



The Breeze of Park Point

Park Point Summer Youth Program

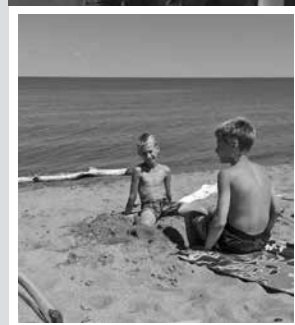
The Summer Youth Program held at Lafayette Square and sponsored by the Park Point Community Club ended on August 11th after nine weeks of activities. The new Program Director, Chloe, and her Assistant, Abi, did a fantastic job of setting up field trips, speakers and other activities. This year, twenty-nine children (twenty from Park Point) attended the Program. Many attended for a limited number of weeks, while ten attended full-time. There were sixteen boys and thirteen girls registered, and the average age was nine.

With the warm water this year, the children enjoyed many beach days after first learning about both beach safety and the Piping Plover. The kids held a beach sweep and compared the interesting trash found in the dunes and on the beach. They enjoyed many veggies from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden, where they joined the gardeners on Mondays and had a salad bar for lunch one day. The kids traveled on the city bus and enjoyed a variety of field trips, including bowling, a movie, a Vista Cruise, a trip to the Aquarium, fishing with the DNR, and paddle boarding. They also played 'water works' at the playground, as well as playing tennis and soccer; they built large Lego structures, played Foosball and made crafts. On rainy days, they enjoyed some classic movies on the VHS player and made forts under the Ping Pong table. On the last day, Chloe and her father made pancakes and bacon, with the families contributing toppings.

A survey of grandparents and parents indicated that the 2016 Program was received positively, with families supporting the flexibility of staff, open play and the program's hours. The majority thought the fee was reasonable, and agreed strongly that the staff were respectful and positive. All but one of the survey responses indicated that families plan to enroll their children again next year.

Thank you to the Lafayette Community Edible Garden members and to the Park Point Community Club, especially the officers, for their support and assistance in providing a successful 2016 program.

Submitted by Sally Buck, representing the PPCC Youth Committee



Lafayette Edible Garden

Monday, September 19th,
6:00- 8:00 p.m. potluck dinner
Lafayette Community Center

Park Point Community Club Meeting

Tuesday, September 20th,
6:30 p.m. coffee & treats
7:00 p.m. PPCC regular
monthly meeting

Park Point Garden Club

Thursday, September 22nd,
7:00 p.m.
Contact: Harriet Meagher
722-6762

The Breeze

Managing Editor:

Natalija Walbridge

Submissions for the October issue
are due by Tuesday, 9/27/16.

Send to: ppbreezeeditor@gmail.com

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parkpointcc@gmail.com

525-1764

Vice President: John Sargent

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763-276-8556

Secretary: Sheryl Robins

722 Minnesota Ave.

720-6518

Treasurer: Al Robins

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Art Fair: Carla Tamburro

coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

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Environmental: Dick Gould

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218-260-6032

Park Point Community Club

P.O. Box 16326

Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

Letter from the PPCC President

Hi Neighbors,

Hope to see you on Tuesday, September 20th at Lafayette Community Center. Our guest presenter will be our Park Point neighbor, Kate Van Daele, speaking on Comprehensive Planning for the City of Duluth. Social time starts at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting begins promptly at 7 p.m.

Our August meeting at Sky Harbor airport was well attended; nice to see many neighbors sharing information about our community and participating in the presentation on the runway reconfiguration and shortening. Thanks to Allyz Kramer, wetland scientist, and Benita Crow, engineer, both of whom have been working on this project for several years, and to Duluth Airport Authority Director Tom Werner for talking with us about the ongoing project of creating an airport that will operate in harmony with an old growth pine forest. Brian Madsen, Airport Manager, was a gracious host and kept the coffee pot percolating. Neighbors looked out the partially opened hangar door onto a glorious Superior Bay display of water and cloud play. If the funding, mitigation aspects, and permitting come together as planned, the project will wrap up in late fall of 2019.

