



The Breeze

Of Park Point

Upcoming Events

**Parcel Consolidation
Workshop**
November 9th, 6-8 PM
at Lafayette

**Lafayette Community
Edible Garden
Potluck, Monday,**
November 13th
6-8PM
at Lafayette

**Park Point
Community Club
Meeting**
November 21st
at Lafayette
social at 6:45,
meeting at 7PM

**Park Point Flower
Garden Club
contact**
Sue Solin
218-349-0682

**Park Point
Rummage Sale June**
14&15 2024

Park Point art Fair
June 29&30 2024

**Just
Waiting
For Ice!**

Meeting with the County Assessor on Park Point!

Parcel Consolidation Workshop & 2024 brings Physical Inspections on Park Point for Tax Purposes:

Streamlining the Parcel Paperwork and Laying out what to expect in 2024!

AGENDA:

Discussion of Consolidation process and a brief overview of the valuation process

Date: Nov. 9th, 2023

Time: 6-8p

What you need to bring:

Yourselves – We will have computers available to look up your property location and parcel identification numbers.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like to know more or consolidate your parcels, please call 218.726.2304

Why consolidate?

Right now, many Park Point taxpayers have multiple parcels that span different plats. Oftentimes, this makes it difficult to understand and explain the valuation of the property as a whole, which is the sum of all contiguous parcels under the same ownership. For example, the assessors have had to visually show parcels on a map for taxpayers to understand the multiple plats occurring on Park Point. This is not always an option over the phone for the owner to have a map in front of them. Taxpayers also have multiple valuation notices and tax statements to track and process. These issues can be addressed by consolidating the adjoining parcels into one parcel.

Pros for property owners consolidating parcels:

- *One valuation notice and one tax statement to keep track of. Rather than numerous statements.*
- *Free to combine*
- *Easy to understand your valuation*

Pros to St. Louis County:

- *Less paperwork!*
- *Easier to place valuations on one parcel vs. splitting it between multiple parcels.*
- *Easier to explain to owners when they have questions about valuations, or when they are doing neighbor comparisons.*

What does this mean for my property valuation?

· Your valuation will not change by consolidating your parcels. Your valuation is already the sum of all your individual parcel values.

Are we required to do this?

· No, it is completely optional for the taxpayer. This is a proactive approach by St. Louis County to help the efficiency of valuations and understanding of property valuations for Park Point.

What if I want to split or sell a part of my property later?

· This process is intended for properties that are not likely to be further divided in the future. If you decide to split up your parcels later, there is a \$75 (as of now) to split them back. This process may or may not have additional steps depending on your goals. Assessor's staff will be available at the meeting to further discuss these situations. (continued on page 4)

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

breezeditor@msn.com 726-0110

Submissions for the December issue are due by 11/27/2023

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
218-340-7220

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 (S-curve sign)
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,

Here are June 2024 dates for your calendar if you are already dreaming of next summer:

- Rummage Sale: Friday June 14 and Saturday June 15, 2024!
- Grandma's Marathon: June 22
- PP Art Fair: June, 29, 30

Visit the Lafayette Polling Place on November 7th!

Now for a year- round and lifelong topic of conversation:

If you are interested in learning more about how property taxes on Park Point are calculated, would like to check in with our elected officials and want to consolidate your parcels, please plan for Thursday, Nov. 9 at Lafayette.

The County Assessor's Office would like to meet with Park Pointers at a Public Meeting on Thursday, November 9, 6-8pm in upper Lafayette. On hand will be:

- Staff from St Louis County Assessor's Office
- Councilor Roz Randorf
- Commissioner Annie Harala

The evening will include a presentation that will provide an overview of parcel consolidation and a look ahead for the 2024 assessment session when the St Louis County assessor's office will be walking through the community to do onsite assessments done every 5 years. There will be time for Q&A on the assessment process as well as staff on hand with computers to support residents looking to consolidate parcels.

Bring your questions and watch the website for any updates or further details on this meeting!

There will be no regular PPCC meeting in December. Check out the very festive Lafayette Community Garden Potluck in December for some great cheer! The PPCC 2024 Membership Kickoff Pizza Party will be held on Tuesday, January 16th.

