

Van Vliet Lake Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2003

1. **President Tom Olson** called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.

Adoption of Agenda: George Kupfer moved and Jeff Burke seconded that the agenda be adopted as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2. **Report of the President:**

- a. **President's Comments:** President Olson distributed and discussed a handout listing a series of items that the Board had covered in the past year. Included were the following:

1. **PI Land Use Plan:** The Board surveyed the membership and found that most were not in favor of the land use plan. The Town Board was so notified. The plan is currently shelved by the Town. The Lake Association Board will monitor any developments and keep the membership informed.

2. **By-Laws:** A series of by-law changes are being recommended. They include increasing the size of the Board; eliminating extraneous committees; appointing appropriate ad hoc committees as needs arise in the future; changing the annual meeting date requirement to allow more flexibility in scheduling; and changing the voting rules to allow one vote per membership. These changes were explained, and were also covered in depth in the latest newsletter.

3. **Water Quality Testing:** Jeff Burke has been doing a lot of work on the water quality issue. The Association received a DNR grant for this, which is matched in-kind with Jeff's time and effort.

4. **WAL Convention:** Jill Wilm attended the WAL Convention this spring on behalf of the Association.

5. **Exotic Plants:** Jill Wilm and Jeff Burke attended a program on exotic plants. Their report is covered in the Education Section.

6. **Adopt-a-Landing Program:** The Association successfully undertook the first (and only) adoption of a boat landing in the state. Members were urged to contact Steve Frank and offer their help in keeping the landing clean.

7. 50-Inch Musky Limits: The Board supported the 50-inch limit for muskies as proposed by the DNR. The plan, however, was defeated at the Conservation Congress.

8. Musky Stocking in Van Vliet: The DNR agreed to stock 20-25 percent of the muskies allotted for the PI chain in Van Vliet Lake.

9. Fish Management: A representative of the DNR reported at a Board Meeting that the Van Vliet Fishery is very healthy.

10. Internal Conflict: There have been some internal difficulties on the Board which have impeded smooth functioning at times during the past year.

11. In General: This has been an extraordinarily busy and productive year. Tom thanked the entire Board – Jill Wilm, Nancy Frank, Jim Sprester, Barb Novak, and Tim Bowler - for their efforts.

12. The Future: Water quality is a big issue for the Association. That, and other issues recommended by the membership, will be the foci for the year ahead.

b. Directory: Jill Wilm reported that work on the directory is progressing well. The plan is to have a three-ring binder with phone numbers, addresses, and photos, along with space for newsletters, handouts, etc. Anyone with suggestions was asked to contact Jill, Nancy Frank, or Jorja Burke.

c. Survey: Jill Wilm reported the results of the latest Association Survey. The most frequently cited response was the desire for the Association to maintain its current focus on the mission statement. Other comments were: keeping up the good work; informing people of appropriate times for water skiing and personal water crafting; encouraging people to pick up litter; discouraging speeding on the lake; and having a rotating social event. Jill also encouraged people to contact her with any other comments.

d. Additional Comments:

1. Old Lake Association: Matt Pachi stated that the focus of the old lake association was mostly on weeds. He encouraged the association to seek input from those having knowledge of what that association had done.

2. Water Safety Class: Tom Olson reported on Barb Novak's behalf that she would be having a water safety class during July 22, 23, and 24. It will be held in front of the Schroeders' place. The cost is \$10. People were urged to contact either Barb or the Schroeders for more information.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Frank reported that the balance as of July 6, 2003, was \$3104.54. This represented 34 households.

A motion was made by Jeff Burke to accept the report. Barb Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **By-Law Amendments:** Mary Ann Smithson moved that the by-law changes as discussed in the President's Report be voted upon all together and approved. Steve Frank seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

5. **Board Elections:**

- a. **Secretary and Treasurer:** The positions of Secretary and Treasurer (Jim Sprester and Nancy Frank respectfully) were uncontested. They were re-elected unanimously.

- b. **At-Large** Three at-large members were elected by ballot from among the following four contestants: Jeff Burke, George Kupfer, Barb Novak, and Dick Novak. Elected to the two year terms were Jeff Burke and Dick Novak. Elected to the one year term was George Kupfer.

It was moved by Kathy Sprester and seconded by Nancy Frank to accept the results of the election, to destroy the ballots, and to send a letter of thanks to Barb Novak for her years of service. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **Education Session:**

- a. **Exotic Plants:** Jill Wilm reported that there are currently 161 different species of exotic plants in Wisconsin. The most problematic is Eurasian Water Milfoil. It is extremely invasive and is almost impossible to control. She stressed how crucial it is to thoroughly inspect boats to prevent its spread. She also distributed informational flyers and stickers for boats and/or trailers.

- b. **Water Quality:** Jeff Burke reported on the secchi disc testing that he is currently doing, and on the chlorophyll and dissolved oxygen testing that he hopes to begin next year. He also reported on the impact of adding additional nutrients to an already fertile lake. The main problems are faulty septic systems and fertilizers.

7. **Other New Business:**

- a. **Water Level:** Doug Schwanz expressed concerns for the current water level in the lake. Possible causes, and other observations, were

discussed. President Olson asked Dick Novak to chair an ad hoc committee to investigate this issue. This will be a topic for the next Board Meeting.

b. Weeds: The abundance of weeds and the amount of silt in the lake were discussed at length. It was pointed out that the former lake organization had also addressed the weed issue, and had a weed cutter, which is still stored at the Smithsons'. Other options such as weed poisoning and hiring outside harvesting contractors were also discussed. Raking was seen as an immediate thing to do, while it was suggested that the DNR be contacted to help analyze the problem and to help chart a course of action.

It was decided that the Board should investigate all issues involving weeds and their possible control, as well as silt and water level issues, at the next Board Meeting. The DNR will be contacted for input.

c. No-wake Buoys: It was questioned whether or not Van Vliet Lake should/could have no-wake buoys such as those which are located in Presque Isle Lake. This will also be a topic at the next Board Meeting.

d. Snow Mobile Racing: The safety and legality of this on the lake was questioned. This will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.

e. Lighting and Structures on the Lakeshore: It was questioned if there were any regulations on these. This will also be a topic for the next Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Dick Novak and seconded by Paul Alix to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously at 12:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Sprester,
Association Secretary