Duluth Police Officer Megan Jones was on hand to answer questions. One resident had questions about alternate side parking on streets leading to the beach. Officer Jones urges us to call 911 if we see any suspicious activity. When in doubt, dial 911; she is happy to come out and help.

Thanks to neighbors who follow up on Park Point environmental issues and make connections within our greater community for a better outcome. Recent news coverage featured a grant for the planting of trees on Park Point. (<http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/4092027-duluth-ashland-get-epa-grants-beaches>)

"Duluth will use its money to build rain gardens, plant trees and restore shoreline buffer on Park Point to prevent about 89,000 gallons of untreated stormwater runoff from reaching Lake Superior after rainstorms." Dave Johnson sleuthed out who at the City would be facilitating the grant and opened a dialogue between the City and the Sky Harbor Airport Manager. The proposed planting area down in the park was not optimal for runway and tree harmony. I feel that together, we learn more and achieve more; thanks to all neighbors who not only observe, but act and share information in the spirit of positive collaboration.

Neighbor Jeff Stuermer found some interesting information about Lake Superior water levels; neighbors were asking questions about this topic towards the end of the meeting. I will post the answer to his inquiries on our website. More information can be found at http://ijc.org/en/_ilsbc/International_Lake_Superior_Board_of_Control or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalLakeSuperiorBoardOfControl>. Thanks for sharing this information Jeff.

As you might know, I love walking on the beach and spending time in small boats. For my birthday, I just received a new gadget to keep Klaus and me a little safer. Wondering how many of you have a pocket sized lightning detector? The display says it's listening. Looking forward to reporting back on what I hear.

Until next month, I wish you a very happy wrap-up to a super summer on Park Point! Take care,
Dawn and Klaus, canine companion

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.

Lake Superior Water Levels

Mr. Stuermer,

Thank you for contacting the International Lake Superior Board of Control with your inquiry regarding water levels on Lake Superior. As you may know, the Board regulates the release of water from Lake Superior through the various structures located on the St. Mary's River. The allocation of flow to these facilities is determined monthly, based on the outflow specified by the regulation plan, and the conditions listed in the Orders of Approval. More information can be found on our website at http://ijc.org/en/_ilsbc/International_Lake_Superior_Board_of_Control or on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/International-LakeSuperiorBoardOfControl>

Though the Board has recently implemented Lake Superior Regulation Plan 2012, which aims to provide modest benefits for commercial navigation, hydroelectric generation, and coastal zone interests, the ability to regulate the outflow from Lake Superior does not mean that full control of the lake level is possible, let alone a mandate of the Plan. Major factors affecting the water supply to the lake include: precipitation over the lake, evaporation, and runoff within the basin. Collectively these hydro-logic factors are the primary drivers that affect lake levels, and are difficult to predict over time. The monthly mean water level of Lake Superior this past August was 15 cm (6 in) above the long-term average for this time of year, and is the highest August level since 1997, due to above-average water supplies. The level of Lake Superior is expected to continue its seasonal decline this month.

Water levels on both Lake Superior and Michigan-Huron typically vary considerably from year-to-year depending on the weather conditions. The Board urges everyone to be prepared to live within the full range of levels that have occurred. Although the Board strives to maintain the range of monthly mean levels of Lake Superior below the upper limit of 603.22 ft (183.86 m) and above the lower limit of 599.61 ft (182.76 m) specified in the 1914 Orders of Approval, actual monthly levels have ranged from a high of 603.30 ft (183.88 m) to a low of 599.48 ft (182.72 m) due to climate conditions outside the design range. Furthermore, excessive wind set up and wave action may significantly increase or decrease local levels on both of the lakes.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Respectfully,

Arun Heer, P.E., CFM
International Lake Superior Board of Control Secretary, US Section
513-684-6202

