethan, Josh, Dave at DPD from Pat

Hope everyone is doing well. I wanted to check in about possible timing for a couple of traffic studies, appreciating that you've all had your hands full the past few weekends. Any updates you might have will be greatly appreciated!

I also wanted to pass along a scary incident that happened last evening around 6:30 pm. Two of my neighbors witnessed drag racing from about 30th going north towards the bridge. They did call 911 and had a call back that police were going to try to identify and intercept the two trucks before they got to the bridge. My neighbors (Bob and Carol Lent) said that there were oncoming cars in the southbound lane, and it was pretty terrifying. They didn't get plate numbers, but did provide descriptions of the vehicles. I'm not sure if they were intercepted, and wanted to let you know.

As usual, most folks are pretty respectful about slowing down when asked (by our volunteers doing traffic safety 'duty'), but we're definitely seeing an uptick in speeding and, more concerning, passing using the shoulder. I had that happen to me just yesterday. I have a call into Jim Gittemeier about plans for the curb extensions and will keep you all looped in. We're hoping the City will be able to put these out to test whether/how they can slow traffic!

Thanks as always for your support and attention to Park Point. We're seeing lots more folks coming down to enjoy the beach and just want to make sure everyone can come and go safely.

6-21-22 Response from Ethan

Pat,

I tried to look up the call you mentioned, but I couldn't find it to let you know what happened. I'm sure they did call, it might just be one of the rare strange calls that we cannot find later without a case number. As for the speed/traffic studies, just let me know where your top 3 choices for locations to study will be. I'll work with the City Engineer's office to see about getting one started. I have no idea about the availability of the Stealth Stat's, but they are usually good about getting them up in a timely manner for us and then they stay up for about a week.

Thanks,

Sergeant Ethan Roe
CORE & East Area Community Policing Units

I copied you on my response this morning. Still waiting to hear from Jim Gittemeier.

- A neighbor reported speeding trucks today, from parking lot project at the end:

Mr. Benning:

I am writing to address an ongoing safety hazard with the repaving of the parking lot on the Park Point Beach House.

Sinnot Blacktop is working on the Park Point Beach House parking lot and has numerous heavy dump trucks (~40,000 lbs.) driving up and down Minnesota Avenue at speed well above the 30-mph speed limit. This creates a hazard to anyone on the road.

I called Sinnot Blacktop to ask them to slow their drivers down and was told that their drivers speeding is a police matter and not an issue for the contractor. I therefore left a message for the Park Point Police Park Point Representative Sgt. Ethan Roe and asked for enhanced enforcement of the speed laws for the Sinnot construction vehicles.

In my career, I spent decades as a Construction Manager for major projects and can attest that the safety hazards caused by a contractor's drivers are the responsibility of the owner (e.g., City Of Duluth) and the contractor (e.g., Sinnot), not the police. If you question this, please ask any Personal Injury Attorney!

As you most likely know, Park Point is mainly a single street (Minnesota Avenue) with few major intersections or traffic control measures. This can lead drivers going from one end to the other to drive above the posted speed as if it was a highway. But Park Point is a COMMUNITY with many pedestrians, tourists, dog-walkers, bicyclists, runners, and kids on the street. During a typical weekday on the point there are lots of kids on Park Point including:

- At least 50 teenagers at the Duluth Rowing Club for the morning youth rowing who are working out in the parking lot, and most will be bicycling there and home.
- At least 30 small children at the Lafayette Community Club in the yard and on the street waiting for a bus.
- Busloads of kids going to the Park Point Beach Club for some school event.

In addition, today is going to be another warm day in Duluth, so hundreds of cars will be coming down to Park Point to go to the beach, launch boats, or just drive the point to enjoy the cooler air from the lake. Families entering and exiting their cars, parked on both sides of the street, to access the beach on these first warm days of summer causes a particular hazard due to the excited kids and unexpected crossing locations.

Please address this matter with the contractor or find another contractor who will take their safety responsibility seriously. The life of a child may rest on something being done to stop the speeding.

Thanks,

Keith G. McLaughlin, PE

Mobile: 218.576.5737

- **City response:**

Keith, thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will follow up.

PEGGY BILLINGS | Senior Engineering Specialist | **City of Duluth** | 411 West 1st St, Room 240, Duluth, MN 55802 | 218-730-5068 | pbillings@duluthmn.gov

- PP Erosion and High Water-Hamilton Smith
- MP-50- Paul Treuer

Discussion and action on unfinished business & updates:

- [Blister Rust on White Pines](#) don't prune in the spring!