I had the opportunity to attend a fascinating event, Restoring with Fire in the Lake Superior Region, on the afternoon of Oct. 3 at the Cloquet Forestry Center. Members of PPCC MP50 were invited and we rode in a big wagon through the forest learning about the area's history, forestry management, the process leading up to a controlled burn, tools used in a controlled burn. We stopped at many sites and took note of how forests looked before and after fire; fellow attendees asked many good questions which led to more good questions. The forests are beautiful and open to the public, information is here. <https://cfc.cfans.umn.edu/forests-facilities/recreation> Thank you to forest researcher Lane Johnson, Paul Priestley and all of the staff at the Cloquet Forestry Center and the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe for this opportunity! We look forward to learning more soon when Superior works on a plan for Wisconsin Point forests. We connected with Superior's Fire Chief, Camron Vollbrecht, the director of Superior's Parks, Recreation & Forestry, Linda Cadotte at the event in addition to DNR's AmberBeth VanNingen, SNA Northeast Regional Specialist. What a great day to be in the forest! I will post photos on the website which includes a photo of a cross section from a 1776 red pine from MN Point.

Thank you for reading The Breeze and staying in touch with your neighbors! If you'd like to help get winter skating at Lafayette up and running this season, get in touch with Rinkmaster Mark Elden. We will need help to make this happen!

Dawn

(Assessors' meeting, continued)

When will this be effective?

- *Park Point is up for physical inspection next year (the summer of 2024), which will affect the 2025 assessment, for taxes payable in 2026. The goal is for the consolidations to be reflected for the 2025 assessment.*

What do I have to do?

- *Fill out a consolidation request form. County Assessor staff will have these available at the meeting.*

Park Pointers' question:

As you might imagine, property tax talk on Park Point is a hot topic. Neighbors are watching and wondering what will happen with the very high sales prices of several properties purchased and then torn down. How will these sales affect the taxes of everyone else on PP?

- *We are happy to do a brief discussion of the valuation process at the meeting. However, we would like to keep this meeting focused on getting the paperwork filled out to help the owners reduce their paperwork of statements and have a clearer understanding of their valuations so when we do a complete revalue next year, it will be beneficial for everyone.*

Come and take care of this paperwork and hear from County Assessor staff on what's ahead for 2024!

News from the Lafayette Community Edible GARDEN

Thanks to Keith McLaughlin and Dan O'Neill who heeded our call for help to rebuild the garden beds that rotted out. They are sourcing materials to start this project in 2024.

At our October 9 potluck dinner meeting, we honored Indigenous People's Day with a land acknowledgement and a presentation by our new member Aaron Prim, a member of the Pawnee Nation. After giving us a blessing in his native tongue, he spoke about his tribe's origin story and its work to preserve its agricultural traditions and historic seeds. The Pawnee story starts with the stars creating the Pawnee people and the Three Sisters seeds (corn, squash and beans) that sustained them. The women farmed the land near their villages and learned how to dry the seed and preserve the vegetables by wrapping them in thatch containers and burying them in the ground.

In the 1870s, after the United States implemented the Reservation System the tribe, especially women, became vulnerable to attacks by other tribes because the agricultural areas were far from the safety of their towns. The Pawnees were then moved from their original villages in the Nebraska area to an Oklahoma reservation. The new situation compromised their ability to follow the traditional farming practices because the seeds that grew in fertile Nebraska did not grow in the red clay of Oklahoma. The tribe and their crops diminished. However, foresighted elder women saved some of the ancestral seeds and in the 2000s, those saved seeds were sent to a farmer in Nebraska. She grew them and helped revive the old seeds of the Pawnee. Now, seedbanks are replenished with seeds from the original crops early Pawnees cultivated and their food heritage is saved.

Aaron passed around samples of the native Pawnee seeds and corn cobs that are currently grown by his tribe. Here you can watch a 10minute video if you'd like to learn more: <https://www.pbs.org/video/pawnee-seed-warriors-revive-ancient-ties-to-ancestors-fo9tjl/>

At the November 13 Potluck dinner, we will have a mini "garage sale" fundraiser. Missy says, "We'll be doing a small fundraiser for the garden. Please bring cash or check for a donation to the garden in exchange for goodies. We'll have donated garden books and invite you all to bring your own books or other garden goodies to add to the collection. Maybe we'll even find some holiday gifts for family/friends among the mix." In addition, we will learn about the history of Park Point from local history buffs.

