



# *The Breeze*

## *Of Park Point*

### Upcoming Events

**Lafayette Community  
Edible Garden Potluck**

**May 13<sup>th</sup>, 6-8PM  
at Lafayette**

**Park Point  
Community Club  
Meeting,  
May 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Social at 6:45.  
Meeting at 7:00PM  
at Lafayette.**

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

**Special School  
Bonding vote May  
14th**

**Smelt Parade  
May 26th**

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

**Park Point Art Fair  
June 29&30**



Fellow Pointers,

Park Point's community garden begins to flourish with the springtime planting season, the maritime scene at Lake Superior also comes alive. May, particularly, marks the arrival of notable vessels such as the MV Maxima from the Netherlands. This modern cargo ship, part of the Wagenborg fleet, is an impressive sight. Built in 2021, it boasts a length of 150 meters and a width of 16 meters, equipped to handle a variety of cargoes with its innovative open hatch design and two large cargo holds. The Maxima is not just functional but also built with sustainability in mind, adhering to ice class standards and equipped with advanced environmental management systems.

Duluth's strategic location on the westernmost tip of Lake Superior makes it a pivotal point for international shipping, often welcoming ships, or 'Salties', from across the globe. The Maxima, with its remarkable cargo capacity of 625,000 cubic feet for grain and other bulk, represents the link between local agricultural producers and global markets, highlighting Duluth's role in global commerce. Fun fact, it is 4,725 nautical miles from the Netherlands to Park Point! Now don't forget this if you ever appear on Jeopardy!

As these ships navigate into the harbor, they offer a unique backdrop to Park Point, combining the rustic charm of community gardening with the dynamic energy of international shipping. This blend underscores the unique dual character of Park Point—rooted in both the tranquility of gardening and the bustling activity of global trade, making May a month of growth and arrival in every sense.

All the best,  
Vibe with Mike

**Sailing toward  
Summer – but  
not there yet!**

## ***The Breeze***

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

[breezeditor@msn.com](mailto:breezeditor@msn.com) 726-0110

Submissions for the June issue are due  
by 5/27/2024

### **Park Point Community Club officers:**

**President: Dawn Buck**

[parkpointcc@gmail.com](mailto:parkpointcc@gmail.com)

525-1764

**Vice President: Tom Griggs**

3429 Minnesota Ave.

[Thom0313@gmail.com](mailto:Thom0313@gmail.com)

**Secretary: Rory Strange**

[rstrange3@icloud.com](mailto:rstrange3@icloud.com)

218-340-7220

**Treasurer: Mary Treuer**

[mbtreuer@gmail.com](mailto:mbtreuer@gmail.com)

### **Committees:**

**Art Fair: Carla Tamburro**

[coordinator@parkpointartfair.org](mailto:coordinator@parkpointartfair.org)

218-348-7338

### **Rummage Sale:**

**Deb Strange**

[debstrange2008@icloud.com](mailto: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](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/registration)

### **The Postcard (S-curve sign)**

**Dawn buck**

[parkpointcc@gmail.com](mailto:parkpointcc@gmail.com)

**Sunshine: Pam Griggs**

[pamgriggs101@gmail.com](mailto:pamgriggs101@gmail.com)

218-260-6032

**Park Point Community Club**

**P.O. Box 16326**

**Duluth, MN 55816-0326**

[www.parkpointcommunityclub.org](http://www.parkpointcommunityclub.org)

## **President's Report**

Hi Neighbors,

The trees for the annual Club planting initiative will be picked up on May 9; neighbor Rory Strange has offered his garage as home base for the planting effort. Watch for contact information and planting outings on the website and S Curve sign. Here is what we will be planting:

- 75 Norway (Red Pine) seedlings
- 1 bundle each of June Berry, American Linden, Black Cherry, False Indigo

