

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 37 issue 5

May 2008

Calendar

**Park Point Community Club
Summer Kickoff Cookout**

May 15th, 6:30PM

At Lafayette

**Meeting & Election of
Officers to follow
(7PM)**

Buoys & Gulls

June Meeting

"No Ants Picnic"

Place to be announced.

??? Call Elaine @ 279 3955

Bingo as usual

every Thurs @ 11 Am

Baypoint Estates

Park Point Rummage Sale

June 13th & 14th

Park Point Art Fair

June 28th & 29th

A Simple Plan

It seemed like such a simple plan: just replace the old, barely working commercial refrigerator at Lafayette with a new, more energy efficient one. And it should have been. But the volunteer (who shall remain nameless) first neglected to measure the available space before ordering the new refrigerator, which, when it was delivered, proved far too large for the space. It was returned, measurements were taken, and a new, smaller refrigerator was ordered.

Job done? Not quite. When the new refrigerator arrived, it became clear that our intrepid volunteer had failed to take into account the variations common to the walls of older buildings. In other words, what's 28 inches wide in one spot ain't necessarily 28 inches wide in another. But sending this refrigerator back didn't seem like too good an option. A smaller refrigerator than this one would have been too small for our needs. So, with the help of a jig saw, hack saw, and a couple pry tools, the space was widened just enough to squeeze it in.

On the plus side, while I (did I say I?) was shopping for this refrigerator, I also picked up another, scratch and dent model to replace the ancient one down in the warming house. That one fit.



The mission of the Breeze is to serve the community by:

- 1) Publishing the minutes and financial statements of the Park Point Community Club
- 2) Informing the community of upcoming meetings, events, happenings and projects
- 3) Providing a forum for Park Point residents to air their concerns
- 4) Sharing the history, stories and anecdotes that make Park Point a unique place to live

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is May 30th for the June 2008 issue. Please send submissions to Alan Dartanyan at breezeditor@msn.com by e-mail or deliver to 1540 Minnesota Ave.

Park Point Community Club Officers:

President: Open

Vice President: Dave Poulin
3101 S. Lake Ave.
722-1511

Secretary: Dave Johnson
722-9764

Treasurer: Chuck Flaig
1511 Minnesota Ave.
727-2814

Committees

ART FAIR

Carla Tamburro
727-2661

Rummage Sale

Charlene Shimmin
722-6828

ENVIRONMENTAL
Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

HOSPITALITY
Diane Gould, 727-4067

LAFAYETTE SQUARE
RENTALS

Barb Flaig 940-2613
barbaraflaig@yahoo.com

S-CURVE SIGN
Dave Johnson, 722-9764

SUNSHINE
Pam Griggs
727-2158

Park Point Community Club
P.O. Box 16326
Duluth, MN 55816-0326
www.
parkpointcommunityclub.org

38th Park Point Art Fair returns to Lake Superior's shores

June 28 and 29, 2008 in Duluth, Minn.

DULUTH, Minn. – An outdoor festival featuring premiere artists from the Midwest and beyond returns June 27 and 28, when the 38th annual Park Point Art Fair will be held at the Park Point Recreation Area in Duluth.

Admission and parking is free at this community-organized event, which features fine arts and crafts, live music, food vendors, children's activities and more—all in a stunning natural setting. In 2007, an estimated 8,000-10,000 visitors attended.

The event features 115 juried artists displaying and selling work in media such as clay, fiber, glass, painting, photography, jewelry, woodwork and sculpture. And while visual art is the showcase, there's more to experience during the fair, where you can stroll a pine-lined path tucked between Lake Superior and the St. Louis Bay:

- A free music stage each day includes local and regional performers, including award winning eco-folk songwriter Michael Monroe;
- Food vendors serve a variety of delicious offerings;
- Artist demonstrations, storytelling, juggling
- A free children's activity area offers make-and-take art;

The Park Point Community Club, a volunteer organization that uses proceeds to support local environmental projects, free public youth activities and other community-rooted efforts, presents the art fair annually. Artists were selected from a pool of 200 applicants by a panel of art professionals who juried work on the basis of craftsmanship and originality.

"We're proud to share a tradition of putting people in touch with the arts and this unique place, which has inspired so many throughout the years," said Carla Tamburro, Park Point Art Fair coordinator. "The pool of applicants this year was tremendous—from the local area and throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin to artists as far away as Florida, California, Arkansas and Arizona."

For more information, including a complete list of artists and 2007 merit award winners, visit www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

At a glance: 38th PARK POINT ART FAIR:

10 am to 5 pm, June 28 and 29, 2008 at the Park Point Recreation Area in Duluth, Minn.

Free admission and parking. 115 regional and national artists. Food court. Live music and storytelling. Children's interactive art. Art demos.