If you want information about membership or our future meetings, Missy King is the new contact person for folks interested in our community garden and potluck dinners. She can be contacted at 515-991-7280, mjking@siu.edu. Our monthly potluck dinners are FREE and open to all Park Pointers. They take place at the Lafayette Community Club. Please bring your own plates, silverware, beverage and a dish to share. We will continue to have our monthly potluck dinner meetings on the second Monday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, November 13, 6 p.m. potluck dinner meeting. Bring a dish to share, your own beverages and your own eating utensils.

Monday, December 11, 6 to 8 p.m. potluck dinner meeting and holiday party. We hope to have a speaker from Project Joy Northland.

-Susan Peters

Park Point community Club Minutes

The October 2023 monthly meeting of the Park Point Community Club was called to order by Dawn Buck, President at 7:00 pm on October 17th, 2023.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Motion was approved to accept the minutes as written in The Breeze. All in attendance voted aye. As a reminder, there was no September meeting due to the Mayoral candidate forum.

Treasurers Report – Gale Kerns

End of July balance \$33,886

End of August balance - \$31,103

Motion was made and approved to accept the report.

Dawn introduced Jim Filby Williams from the City of Duluth as our guest speaker. Mr. Williams outlined the City of Duluth's plans for working with the PPCC, other organizations and MP50 to move ahead with grant funding and ongoing research and evaluation. Additional information regarding the presentation will be available on the PPCC website or by contacting Paul Treuer with MP50. This was followed by a short Q&A period. We'd like to thank Jim for updating us on the City's plans for beach restoration and nourishment.

Art Fair – Carla Tamburro

The PPCC benefited from the 2023 Art Fair in the Amount of \$9860. Thanks to Carla, artists, and Volunteers for another successful year! Carla provided a brief update on focal points for the 2024 Art Fair. They would like to increase sponsorship, increase the number of applicants and with a tourism grant from the City, increase overall attendance. Please contact Carla if you'd like to get involved. Dates for next summer are June 29th and June 30th, 2024.

Watch Committee – That's us

Please continue to monitor activity that seems suspicious as well as traffic concerns and report to 911.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

No report

High Water & Erosion – Hamilton Smith

No report

Edible Garden - Coral McDonnell

Planning is starting for 2024. Please watch the PPCC website for details on future potluck events.

Summer Youth Program – Britta Desutter

No report.

Rummage Sale - Deb Strange

Dates for the 2024 Rummage Sale are Friday June 14th and Saturday June 15th.

Environmental Committee - Dick Gould

Clean up and remediation work is ongoing at the old Bayside Market site. This process could take up to 2 years to complete.

Program Committee – Dave Poulin

No report

Traffic Safety – Pat Sterner

See PPCC website for updates.

MP-50: Paul Treuer No report. Please see the PPCC website or contact Paul directly at paul.treuer@gmail.com

The Breeze - Alan Dartanyan

Everything is going well. Please submit items of interest.

A motion was made to not have a December club meeting, as in years past. Motion was approved and all in attendance voted aye.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rory Strange, Secretary

REQUIEM FOR A BELOVED TREE

You stood your ground for years and years
 Your mighty branches towering
 Above your loving friends.

You inhaled the noxious gases spewed
 Exhaled oxygen so pure
 For all of us to breathe.

The winds blew strong from east and west
 Your balance never wavered
 Taming storms to keep us safe.

Your roots went down through sand and sand
 Joining with your neighbor trees
 To keep Park Point in place.

Last week your life was cruelly ended
 Felled by saw and axe and rope
 Hauled away in piles and piles.

Know that you were deeply loved
 We knew the gifts you gave
 Rest in peace, beloved tree.

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what you see and
hear



JOIN US
CELEBRATE
ST. ANDREW'S DAY!