Please attend this important public meeting scheduled for Monday, June 3rd, afternoon, if you are available. This is the public meeting with the City, the US Army Corps of Engineers and the contractor, Barr Engineering, who will be conducting the modeling for the Sect. 111 study. Watch the PPCC website for the specific time and location. For at least fifty years, Park Pointers have been asking for assistance in addressing the damage to the shorelines that occur from erosion and high water. The long cement piers of the shipping channels and the channels themselves, on both ends of Minnesota Point, are affecting the beaches and the current study's goal is to accurately quantify the percentage of responsibility by the USACE. Unfortunately, for several reasons, the data produced in two prior studies did not result in further study or actions to develop or put a long-term plan into place to mitigate the changes caused by the piers. We now find ourselves fifty years after the first study with an enhanced cadre of resolute Park Pointers and an engaged community. I hope to see you at this meeting where we will learn about the modeling, the data that is produced, who is interpreting the data, how the percentage of responsibility will be calculated, the process, why things will be different this time, and more. The meeting is open to the public and everyone is welcome.

This morning, I was reading the Minnesota Point Timeline by Janet Olson which is a rich document that accompanies The Minnesota Point Environmental Management Plan produced by the Park Point Community Club in June 1999 with legislative funding. From the Timeline, "Call it Minnesota Point or Park Point. By learning about where we live, you will come to understand why Park Pointers are cautious when it comes to change, emotional when we speak about the environment, and finally, protective about the place we call home... woven into the history of the Point are significant threads that began to make a pattern early on. The pattern seen is one of citizens attempting to protect their home from the onslaught of pollution, out of control development and destruction of habitat ... these came to a standstill when citizens did not persevere with a cause, when agendas changed, volunteers burned out or bureaucracy won out." Our actions today will place all of us onto The Timeline, see you there with your questions, concerns, needs, expectations.

PPCC hosted two meetings last week at Lafayette that were well attended. Monday's meeting (42 attendees) was on the problem of blowing fine grain sand from the Bridge to 13th and Wednesday's meeting (approx.. 100 attendees) was on the property valuation and assessment process & concerns on rapidly rising property taxes. Thank you to everyone that attended and enjoyed the Club's signature Civility Cookies throughout the meeting. The County will share the presentation with me and I will share via email or link. I have a recording of the Blowing Sand meeting from a neighbor and I will link this on the website. Thank you to the State, County and City staff members who (continued next page)

(President's Report, continued)

came down to provide education, support, and guidance to our community. Also, thank you to County Commissioner Annie Harala for spending the evening with us on Park Point and listening to concerns and talking through processes and what might be possible actions for us to take. Check this out from MPR's Dan Kraker on Wednesdays meeting: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2024/04/26/duluths-park-point-residents-air-property-tax-concerns-in-wake-of-cargill-purchases>

The next PPCC meeting is on Tuesday May 21. We will hold elections and talk about how awesome the summer will be! Bring your ideas on how to keep our community strong and engaged. See you soon on the water! Floating, no fires, fasten up your pfd! Dawn

## PPCC Elections

**Election of officers will take place at the May PPCC meeting. The current slate of officers: Dawn Buck, President, Tom Griggs, Vice President, Rory Strange, Secretary, and Mary Treuer, Treasurer, are all willing, if not eager, to continue in office. However, if you want in on the action, you can still put your name up for nomination any time prior to the vote on May 21<sup>st</sup>. New blood is always welcome!**

### Editor's note: Ignoring the Elephant

As you no doubt know, the "big story" on Park Point over the last few months has been the purchase of multiple properties by a company owned by Park Point resident Kathy Cargill and the subsequent demolition of the homes on them. This story has been covered in local, regional and even national news outlets -but not here in the Breeze. That's because, basically, I have nothing new to add. There have been lots of rumors, and much speculation, as to the intent of these purchases, but that is not something the Breeze, or the Park Point Community Club, deals in. Where it concerns Park Point residents, as far as the effect on property values, and property taxes, and on the community itself, now those are legitimate stories. The recent well-attended (might I say packed!) meeting with County Commissioner Annie Harala on property valuation and assessment, hosted by the Park Point Community Club was a response to those concerns, and what was learned there will be shared both here and on the PPCC website. So stay tuned. If I learn anything new, I will share it with you. And if YOU learn anything new, please share it with me, at [breezeditor@msn.com](mailto:breezeditor@msn.com)

Full house at tax assessment meeting



### Park Point Art Fair

The 52nd Park Point Art Fair is just around the corner, June 29 & 30. It is the largest gathering of friends and neighbors hosted by The Park Point Community Club. Volunteer, shop or just visit with people who love and appreciate this natural wonder we live on, Park Point. However you choose to be a part of this event we hope to see you there.

