



The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 39 issue 7

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

July 2010

Calendar

Park Point Community Club

**Meeting July 15th
7PM at Lafayette**

**53rd Annual Duluth
International Regatta
June 10th**

Duluth Rowing Club

**Park Point 5-Miler
July 16th**

**Nancy English 5k
July 31st**

**Duluth Maritime Festival
July 28-August 3**

The Club said “Shed”



And, finally, the long awaited for shed at Lafayette is now complete. A big thank you to Dave Johnson, Dave Lavamaki, Boomer Brown, Patrick Warner and Dick Gould. We will now be able to store and use the snowblower. The shed will also be able to store garden tools.

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

THANK YOU THANK YOU ALL ART FAIR VOLUNTEERS

The 40th Art Fair was a huge success and that is due to all the volunteers from set up to take down and everything in between. The weather held and the artists had two successful days. They appreciate all the hard work the Community members do to help them have good weekend. Many new volunteers also found that they had fun and hopefully we will see you next year. Again a big THANK YOU!

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is August 6th for the August 2010 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: Dick Gould
3003 Minnesota Ave.
727-4067

Vice President: Liz Mackay
2233 Minnesota Ave.
722-1834

Secretary: Sheryl Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Treasurer: Al Robins
722 Minnesota Ave.
720-6518

Committees

ART FAIR

Carla Tamburro
727-2661

Rummage Sale

Charlene Shimmin 722-6828
Dave Lavamaki 729-8925

ENVIRONMENTAL

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

HOSPITALITY

Diane Gould, 727-4067

LAFAYETTE SQUARE RENTALS

Barb Flaig 727-2814
lafayette.pccc@yahoo.com

S-CURVE SIGN

Dave Johnson, 722-9764

SUNSHINE

Pam Griggs
727-2158
pegriggs@clearwire.net

Park Point Community Club
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Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.

parkpointcommunityclub.org

Park Point Community Club July 15th Meeting

Agenda

Well, I haven't really got one – at least not officially. But there are certainly plenty of issues for us to deal with. So drag yourselves off the beach and be there. Uh, me? No, I'm going to be on vacation.

Lafayette Summer Youth

We have been rockin & rollin at Lafayette with an average of 20 to 23 kids daily. We have 35 registered and I understand more are on their way.

We have become master bowlers at Incline Station and taste tested ice cream delights at Dairy Queen. We have played at Playfront and picnicked in our private dining area. We have sailed the open seas at the end of the point while warding off hungry seagulls in search of lunches. We have taste tested watermelon and planted our seeds in the kids garden and learned about composting while identifying growing vegetables. We have made Lego towns nice enough to move into with streets filled with pollution free cars. We have chased waves on the beach and built very interesting water creations with PVC pipe. We have transformed the playground into a water park and searched for hidden treasures. We have chased tennis balls and apologize to our neighbors for any strays you may find. We have created animals out of bottle caps and built Popsicle stick houses for our resident ladybugs. We have created puppets, dolls, hats and many very imaginative creations. We have had kick ball games, basket ball tournaments, soft ball games, bucket ball and much much more. We have been very busy with many more upcoming events. We have made many friends with the DTA bus drivers as they have patiently waited for us to individually pay our fare and listened to our chit chat. For the month of July we will be traveling to the Fire and Coast Guard Station, the Library, a movie, bowling, making scarecrows and painting rocks for the children's garden as well as taste testing its products and many more fun and exciting events. Stop down and see us, we are open Monday thru Thursday, 10:00am to 4:00pm.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who has donated supplies to the program. They are very much appreciated by all.

. We are still in need of things, anything is fine, we will use it.
Happy Summer, Joy

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place but
that God is in it.
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that it is.

Frederick Buechner

All are welcome wherever you are
on your spiritual journey.

Holy Eucharist - 9:45 a.m.
Sunday

Our Lady of Mercy
Catholic Church
2002 Minnesota Ave
722-3078

Priests:

Fr. John Petrich, Fr. Tom Foster and Fr. John Golobich

FORGIVING

When a man showed up at work with both ears bandaged, he was asked what happened. "I was watching the ballgame on TV and my wife was ironing nearby," he explained. "She left for a moment and the phone rang. I grabbed for it and put the hot iron to my ear instead."