Sunday, November 26
 9:45 AM

Bagpipe music
 Scones with tea
 Prayers for all

2802 Minnesota Ave | 218-727-1262
info@standrewsbythelakeduluth.org

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



REFERRAL AGENT




THE RIGHT AGENT IS KEY

218-464-3790
LYNN BENTFIELD



Duluth Rowing Club News

As anyone who has traveled by the Duluth Rowing Club property noticed, things have gradually quieted down after a very successful rowing season. For juniors, masters, competitive, recreational, Learn to Rowers, and any and all that used the sport of rowing for fitness, most would say there was lots of fun and a great time to be able to enjoy their time on the water from pulling on an oar in those long, skinny boats.

DRC competitive members enjoyed regattas in Duluth, Thunder Bay, Kenora, Minneapolis, and even as far away as the World Masters events in South Africa. Many started their rowing as soon as the ice was gone (late this year!) and hopefully continuing until the ice will soon form(?). The Duluth junior program saw 80 youngsters between 13 and 19 on the water just about every morning from June until end of August. The “old” people (masters) saw a big infusion of new rowers, many as graduates from the Learn To Row program, and many new rowers that have either moved to Duluth in their professional careers or decided to get back into rowing after a hiatus from their younger years. It was also fun to see college students from Duluth come back and row with their original club while on summer break.

This year saw two new associate head coaches for the juniors: Andrea Rosenberg and Emily Wells, and a master’s head coach, Pete Olson, who worked with the early morning adults. Greg Peterson and Tom Rauschenfels were the Learn To Row instructors and were very pleased with the maxed-out sessions of athletes that took totally new rowers, and one session of refresher rowers. As a side note, if interested in rowing season 2024 as a potential candidate for Learn To Row, keep an eye on the DRC website duluthrowing.org in late February, early March, for the announcements of dates, times, and total openings. For those that wanted to row this past season remember, those seats filled up fast!

Lastly, and most important, the DRC cannot thank everyone enough, all Park Pointers included, for the help, kindness, and interest shown for one of Duluth’s oldest sporting institutions. It will be some months before the orange fencing comes back down and the boathouse doors are again open, and those long, skinny boats with people of all ages are plying the waters north and south on either Bay or Lake side of our island. To that end, a big THANK YOU to EVERYONE for helping with the Duluth Rowing Club’s success!

Ton Rauschenfels

Park Point Flower Garden Club

“Cultures grow on the vine of tradition.” ~Jonah Goldberg

Traditions are an important aspect of any community and society. It holds us together. It binds us. In the early 1970s, a senior citizen community group was formed on Park Point called the “Buoys and Gulls.” If you were over the age of 55 during the 1970s - 2000s, you probably belonged. They were known for many things: trips, bingo, lunches, programs and camaraderie. The Buoys and Gulls Club also started the corner garden in front of Lafayette. There was a stone bench, and flowers were planted. The Buoys and Gulls Club kept the flower garden going for many years. Sometime in the late 1980s, the Park Point Flower Garden Club assumed responsibility for the planting and watering. John and Nancy Sedgewick, circa 2007, took over and have been planting, watering and weeding this plot ever since. They have taken it upon themselves to make the corner a welcoming gateway to Lafayette Square. They planted various perennials, rose bushes and many, many tulips. With help from Bob Swanson, the stone bench was moved to the upper garden area and a giant stone was added to the lower garden. Trellises were also constructed in both areas. After 16 years of hauling water, planting bulbs and weeding, the Sedgewicks have decided to step back and return the corner area back to the Flower Garden Club. We would like to thank the Sedgewicks for their many years of service and we look forward to continuing this tradition. As I have been reading through some historical documents from our Flower Garden Club, I came across another tradition that the early Club practiced. Members would collect and donate money to various charities during the holiday season. Some years money would be gifted to the Red Cross, other years to the Salvation Army. Sometime later this tradition was changed. In November, the club would meet, usually at Gould’s house, to make ornaments. Mary Ellen Grover would create a prototype and the rest of the club would do their best to replicate it. In December, the club members bake cookies and later meet, traditionally at Diane Lavamaki’s residence, to fix cookie trays, adorned with our ornaments. These trays were then delivered to residents of Park Point who had recently lost a spouse or who were homebound. This tradition was stalled due to Covid. This year we would like to reintroduce it. If you have a neighbor who has recently suffered the loss of a spouse, or is homebound, please let us know. We would love to add them to our list and keep this Park Point tradition.