Lafayette projects: Reminder for July and upstairs

- Hi Coral,
 - We just received confirmation that the hardwood floors at Lafayette Community Center will be refinished July 11 – 20, so unfortunately the Edible Garden Pot Luck will not be able to be hosted in the space on July 11. Do you want to move the date or work with the Community Club to utilize the downstairs space?
 - **Chris Severson**

- Parks Permit Coordinator

- Re. Lafayette City requests/responsibilities:
Dear Park Point Community Club,

Thank you for submitting a 2022 Maintenance Request Form to us at Park Maintenance. They were very informative. We have reviewed the requests, and are writing you today to detail our response and proposed next steps.

We reviewed these requests with Park Maintenance, Property and Facilities and Parks and Recreation staff to ensure we got the most accurate response possible to your concerns.

Some of the requests will require more conversation, others will be able to easily be accomplished. Some requests highlighted an already existing partnership – while some asked for more service.

Please read our responses below and let me know if you have any follow-up questions:

Maintenance Request	Park Maintenance Response	Next Steps
Grass cutting.	Yes, there will be a contracted vendor for this work during 2022.	
Garbage and recycling dumpsters emptied weekly in summer.	Yes, this is on the Waste Management pickup schedule.	Call Todd Armbruster is garbage is ever overflowing or getting full for additional service.
Cleaning the bathrooms.	This is on our radar, and Properties and Facilities Management is aware.	Coordinate with Alicia Watts if future issues arise.
Replacement of lower level front window screen.	This is on our radar, and Properties and Facilities Management is aware.	
Power wash building and outdoor lighting.	This is on our radar, and Properties and Facilities Management is aware.	Coordinate with Alicia Watts on timing if needed.
Mouse mitigation.	Yes, we will submit a work order request with Properties and Facilities Management	Coordinate with Alicia Watts if future issues arise.

	for addressing this issue in the fall.	
Ant mitigation.	This is on our radar, and Properties and Facilities Management is aware.	Coordinate with Alicia Watts if future issues arise.
Grease trap inspection.	This is on our radar, and Properties and Facilities Management is aware.	
New toilets in lower level.	This is on our radar, and Properties and Facilities Management is aware.	
Reinstate water fountain.	This is on our radar, and Properties and Facilities Management is aware.	
Winter rink support for water and plowing.	Yes, by request only.	Coordinate with Bob Dunsmore as needed.
Review permitting for the Annual PPCC Art Fair.	Yes, contact Chris Serverson with permitting.	Contact Chris Severson.
Volunteering Note: PPCC volunteers can help with the following: gardening, trash pickup, mowing, weed whacking, daily beach and street clean up, rink support	Great! Thank you!	

Cheryl Skafte | Parks and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor | **City of Duluth** | 110 North 42nd Avenue West, Duluth, MN 55807 | 218-730-4334 (office) | 218-341-8454 (cell) | cskafte@duluthmn.gov

● Internet at Lafayette: 6/21 no new updates

Hello Dawn,

The city has been perusing some grants to have internet installed in community centers citywide, at this time it is uncertain if we will be awarded any of the funding. In the absence of a secured funding source the city is unable to provide internet. Please let me know if you have any follow up questions.

Thanks,

Alicia Watts | Assistant Manager | **City of Duluth Parks and Recreation** | 411 West First St, Duluth, MN 55802 | 218-730-4301 | awatts@duluthmn.gov

- **Boardwalk Grants- 6/21 no updates, a few boards were replaced near the new bathrooms in May**

April 5th

Hi Dawn,

I received some follow up on the grant. The grant was awarded but it won't be under contract till mid-summer. Once we are under contract we can begin the planning process. Our planning team will work to do final design and bid for installation by late summer. Progress will depend upon availability of contractors that late in the season that are willing to take on the project. Which means it might not be installed until spring of 2023. We'll know more once we go to bid in late summer.

Thanks,

Alicia Watts | Assistant Manager | **City of Duluth Parks and Recreation** | 411 West First St, Duluth, MN 55802 | 218-730-4301 | awatts@duluthmn.gov

From City grant dept on Lafayette Boardwalks:

3/26

Yes, we got funded! Anticipate final completion of both by year's end. Lafayette will be done 1st as we already have the engineering plans. Duluth intends to use all the recycled lpe on the point's boardwalks so will probably apply again next year as well.

Discussion and action on new business:

Adjournment & Reminders:

50th Park Point Art Fair: June 25,26

Duluth International Regatta: July 9

PP 5 Miler: July 14

Next PPCC meeting is Tuesday, July 19th

National Night Out: August 2, St. Andrew's By the Lake, 28th and MN Ave. 5-7pm, free food and lemonade, music by Len & Lois