"But what happened to the other ears?" he was asked. "Wouldn't you know no sooner had I hung up than the guy called back."

Thanks to the good Lord, who forgives and removes our guilt. We all sin and often find ourselves making the same mistakes again and again. We need – and we have access to – a God who forgives and forgets.

Gracious Father, despite my best intentions, I find myself committing the same sin over and over. Thank you for your pardon and mercy. I need your Son Jesus, the merciful one. Amen.

Services

Sunday Eucharistic Celebrations

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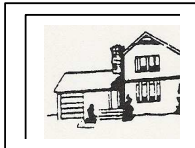
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June 17, 2010

President Richard Gould called the meeting to order, 7:00pm.

MSC Motion to accept meeting minutes from May 20th meeting.

Dick Gould asked for the keys for Lafayette be returned.

Treasurer's Report. Chuck Flaig reported beginning balance of \$45,491.46. Expenses were \$7,306.87. Deposits were \$25,615.32. Ending balance as of 5/31/10 was \$63,799.91.

Sunshine Committee. Pam Griggs spoke about cards the Sunshine Committee could send out upon request.

Art Fair Committee. Carla Tamburro gave an update KUND and Playlist coverage on the art fair. From interviewing artists to showing old pictures of the art fair back 40 years. The Reader also ran a free ad for the Art Fair. United Health Care advertised for the event by mailing 3000 people. The format for the Art Fair guide was changed to include a map.

Breeze. Alan Dartanyan because of the amount of information needed to go in the Breeze would decrease font size. He also said there would be an ice cream social for the August, 2010 meeting.

Environmental Committee – Kinnan Stauber said the Marshall students she had lined up to do volunteer work had completed their assignments.

Flags would be spaced along Park Point beach to show rip current. 500 trees were planted. There was no official report on the garage sale but those in attendance felt it went well.

Counselor Sharla Gardner spoke on the street assessment and the rate that will be assessed for the Minnesota Ave street improvement. Jim Benning from the City will be at the July, 2010 meeting to explain their position and how they arrived at the assessment fee. The mill and overlay project for Minnesota Ave. is tentatively scheduled for after Labor Day. Need a Parks and Rec. board member as Liz Makay is no longer on the board. It would be in the best interest of Park Point to have someone who understands the uniqueness of this area.

Joel Johnson did a rezoning request for the proposed motel. It was denied. It was suggested there would be an appeal by Joel.

There will be a meeting in the basement of Chester Creek Café Monday, June 21, 2010 @ 6:30 pm. Kinnan Stauber will be speaking. Camping on Park Point will be discussed along with the Sky Harbor Airport issues.

Keith Stauber said there was an opening on the Franciscan Advisory Board. He explained why it would also be beneficial to have a community representative on the board.

Officer Mike Tinsley. Told about the speed monitoring device on the Point, vandalism on the Point and on the sailboats at the end of the Point. He spoke about camping on the end of Park Point. The challenges of being able to get emergency help to these people, etc. Did not have the exact figures but said there are usually more calls for the police in the summer and those calls usually drop off in September.

Friends of the Parks. Leanne Rutherford said on Friday @ 10:00 am, there would be volunteers to clean up the beach.

Joy, the director of the Summer Youth Program asked for more money. \$3800 to \$5000. To help offset this expense, the program was going to raise fees from \$40 to \$75 per participant. In the event there were more than one person from a family attending, the remaining attendees would pay \$15 each. MSC Motion to increase Joy's contract amount.

S-Curve Gardening. Lynn Bentfield said on Tuesday @ 7:00pm, there would be a meeting to discuss possibility of decorating the S curve.

Kinnan Stauber gave updates on where the park begins at the end of the Point. Kinnan would like to hire an attorney for an opinion. Motion was made to #1 – authorization for a couple of hours and #2 – authorization for up to \$5000 which would take executive board approval. The motion was seconded and then accepted.

Keith reminded the club that in July, there would be 350 competitors for the Duluth Rowing Club. He invited us to come to the event.

MSC Motion to adjourn meeting @ 9:15pm. Motion was seconded and accepted.