Letter submitted by Jeff Stuermer



An intimate experience with Duluth's Best Vendors. The event is titled "Junk in the Trunk" and is held at the Lafayette Community Club on Park Point. It takes place on Saturday, Oct. 1 (9 am - 4 pm) and Sunday, Oct. 2 (9 am - 3 pm). Food offerings are provided by Ron & Wally of The Vintage Kitchen, Duluth. The event is brought to you by Laura Goewey & Peggy Carlson. The advertisement features a woman in a vintage dress sitting in a chair in front of a car trunk filled with various items. The text "An INTIMATE EXPERIENCE with Duluth's Best Vendors" is prominently displayed. The event is categorized as VINTAGE, OLD SCHOOL, RETRO, ANTIQUES, and SHABBY CHIC. Logos for "The Vintage Kitchen" and "CONJECTS" are also present.

PPCC Meeting Minutes - August 16th, 2016

The Park Point Community Club meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Club President Dawn Buck. The meeting took place at Sky Harbor Airport. The normal business meeting agenda was suspended to accommodate **speakers from the Duluth Airport Authority**. Tom Werner, Executive Director from the Authority, introduced the two speakers, Allyz Kramer and Bonita Crow. They gave an overview of why the project was started and how the solution of a five degree runway rotation came about as an answer for addressing several issues and problems. Permits at this time are being applied for, due to a portion of the bay being filled in. This project is broken down into three phases. The first one will start Fall, 2017 and the final phase will begin in Fall, 2019.

A member of the **Duluth Police Department** spoke at the meeting about calling 911 with concerns. She gave her email address: "Megan Jones," mrjones@Duluthmn.gov.

Minutes from July the 19th, 2016 PPCC Meeting

No errors were noted. A motion was made to accept the minutes as they appeared in the August, 2016 issue of the Breeze. Membership votes were all ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Al Robins

Treasurer's report was given by Sheryl Robins for Al Robins, who was unable to attend the meeting. The Park Point Community Club checking account had a beginning balance of \$45,047 on 7/1/2016 and an ending balance of \$35,968 on 8/1/2016. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Membership votes were all ayes. Motion carried.

Summer Youth Program - Sally Buck and Rhonda Strum

Neither chairpersons were in attendance. Dawn Buck did comment that the program had been a success. A final tally of expenditures and money generated will be in a later issue of the Breeze.

Art Fair Committee - Carla Tamburo

Carla was not present; nothing new to report.

Program Committee - David Poulin

Kate Van Daele, Park Point resident and City Planner, will speak at our September meeting.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

Three cards were sent out; sympathy cards went to Delores Fiero, Deborah Schwartz and Family, and Paul & Debra Kellner.

Rummage Sale Committee - David Lavamaki

Nothing to report.

Neighborhood Watch Committee - All of us

The Duluth Police Department notified Dawn Buck that on the weekend of the Tall Ships Festival, there would be law enforcement, an ambulance, a fire truck and helicopter based on the Point for emergency situations.

Environmental Committee - Dick Gould

Dave Johnson met with Chris Kleist, storm water expert with the City, regarding a **Tree Planting Grant** he had written without notice to either the PPCC or the Airport Authority. The place where he determined trees should be planted is an area where they cannot be placed due to the upcoming realignment of Sky Harbor runway. In addition, the rain garden he proposed blocks the primary access for vehicles heading onto the bay during ice fishing season, according to Dave.

Breeze Committee - Natalija Walbridge

Natalija was not present; nothing new to report.

Old Business

Judy Dwyer reported on the success of the **National Night Out** celebration sponsored by the PPCC on August 6th. She thought there could have been between 150-200 attendees. It was a good turnout and things worked out well at the Beach House, where the event was held for the first time at this location.

New Business

It was brought up by Mark Elden about why the **water level** is so high. There were no certain answers available, but Dawn said that if anyone had any ideas or connections to accurate information, they should please email her.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. Membership votes were all ayes. Motion carried.