St. Andrew's by the Lake Episcopal Church
(Worshiping temporarily at 45th and Glenwood)
9:45 a.m. www.standrewsbythelake.org

Well, we have all come to the conclusion that we miss our church home on Park Point very much. Hopefully the building will begin soon. As Pentecost approaches, we are also aware that the church is not a building -- but people on a journey into the Way of Christ. Wherever we go, we are the church -- whether we travel to church on a Sunday morning, or to work or school the rest of the week. Kudos to all the Park Pointers who have been so faithful in driving OFF the Point to attend church. Kudos to everyone else who travels these days -- given the price of gas. If you can, ride your bike, carpool, or skate to church. That will be kinder to the wonderful gift of creation we are blessed to live in. Remember to expose yourself every day to the movement of creation, and you'll find tasks that have lost their joy or felt like drudgery, surprisingly, become infused with new possibility and new hope.

Peace to All
Pentecost - May 11th (9:45 a.m.)
Trinity Sunday - May 18th (9:45 a.m.)
Celebration of Senior High Grads - June 1
Brat Sale - June 13 and 14

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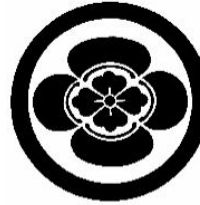
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Park Point Community Club April 17, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Tonight Lafayette Square felt stuffy and close, redolent with the stale air of a previous meeting that was just breaking up as Community Club members filed in. The previous meeting had set out cookies, and Club President Dave Poulin noted with a sigh that the Club's idiot secretary had not only found the tray, but was rapidly and furtively helping himself to the other group's cookies with both hands. Chiefly to get the secretary back to his seat, Dave Poulin loudly opened the meeting at 7:05. Much to everyone's continuing surprise, minutes from the March meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Flaig gave a brief report, stating first that there hadn't been a lot of activity for the treasury over the past month. The final cost for Lafayette's two new refrigerators isn't known yet. Income deposits have come from jury fees (money sent in with their applications by artists hoping to be chosen for the Art Fair) and exhibitors' fees (reservations sent in by the chosen artists) for this year's Art Fair. Chuck will have a more detailed financial report in May.

Special Presentations & Speakers: At this point, regular meeting order was formally suspended (unlike the usual pattern in which it merely falls off the rails). Jake Kapsner brought in a community civility training program he was familiar with through his work at Klatzky & Associates. The program, called "Speak Your Peace," stresses nine themes of civility; that is, nine cardinal rules for getting along. They are: listen, be agreeable, don't gossip, pay attention, show respect, apologize, give constructive criticism, take responsibility, and be inclusive. A tenth, thou shalt not kill, was tabled until next month. Some discussion brought out the notion that we in the club get along dandy; how do we get City of Duluth officials to listen? Following that, Club members briefly formed a circle and sang Kumbayah. We didn't find peace, but we did make contact with Houdini's ghost.

Second Speaker: Our City Councilor Sharla Gardner was in attendance. Councilors usually have agenda sessions on Thursday nights; she was glad to attend tonight's Community Club meeting for a change. She said so without a hint of despair in her voice. She touched on a number of topics, beginning with the contract being drafted between the City of Duluth and the Park Point Community Club (henceforth called "plaintiff") regarding the Park Point Art Fair. The contract will set our park rental rate at \$1500/year for the next five years. This agreement would need approval from the City Council. Sharla was confident of receiving that approval, given the proven benefits the Art Fair has for our community, for the youth of Duluth and for these proud United States of America (applause).

Sharla talked about dogs next. Trails and dog parks are very popular with Duluth dogs. The dogs (or as they prefer, Canine-Americans) are now lobbying for leash-free trails for larger dogs. The dogs were planning a petition drive until they remembered dogs can't write. Duluth Barks Commission and City Council approval seems possible, if the dogs are really, really good boys and stay off the couch.

Councilor Gardner went on to talk about the Sky Harbor Airport Advisory Committee. She said Airport Authority director Brian Ryks is committed to not cutting trees, but.... She also realizes - has been in touch with - Park Pointers who want either the runway or the airport closed. She doesn't see a full closure as likely to happen. The Airport Advisory Committee has been invited to attend the May meeting of the Community Club.

A short question-and-answer session brought up other issues. Deteriorating streets are a common complaint throughout our crumbling city. The City is broke, as in "out of money." We discussed the 12th Street Beach project; the Club still has no contract from the City, which continues to hold up our reimbursement for money spent. Club members discussed how the City was dismissive of volunteer efforts, and how this robbed many good projects of the incentives volunteers need to stay involved. A particularly sharp source of irritation that several neighbors in attendance voiced tonight concerned the lack of trash removal from the S-curve parking lot. Trash barrels are filled to overflowing by all the tourists and good

citizens the City promotes our way, but those barrels are taken away and not replaced because somebody in the City apparently has decided we have no need for public trash removal down here, and also that same somebody has not attended "Speak Your Peace" training. The City needs to comprehend how busy and popular this parking lot and beach access has become, and the Canal Park Business Association should be informed that their members are the original source suppliers for piles of wrappers, cups and other litter swamping this site.