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

June found us nibbling at our first garden greens at our potluck Salad Bar Dinner on the 22nd. Entertaining and educating us that evening was Dr. Dave Worley, who told us about the joys and labors of being a beekeeper. Our Children's Garden committee introduced the programs they will be presenting to the kids enrolled in the summer program at Lafayette Square, the first of which will be a watermelon tasting and seed planting on June 28th.

Visitors are welcome to see what's growing in the garden at Lafayette Square. It's a great learning tool to help you decide what you might want to plant in your home garden. You'll see tomato plants growing in plastic swimming pools, a hay-bale container garden, extremely efficient large compost bins, and beneficial companion plantings in many beds. Please remember: only members are allowed to harvest the crops.

Upcoming Events:

August 3, Celebrate the 2nd Annual Park Point National Neighborhood Night Out with evening festivities at Lafayette Square. All Park Pointers are welcome to join in the family-oriented fun.

August 22, 1 to 5 pm, 2nd Annual Park Point Secret Garden Tour. Tickets \$7, will be available around Aug. 1 at St Louis Bay Dry Goods, 723 South Lake Ave, 218-722-0061 and at Lafayette Square the day of the event.

Doesn't look like a hockey rink anymore, does it?



With the addition of fencing and other structures from the old Playfront Park, not to mention the raised garden beds, fruit trees, etc, The Lafayette Community Edible Garden Club has transformed the unused and overgrown hockey rink at Lafayette. For more on this group's activities, see "news from..." on the previous page.

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JIM OURAY 218-370-8980

New hotel planned for Park Point requires rezoning and will have major impact on our neighborhood

At the May Community Club meeting, Troy Hoekstra from Cornerstone Construction of Saint Cloud and Joel Johnson of Lakehead Boat Basin presented their plans for the Lakehead Marina Hotel on Park Point. It will be a large 53-unit, four-story hotel to be built on Lake Avenue between 10th and 11th Streets. Mr. Hoekstra mentioned discussions with representatives of chain restaurants for inclusion in the project. Mr. Johnson also mentioned a possible hotel expansion onto his adjacent property currently housing the Halvorson Inc. engine repair shop. If built, this hotel will have a major impact on all Park Point residents.

This projects requires a significant rezoning of Park Point property to move forward. Currently, the Lake Ave. stretch of 10th to 11th streets is a residential neighborhood of century-old single-family homes, duplexes and four-plexes, and zoned R2 (two family residential). The 10th to 11th streets stretch along Minnesota Ave.—across from Lakehead Boat Basin— is zoned M1 (manufacturing). Neither of these allow a hotel. The new City of Duluth comprehensive plan and the soon-to-be-adopted Unified Development code calls for "traditional neighborhood" zoning on the entire parcel. Traditional neighborhood zoning also would not allow this hotel. A hotel of this size dramatically changes our neighborhood, for the worse. Once built, we've lost our residential neighborhood forever.

The developer has suggested the hotel might include a convenience store. While Park Point residents may like the idea of a store to replace Bayside Market, this is only a suggestion by the developer, not a firm promise. Likewise, with the proposed rezoning, the developers could build a 120-foot high hotel. Just because they describe one plan doesn't mean that's what they'll actually do.

There are huge concerns by Park Point residents about this project. Our single-lane road, especially between the bridge and S-curve, is heavily burdened by traffic from recreationalists, Lift Bridge backups, Canal Park congestion, and many season events like the Art Fair, 4th of July, etc. Studies show that, on average, ONE hotel room generates 10 vehicles trips per day. This hotel project is planning for 53 rooms.

If the Planning Commission and City Council approve this rezoning request, it would set a precedent for other properties to be rezoned the same way up and down Park Point.

Hotel developers claimed, during the PPCC meeting, that the project would lead to increased property values. Seriously? It's very difficult to imagine someone buying a family home 20 or 300 feet from a towering 4-story hotel. Would YOU buy a home next to constant car traffic, noise from guests partying on their balconies, 24/7 light pollution from parking lots and entrances, and the shouting from a rooftop sport court? Aside from the property value question, there is no doubt that all residents near this development will experience the loss of quality of life with a hotel smack-dab in the middle of their residential neighborhood.