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

It may still feel like summer, but in the garden it's time to plan ahead for fall. As we harvest the garden's bounty, we are thinking about what will be planted in the beds next year and how can we prepare for those crops. We will pull out some spent plants and till in others. Some beds with perennials will get top dressed, others will be left as bare dirt. All beds will get fresh compost added and hoed in. Most of the compost we use is made in the compost bins located within the garden. And just where does that compost come from? Kitchen scraps and coffee grounds from local baristas, as well as leaves folks bring to the garden when they do their fall raking. If you are looking for a place to dispose of your bags of leaves this fall, just set them inside the garden gate and we will transform them into compost that will make our 2017 garden healthy and verdant.

Visit the garden but PLEASE don't pick.

The name Lafayette Community Edible Garden may be a little misleading to some people. The word "community" implies that everyone is welcome inside the garden gates, and they are. "Edible" means there might be good things to eat in the garden, and there are. The thirty families who are working members of the garden are excited to have visitors enjoy the garden's beauty and the educational lessons it offers. However, harvesting produce from the garden is a benefit only the working members have earned. They count on the labor and time they have put in at the garden to pay off with food to feed their families. If you are eager to sample what we have grown in the community garden, join us at our monthly dinner meetings, where garden members frequently make potluck dishes using ingredients harvested from the garden. For more information, contact Coral at 727-6455.

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, September 19th, 6 to 8 p.m. - monthly potluck dinner and program by Minneapolis chef Joan Donatelle, author of *Astonishing Apples*, Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2015. She will talk about cooking with apples.
- Sunday, October 16th, 5 to 7 p.m. - monthly potluck dinner and program about preserving the harvest through the winter.
- Sunday, November 20th 5 to 7 p.m. - monthly potluck dinner and program about the endangered piping plovers that inhabit the dunes.

Submitted by Susan Peters



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Michael Tusken, Chief of Police

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Dear National Night Out host:

Another successful year of National Night Out has come and gone! Wow, what a beautiful night we all enjoyed this year! Please allow me to take this opportunity to thank you so much for hosting a National Night Out (NNO) block party registered with the City of Duluth! Duluth is a great community because we have engaged citizens like you who work to bring the community together.

I'm aware these parties often require the expense of both time and money; yet, you very graciously facilitated for a gathering space for neighbors to meet and greet each other. Your commitment to your respective neighborhoods and the greater community of Duluth is commendable and appreciated! NNO could not be what it is today without people like you stepping up as community leaders bringing neighbors together.

This year, the Duluth Police Department had 63 registered block parties to attend. We deployed the most officers ever to help celebrate block parties by having more than 50 officers attending parties! Building community relationships is very important for me and my officers to nurture. When police have strong and trusting relationships with the community, we enhance communication of neighborhood concerns which in-turn creates operational efficiency and reduces fear of crime. We are in the business of improving community quality of life and keeping our community safe. Your party allowed a great opportunity from which to do so!

While I would love to personally attend each block party, it would require magic act of epic proportions to do so in a city as large as the City of Duluth! However, for next year, if you register early and request my attendance, I will do my best to meet and greet you and your guests. Until then, I will leave you with my heartfelt appreciation for your efforts to build community and fellowship in your neighborhood! I hope to see you next year, but in the meantime, if I can help you or your neighbors, please feel free to reach out to me at 218-730-5020.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Tusken

Michael Tusken
Chief of Police

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*And so starts September, we begin again. As the seasons turn,
I hear this hymn by John Bell in my heart. And so God begins
again a new work in us.*

- Sunday School begins September 11, 9:45
- Monday Morning Study Group resumes September 12, 9:30 (Bible Women: all their words and Why they matter)
- PICNIC! follows the service on September 25

And once again we praise God for all creatures great and small!

- Blessing of the Animals, October 2, 9:45 a.m. in the Mission Hall

Bring your leashed pets; blessing and treats for all.

Sunday Eucharist Service at 9:45 a.m.

The Rev. Marta Maddy

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Letter to the Editor

Hello Park Point Community,

I would like to share a proposal that will be heard at the next City of Duluth Planning Commission meeting, to be held on September 13th at 5 p.m. I will try to keep this brief, yet share enough information to get the community up to date.