The jury has chosen 110 high quality fine artists and craftspeople. Check out the beautiful art on the Park Point Art Fair Facebook page during the months of May and June as we highlight each and every artist. You can have a sneak preview and plan your visit based on your interests. Please share the posts with all your friends!

There are many ways to volunteer and your service entitles you to an invitation to the volunteer and artist dinner catered by Bellisio's on Saturday night, June 29th at 5pm.

We need volunteers to booth sit for the artists, greet attendees, assist families at the make and take booth as well as set-up on Friday and clean-up Sunday night.

This year we have an additional, important task, encouraging attendees to take a four- minute survey. The survey will gather demographic information that we will use to apply for Duluth Tourism dollars again in 2025.

If you are not around the weekend of The Fair you can still help by delivering posters and bookmarks or placing yard signs.

Please call Diane, 727-4067

## PPCC Meeting Minutes

The April 2024 monthly meeting of the Park Point Community Club was called to order by Dawn Buck, President on April 16th, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Dawn opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She thanked the hospitality committee (Ted and Diane) for the delicious cookies!

A 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.

Dawn introduced the new PPCC Treasurer, Mary Treuer. Welcome and thank you for taking on this important role.

### **Treasurers Report** – Mary Treuer

End of February balance - \$23,661

End of March balance - \$20,934

Motion was made and approved to accept the report.

### **Environmental Committee** – Dick Gould

No report

### **Art Fair** – Carla Tamburro

There have been 187 applications and 113 have been accepted. Survey volunteers will be needed for the City of Duluth tourism grant. Keep in mind the Art Fair is June 29 & 30. Please contact Carla regarding potential sponsors. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Diane at 727-4067.

### **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

1 Sympathy card and 2 Get Well cards sent.

### **High Water & Erosion** – Hamilton Smith (not in attendance)

No report

### **Edible Garden** - Coral McDonnell

Community Garden bed repair is in progress. Corn is the vegetable of the year!

### **Summer Youth Program** – Britta Desutter (not in attendance)

People can call to check on remaining availability.

### **Rummage Sale** - Deb Strange

Advertising is in place and the media has also been notified.

Additionally, please remember to vote in the School Board Special Election May 14th at Lafayette. The vote will be to spend 5.2 million per year over 10 years for digital improvements. Voting yes means a property tax increase.

### **Program Committee** – Dave Poulin

Please note, a special meeting regarding property taxes and assessments will be held April 24th at 6pm at Lafayette.

### **Traffic Safety** – Pat Sterner

Please continue to monitor and report any speeding, reckless driving, or other information on the website [ParkPointTrafficSafety@gmail.com](mailto:ParkPointTrafficSafety@gmail.com).

### **MP50:** Paul Treuer

Paul brought us up to date on several meetings to be held in the next month. Please go to the PPCC website for additional information. Organizational plans for MP50 and MPPS merging are continuing. Thanks Pat Sterner and all involved for making this a reality. Please contact Paul directly at [paul.treuer@gmail.com](mailto:paul.treuer@gmail.com)

### **The Breeze** - Alan Dartanyan

Please continue to submit items of interest.

### **Adam from Parks & Rec** – Plans are moving ahead for repair of the boardwalk behind Lafayette

**New Business:** Second reading for a requested funding donation of \$250 to support the Smelt Parade and the several preceding workshops which will be held at Lafayette this year. Please look at the Breeze and the website for workshop dates and times. The date for the 2024 Smelt Parade is May 26th.

Dawn & Ted will be picking up trees May 9th and will be dropping them off at Rory & Deb's house at 3632 Minnesota Ave. Please go to the website for the upcoming pick-up date and planting information.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory Strange, Secretary

### **Pet Sitter Available on Park Point**

- Cats, dogs & other household pets
- Housesitting for homes without pets also welcome
  - Flexible schedule
  - Experience with medically complex pets
  - Extended time to keep your pets company
- Competitive rates · Watering plants & bringing in mail included
- Park Point preferred but will consider other Duluth neighborhoods.