Sue Solin

MP50

Minnesota Point Long-Range Resiliency Planning



Meeting with the City of Duluth:

Dawn Buck and Paul Treuer met on Oct. 6th with Duluth city officials Jim Filby Williams, Director of Properties, Parks, and Library, Breanna Ellison, Community Relations Officer, and Councilor Roz Randorf to discuss the Section 111 Study, City engagement with the Park Point community with resiliency planning, and uncertainty about the City's plan of action for dealing with erosion and drifting sand on the north end of Minnesota Point. It was decided by the group Mr. Williams would convene a meeting with PPCC/MP50, City of Duluth, USACE, and state and federal elected officials to address the concerns about the Section 111 Study. Mr. Williams offered to meet with PPCC on October 17, attend MP50 Working Group meetings, and share a copy of the NOAA Letter of Intent the City submitted for funding describing a general outline of proposed work on the north end of Minnesota Point.

NOAA Grant Letter of Intent

MP50 received notification that its Letter of Interest (LOI) for the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge was not approved for submission of a full grant proposal. The LOI was recognized as being a good proposal, but the scope of the project was small compared to other LOI's. There were 869 eligible LOI's submitted from across the nation and only 40 were accepted to write full grant proposals. St. Louis County submitted a LOI for coastal resilience that was approved; this larger region includes Minnesota Point. MP50 will reach out to St. Louis County to offer input into their full grant proposal.

Coastal States Organization

MP50 hosted a tour of Minnesota Point during the recent nor'easter on Oct. 26th for Vidya Balasubramanyam, Research, Science and Program Director of Coastal States Organization (CSO). CSO "serves as the collective voice for the nation's coastal states on federal legislative, administrative, and policy issues relating to coastal, Great Lakes and ocean management." Ms Balasubramanyam is now aware of erosion and flooding issues on Minnesota Point and has offered to inform MP50 of funding and research opportunities.

Resilient Coastal Projects Initiative

MP50 attended the Lake Superior Minnesota and Wisconsin Resilient Coastal Projects Initiative (RCPI) on Oct. 17th. MP50 was part of the Duluth team that included Mayor Larson. RCPI was launched in 2021 to address acute coastal impacts affecting communities along the Great Lakes. It "develops innovative, nature-based solutions that protect homes, businesses, public spaces, infrastructure, and local economies and works with communities to finance projects through federal, state and regional grants." The Duluth team is scheduled to meet with RCPI Nov. 2 to discuss potential projects for Duluth.

Contact: Paul Treuer, MP50 Coordinator, paul.treuer@gmail.com)

Park Point Artist Showing New work

Park Point neighbor Natalija Walbridge will be showing a new series of large scale appliqué art pieces at Duluth Pottery & Tile Gallery, 1924 West Superior Street. The series is titled Connected by a Thread, and represents the interdependence of different elements of the eco system. The opening event is November 9th from 5-7. The work will be on display through the end of the month.

Inspiration for this series was found in her backyard, on the bay side of Park Point, with a view of Hearing Island across the channel. Natalija is passionate about the biodiversity of the local ecosystem. She researches scientific facts about each subject to communicate a meaningful narrative. Pairing different animals, insects, and plants with elements of their habitats reinforces the importance of understanding the interdependence of the natural world. By drawing the viewer in through beauty, Natalija hopes to encourage people to learn about our local ecosystem and implement preservation initiatives.

"This project has allowed me to develop a new way to give my illustrations a richer, deeper meaning through fabric appliqué and hand-stitched details. Learning a new process has inherent challenges, but mastering new skills is also deeply rewarding. Creating a series of works has also been a new goal. By sustaining my creative energy over many months, I have expanded my ability to express a unified narrative through multiple designs. I am grateful every day to live in such a beautiful place where nature inspires me whenever I step outside. It's my pleasure to share this beauty by channeling it into art."



This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature's general and arts and cultural heritage funds.



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

PP water Quality issues: Chris Kleist, ckleist@duluthmn.gov, office 218-730-4063 and 218-355-0598

Parking Services 218-730-4000

Dog issues: Shelter: 218-723-3259

On-Duty Cell Phone: 218-390-2256

City Councilor Roz Randorf rrandorf@duluthmn.gov 218-443-8364

City of Duluth/home 218-730-5000

duluthmn.gov/contact

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