Councilor Gardner also discussed recent changes to the plans for Firehall 5. It's been a year since the community was first asked for input on the pending extreme makeover. A new plan, unconfirmed by Duluth Fire Department officials, now may call for a much larger new fire truck than we were originally expecting. This would also dramatically increase the size of an unpopular street turnaround necessary to maneuver the new 40' truck. Community members attending tonight's meeting criticized any scheme that gives us a six-man fire truck for one fire fighter to operate without assistance, and emphasized that over 90% of DFD responses on the Point are responses to medical emergencies that require quick action.

Sharla concluded her remarks by again noting that the City is broke and anticipating a shortfall of at least five million dollars. In response, community members hid their watches and rings in their pockets and formed a security detail around the Club's checkbook.

Third Speaker: Craig Lincoln is the new president of the Duluth Boat Club. He discussed their continuing effort to construct a boathouse/club house/multi-use aquatics facility on the waterfront of the bay between 13th Street (the S-curve) and 14th Street. The Boat Club has gone through quite a few changes in their planning since the idea was first proposed. To no one's surprise their largest obstacle has been a lack of money, certainly a familiar foe to us all. They plan to re-draw plans, in order to develop a facility more in keeping with today's needs. They are also trying to get along better with City of Duluth department officials. Park Pointers were delighted with this joke, and laughed long and well. Questions from community club members focused on timed lifts for the Aerial Bridge. Sailboat owners have been willing to accommodate Park Pointers' requests to cluster together and not hold up road traffic; charter fishing craft haven't been as coordinated. Craig finished by noting that the Boat Club meetings are open to the public, and he urged participation by Park Pointers.

Regular Meeting: Committee Reports: Our speakers for the evening had concluded their remarks, and after a break for more cookies, Club members rolled up their sleeves, set their faces with determined looks and got back to the business of poking at one another.

Breeze: Editor Alan Dartanyan beat all his literary critics to the punch by pointing out flaws and imperfections in the April issue. Park Pointers soothed his angst with insincere praise and artificially heartfelt platitudes. It seemed to work on him, and he sat back down somewhat mollified.

Youth: At the March meeting, the Community Club acted early to provide the Lafayette Summer Youth Program with supplemental funding; something the Club has done each year for many years. The supplement is directed to the City of Duluth Parks & Recreation Department, and earmarked for staff pay for the Lafayette summer staff. As this is a donation, Club bylaws require a vote to be taken at two meetings. **Motion:** The Community Club shall contribute \$1500 to the City of Duluth Parks & Rec.

Department; that money is a supplement to the Lafayette Summer Youth Program. **Motion carried.** This is the second passing vote on this donation.

Environmental Committee: Volunteers continue to work for the environment despite what the environment has been doing to us lately. This April will be remembered for its powerful windstorms, but the S-curve parking lot has stayed free of drifting sand; an impossibility only two years ago. On the other hand, several centuries from now future archaeologists may find our beach ramps preserved under sand that is slowly burying our carpentry even as our planted areas take hold and grow. All the boardwalks have proved to be popular with tourists, bird watchers and beach goers; the boardwalks have also been very effective in their primary purpose of dune protection. Badly eroded areas have begun to heal; the Club can certainly

prove our progress and the success of our (inexpensive) ideas. Once again on the night, Club members briefly re-hashed the sad state of garbage removal from the S-curve parking lot; perhaps there is a way to make it all disappear? The ghost of Houdini will look into it.

Every May, volunteers plant trees purchased by the Community Club. Planting parties will be held on Saturday mornings from 9 - noon (May 17, 24, 31). Bring your shovel, gloves and poison ivy prevention charms. Boardwalk maintenance issues will also be addressed; hammers and band-aids will be provided.

Art Fair (June 28 & 29): Jake Kapsner added more details about the contract between the Club and the City. Art Fair Director Carla Tamburro put together a superb letter justifying the Club's position that the Art Fair brings benefits to all Duluth. Carla has been working with Duluth Parks & Rec. Director Kathy Bergen to prepare their pitch to the City Council. Jake also mentioned their pending public relations campaign. The layout for this year's fair will change; food vendors will be set apart from the artists in their own food court, which will be powered by a commercial generator.