Reach out & let's set it up!  
Brie Monahan • (505) 690-1688 •  
briemonahan@yahoo.com

### **LOOKING TO BUY**

Family of 4 has heart set on living on Park Point. Reach out if you're interested in selling to a (non-billionaire) family, who will grow up on the point and you would like to avoid the traditional hassles of going to market. Any conversation welcome. Amanda Baumgartner  
612-807-0123 OR geis0150@gmail.com

**Tracey Teller, Broker**



**SELL-BUY-RENT**  
www.TellerRealty.com

**218-390-3851**  
TraceyTeller@gmail.com



**Len and Lois**  
**(218) 606-1670**  
**(218) 580-0739**  
**Park Point**  
**Residents/ Musicians**  
**You're going to like**  
**what you see and**  
**hear**

## **MOTHER'S DAY** **SUNDAY, MAY 12**

May is when we celebrate Mothers.  
While not all of us are mothers,  
we all have mothers.

In fact, we have two mothers-  
the one who gave us mortal birth,  
and the Mother Earth who sustains us.  
May is when we honor both.

Join us in worship as a congregation  
that celebrates together, and strives to  
always honor our Mothers.

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any Real Estate questions

218-464-3790  
**LYNN BENTFIELD**  GRADUATE  
REALTOR  
INSTITUTE

## Minnesota Point Resiliency Initiative (MP50)



Section 111 Study meeting held in Duluth April 10th

The city of Duluth hosted a meeting of the Minnesota Point Section 111 team to meet with City officials, technical advisors, USACE engineers, and MP50 Park Point representatives. City officials included mayor Reinert and City Council president Randorf. Dr. John Swenson gave a presentation on how sediment transport from north shore erosion created the first two miles of Minnesota Point with cobble. This represents a shift from findings of the two previous Section 111 Studies. Representatives from the USACE expressed appreciation for his contribution and invited him to represent Duluth on the Section 111 Study. The USACE presented a revised timeline indicating accomplishments (coastal sediment sampling and hiring a contractor to do hydrodynamic and sediment transport modeling study) and planned deliverables. Because of delays hiring the contractor the schedule of the study has been extended 6 months.

The City and USACE will host a public meeting the afternoon of Monday, June 3 (time and place to be announced) with updates on the Section 111 Study. Consulting engineers will present their plans for modeling sediment transport. The public is welcome.

The Association of State FloodPlain Managers (ASFPM) Meeting in Duluth May 2 & 3

The AFSPM consulting team for the Minnesota Point Resiliency Study will meet with members of the Duluth Team to share and discuss results of the year-long project. The consultants will tour Minnesota Point and then go over results of their study. It includes (1) assessment of perceived problems, (2) scenario plans and (3) policies that address effects of flooding. The group will tour Minnesota Point, discuss scenario plans, and begin developing action plans. A follow-up meeting of the group is planned for the end of August.

City responds to issues of drifting sand on the north end of Minnesota Point

Jim Filby Williams, Director of City Properties, Parks and Libraries, and Kate Kubiak, City Natural Resources Coordinator, developed a plan and permitting policy to deal with sand drifting to private property and homes between the lift bridge and 12th street. A public meeting to comment on the plan was held Monday, April 22 from 7:30 - 8:30 PM at Lafayette. City officials at the meeting included Kate Kubiak, Cliff Knettel, Jim Schoberg, and Allison Brooks. DNR Limnologist Briana Speldrich was present. Forty -two Park Point residents attended the meeting.

Duluth City officials submitted the following report April 25, 2024:

“Beach restoration projects on the north end of Minnesota Point completed in 2021 at the behest of neighboring residents have had benefits and costs. As intended, the dredge material placed on the beach by the Army Corps of Engineers provides some protection of private property from Lake Superior storms. However, the fine-grained material included in the beach restoration project has also contributed directly to the accumulation of windblown sand on the same private properties. Property owners, through the Park Point Community Club, have asked the City to help address the sand that has accumulated thus far and prevent further accumulation in the future. After consulting with DNR, Park Point Community Club, and some individual beachfront property owners, the City will install a fence on the beach from the Lift Bridge to the 12th St. beach access. This fence will be made of metal and biodegradable wood. Over time, protective dunes will form along the fence and the City will use native beach grass to stabilize these dunes. The vegetation will take about one year to establish. As part of the fencing project, the City intends to remove sand obstructing the 8th and 12th St accesses and configure fencing to mitigate future obstruction of those accesses. The City will install this fence as soon as they secure a permit to do so from the MN DNR.”