My husband and I purchased the property at 1235 Minnesota Ave in April, 2016. We were looking for a place to downsize from a home we built together and where we raised our children. When we found this home it seemed the perfect fit. We have homesteaded the property and intend to keep it that way, while applying for a vacation rental license as a means to support our continued ability to maintain it as a homestead. We take pride in homeownership and community, which is one reason we chose Duluth and Park Point.

The issue at hand is a variance request concerning the parking proposal currently recommended by City Planning and Engineering staff. Their intent is for us to make a curb cut north of the intersection of Minnesota and Lake Avenues, just north of 13th Street. Our problem is that Minnesota Avenue dead ends just prior to our lot line. Simply put, the City disconnected and divided the street into two segments when they created the S-curve, many years ago, and our property is directly in front of that unconnected portion, located SW of the Franklin Park lot. The permit to obtain a vacation license requires off-street parking. During our investigation of options we were able to obtain a two-year license to park on the retired MN Power lots which are located immediately behind our property. This practical alternative would allow a minimum of 10-12 legal, off-street parking spaces behind our home, and would eliminate the need for the curb cut they recommend. Likewise, neither we nor our neighbors would lose the 14-ft. diameter Silver Maple or the Pine Tree located at curbside.

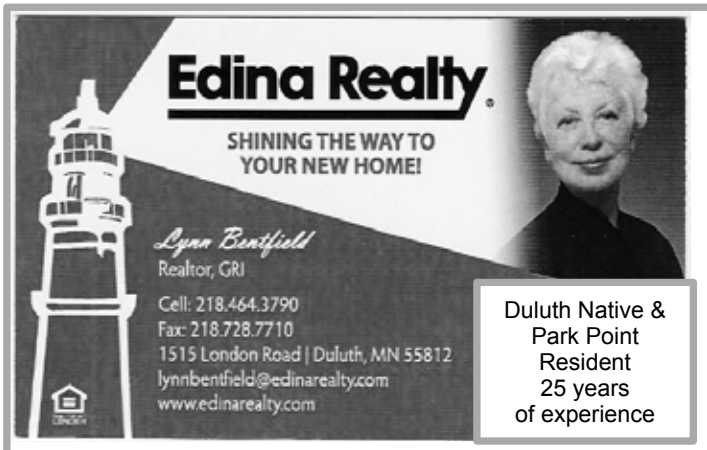
At the June Planning and Engineering hearing, we sought a variance request for parking, citing safety, preservation of vegetation, buffer to traffic, preservation of natural soil, and erosion and storm water control. We did submit the variance, and believe we have met all the requirements proving the practical difficulty and hardship that their proposed curb cut would create. However, the staff has since stated that - since Engineering believes their design can control storm water management by use of the curb cut - they will NOT recommend the variance to the Planning Commission.

I am asking the Park Point community to ask itself if this is the best option for the community, and for you to voice your concerns both to my husband and me and to the Planning Commission as you see fit. Do you think removing stable, healthy trees at this junction is the best option for parking? Do you think that plan will create confusion for traffic flow back toward Canal Park? Do you think that the loss of these trees could create MORE problems with the failure of erosion control and subsequent water filtration/backup issues?

Using the off-street parking spots currently available and accessible via 13th Street appears to us to be a very practical outcome, providing the best possible solutions for safety, water filtration, storm water management and tree preservation concerns on Park Point. If this were strictly a matter of financial hardship for us, we could have followed the City's recommendation and invested the money in the curb cut in May; we'd have had our money returned three - to fourfold during the summer rental season. We really do care about preserving these trees and being good stewards of this community.

Thank you kindly. We look forward to meeting and speaking with you.

Tom and Marianne Thiry
651-252-9633
mthiry40@gmail.com



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The Breeze

Park Point Community Club
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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:

Lift Bridge Supervisor: Dave Campbell 728-3387

Community Police Officers: 218-730-5656 or email at cnagorski@duluthmn.gov

Dog issues: clane@duluthmn.gov

City Councilor Em Westerlund: (218) 355-1137 ewesterlund@duluthmn.gov



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