Rummage Sale (June 13 & 14): Event organizer Charlene Shimmin again sent her reminder that sales cannot be set up on public land. Volunteer help is welcome. Starting the sale on Friday the 13th may be unlucky; the ghost of Houdini didn't believe the Club would be held liable.

Nominating Committee & May Meeting: A full slate of officers has been prepared for the Community Club; the elections will be held at the May meeting. Nominations can also be made the night of the meeting. The roster: President: Dave Poulin, Vice-President: Liz Mackay, Secretary: Dawn Buck, Treasurer: Chuck Flaig.

Alan Dartanyan suggested we have a 'hot dogs & chips' picnic before the May meeting. The idea was enthusiastically received by the Club members (most food-related ideas are) and it'll give us a chance to test-drive our new refrigerator.

New Business: Social butterfly Dave Johnson came up with a rare idea and it led him to make the following **Motion:** The Park Point Community Club shall donate \$200 to the Harrison Community Club, to assist in their efforts to recover from a fire that destroyed their community club house. **Motion carried.** As this is a donation, it will require a second vote at the May meeting.

Alan Dartanyan noted that the basement at Lafayette needs fresh paint desperately. Getting the task done will take volunteer help, and it'll need to be done before the Summer Youth Program begins. Some thought was given to the last weekend in April or the first in May. No firm action was taken.

"Coach?" said the idiot secretary. (Dave Poulin winced; he'd been bracing for this moment.) "Coach, I couldn't help notice, because I was writing the list, that my name wasn't on the roster for the upcoming season."

"Sorry kid," Poulin said evenly. "We're sending you back down to Triple-A leagues until you get your fastball back. You can't find the strike zone, your slider floats like a balloon and you've been using too many commas."

"I can kick the commas," the idiot secretary said, "I don't need to use them! I'll be back up with the bigs again, won't I, Coach?"

"Sure kid, sure." Poulin said. There was skepticism in his voice. It was 8:37.

Reflexively submitted,
Dave Johnson, Idiot Secretary

Malibu North



It's been that kind of a Spring. All through April and into May, the winds have blown, the waves have crashed, and in the aftermath surfers, paddleboarders and kiteboarders have flocked to Park Point. Watching them always brings up two conflicting thoughts: "That looks fun", and "That looks cold". So far, the latter thought has kept me on shore.

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Editor's Corner

I know it doesn't feel like it, but Summer is approaching fast. So once again, the Park Point community Club will be having a Summer Kick-off Cookout before its monthly meeting on May 15th. It's nothing fancy, we'll just be tossing some hot dogs on the grill behind Lafayette, but it's a good chance to come out and greet some of your neighbors who you haven't seen since the snow started flying in November. I believe someone from the Airport Authority will be there as well, to answer questions about developments at Sky Harbor.

No one will raise the alarm if you slip out before the meeting starts at 7, but if you care to hang around, there will also be an election of Community Club officers at this meeting. Although the nominating committee has managed to round up a full slate of candidates for this election, we will also be accepting nominations from the floor. In fact, some of our candidates would be more than happy to lose this election if anyone is willing to run against them.

Hopefully by mid-May the weather will have improved enough so the environmental committee some of it's Spring planting and dune restoration work. Much of this year's work will likely be focused on maintaining areas that have already been worked on, especially 12th Street beach and the area behind Lafayette. The Winter and Spring storms blew large amounts of sand up onto the newly constructed boardwalks, and volunteers have already been at work shoveling them clear and making repairs. Unfortunately the wind keeps blowing.

As of this writing we still haven't gotten the long term contract for the Art Fair through the City Council, but I remain optimistic. We do have some champions working on our behalf. And I believe Art Fair Coordinator Carla Tamburro has made an excellent case for its acceptance.

COMING SOON

28th Annual PARK POINT GARAGE SALE

Friday June 13 & Saturday June 14 8-5 daily.

The 28th Annual Park Point Garage Sale is only 1 month away. We hope everyone will participate in this Park Point Community Event.

There are a few questions you may want to ask yourself "When did I last use it?" "Do I really need all this stuff?" "Do I want a cleaner house?" Or, as former Park Pointer, who is now living in the Twin Cities, and called and ask if she could bring stuff up to the sale again this year, said "I am tired of dusting some of my stuff "

We are still looking for information about non profit organizations that will be selling during the sale. We would like to have a list included in the press releases. Please call or email before May 20 if you have non profit organization setting up at your home.

Also, if you some unusual items that you will be selling, please let us know.

Park Point Community Club sponsors both the Garage Sale and Art Fair and requests **NO GARAGE SALES ON ART FAIR WEEKEND.**

Charlene Shimmin
Chairperson 722-6828 or parkpoint@clearwire.net

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's some numbers you can use: Parks Maintenance Division: 723-3425 (after hours 723-33330

Fire station #5 (Park Point): 723-3215

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