A project like this has City-wide consequences, as well. Where will these added tourists access the beach, which they'll see out their windows and balconies? The 12th Street beach access is already highly used by Duluth residents. Will the City then develop the 12th Street beach access with toilets, garbage service, and a larger parking lot to accommodate the extra hotel guests? Will the City patrol and stop the extra noise and beach activity in this zone after 10PM? Or will this be left to Park Pointers, once again, to deal with? What about the increased demand on aging infrastructure from a 53-unit hotel?

There are so many concerns to address when rezoning Park Point to facilitate growth like this. These are just a few. These concerns must be addressed by our government officials. Please get involved and voice your concerns on Park Point rezoning by contacting the City Council immediately. By the time you read this, the Planning Commission will have voted on this rezoning (they meet June 8) and it will be turned over to the City Councilors for approval or denial. The Council may have this proposal on their agenda for June 28 session for the required first reading, then it may be voted on at the July 12 meeting following a second reading. At this point, these are best-guess dates.

Sharla Gardner is our Park Point Councilor, and is already aware of this hotel rezoning proposal. While she is our district representative, all the councilors will vote on this and are responsible to your concerns.

Email your opinion to all city councilors by using this email address: [**council@duluthmn.gov**](mailto:council@duluthmn.gov)

If you don't have access to email, written letters are always welcome. Mail letters to: City Councilors, 411 W. First Street, Room 330, Duluth MN 55802.

Plus, if you would like to stay involved on this issue, there is an email list group of your neighbors who are discussing it via email updates. Just send an email to [**aslade@cpinternet.com**](mailto:aslade@cpinternet.com) and you'll be added to the list when updates are sent out. If you don't use email, just call Andrew or Sally at 727-4198.

Sally Rauchenfels

After a motion to deny the zoning changes was tabled at the June 28th Council meeting, this issue will be taken up on July 12th. For much more on this and other Park Point issues, check out the new website www.saveparkpoint.com

run a picture or two to give readers a taste of what was going on, but I forgot my camera this year. Besides, I saw most of you down there anyway, didn't I?

The Rummage Sale and the Art Fair are behind us, but it's not as if we're running out of activities here on Park Point. On July 10th we've got the Duluth International Regatta at the Rowing Club. Then there's the Park Point 5-miler on the 16th, the Nancy English 5k on the 31st, and the Maritime Festival from the 28th through August 3rd. Plus, I'm writing this on the 4th of July, and the skies are clear right now, so I imagine they'll be crowds of fireworks watchers down here tonight.

But it's not all fun and games stuff. We've got some serious issues to deal with down here, from hotels to airports to campgrounds. At its (oversimplified) heart, you could say it's all just zoning issues – what's allowed where. And those of us who live here need to make sure our voices are heard.

At the same time, it's good to remember that we're not the only stakeholders here. Yes, Park Point is our home, but it's also a part of a city, a county, a state – even a country. There are a lot of opinions, even here on Park Point, and a lot of emotions involved.

We're certainly not all going to agree, but we can disagree CIVILY. (Gee, I seem to bring that up a lot)

The election will be held upper level of Lafayette from 7 AM to 8 PM. Every election is important so get out and vote in the primary. Any questions you may call the City Clerks Office, or I will try answer your questions also.

Charlene Shimmin
Head Judge for Park Point.
722-6828

The Annual Park Point Garage Sale

Thanks to the many of you that braved the weather and had a sale or went out and purchased your neighbors stuff.

Several wet bargain hunters were so happy to find many sales. This years it turned out to be a Garage Sale, tent sale and in my own case it was even a sale in the sunroom.

A cute story: a few days after the sale, I was talking to Mark S. and he told me about his newlywed daughter, who only had a 5 day honeymoon because she didn't want to miss the Garage Sale.

If you have any stories please call or email them. We love hearing them.. Call or email

parkpoint@clearwire.net or 722-6828

By the way next year sale dates are June 10 & 11. It is great time to start a box of things you don't want for the next big garage sale.

Charlene Shimmin
co chair



Lynn Bentfield
Realtor, GRI
Duluth Native
Park Point Resident
19 Yrs. Experience

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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: 730-4491 (after hours 730-4150)
Fire station #5 (Park Point): 723-3215 Community Police Officer Mike Tinsley: 218-730-5684.
City Councilor Sharla Gardner: 724-4701 sharla.gardner@gmail.com



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