MP50 is a community of practice

MP50 is a learning community dedicated to collaboration to build long-term resilience of Minnesota Point. Diverse views are welcome and encouraged. Please send questions, comments, and requests to receive email updates to Paul Treuer (paul.treuer@gmail.com).

## News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

If the community garden looked like a construction site in April, that's because it was. Keith McLaughlin planned all the details and coordinated the fine work of the dedicated volunteers. The project started with excavating the garden beds. After 300 board cuts, and the end-grains sealed, the new bed surrounds were assembled. Many thanks to Deb McLaughlin who kept everyone fed with sandwiches, beverages, and treats.

Watch for Zach Lamma of Duluth Fence working on our new compost pile enclosure in the garden. He and his crew are doing this project as a public service for our garden community.

Coral McDonnell says, "We deeply appreciate all the gardeners and community members who have donated money and work to keep the garden going over the 15 years of the community garden. We may be doing a little fundraising later this year as more beds will probably need to be redone next season. We have about 48 total beds. This year we completed redoing 12 large beds and 4 smaller beds and they are looking beautiful."

Planting the garden has commenced and later in May, several Harbor City School students will be contributing their services in the garden for a couple days. Please welcome them and thank them if you see them working in the garden. It's great to be back together at our monthly potluck dinners. In April, we had a wonderful buffet potluck and a delightful presentation by Fond du Lac botanist Nikki Crowe. She shared stories about her life and how she learned to love and respect all plants. On May 13, we will gather again to enjoy a meal and hear about native plantings from our neighbor Jessica Boehland. She had her boulevard planted with native plants by Dan Shutte of Shoreview Natives. At this meeting watch for sign-up sheet to choose what committees you would like to work with this summer (watering, weeding, children's program).

If you want information about membership or our future meetings, Missy King is the contact person for folks interested in our community garden and potluck dinners. She can be contacted at 515-991-7280, [mjking@siu.edu](mailto: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:

Save these dates for upcoming potluck dinner meetings: May 13, June 10, July 8.

-Susan Peters

## Traffic Safety Report

Dawn Buck and Pat Sterner met with James Gittemeier from City Planning on April 5 to discuss the project to better define the Recreation Lane on Park Point specific to its use from May 1 – October 31 of each year.

At their request, we have submitted a proposal for design and implementation of community art that will make clear that parking is not allowed in the Recreation Lane during the timeframe noted above. We are including the potential for placement of temporary (summer only) Delineator posts as well. Decisions are pending, with timing to do the project in June.

The City can also submit for an MnDot technical grant to help figure out what to do, and use this as a springboard to get into the City's budget for traffic safety. PPCC will provide a Letter of Support, and will work with the City in submission for the grant.

We will also approach (again) the Fire Department to ask if the Electronic Sign for Beach Fires can also display "NO Parking in the Rec Lane, 30 mph".

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Sterner

## Creative Hands

***New Meeting Day: Wednesday, May 15***

Our summer meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month starting May 15. We'll meet at the same time, same place, St. Andrew's, 9:30-11:30.

The other dates are **June 19, July 17** and **August 21**. Please note the dates on your calendar.

If you have any questions call Sandra at 218-428-5262 and leave a message or email me at the address below. All are welcome!

Sandra Carlson

[sandy@standrewsbythelake.org](mailto:sandy@standrewsbythelake.org)

## *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 Jeremy O'Conner [JOconner@duluthmn.gov](mailto:JOconner@duluthmn.gov)

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

Parking Services 218-730-5470

Dog issues: Shelter: 218-723-3259

On-Duty Cell Phone: 218-390-2256

City Councilor Roz Randorf [rrandorf@duluthmn.gov](mailto:rrandorf@duluthmn.gov) 218-443-8364

City of Duluth/home 218-730-5000

[duluthmn.gov/contact](http://duluthmn.gov/contact)



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