Van Vliet Lake Association
Remote Annual Meeting
Via Email
August 15, 2020

These are the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting held via email due to the Coronavirus. The agenda/2019 minutes/Treasurers report were all listed on the Van Vliet Lake Association web site for members to review. The agenda, treasurer's report, and Whitewater summary document are now attached to this report.

The slate of officers, also listed on web site, are as follows.

- President Ronie Jacobsen
- Secretary Diane Schroeder
- At Large Richard Bernard
- At Large Jim Sprester

Ballots received and recorded were unanimous to approve the 2019 minutes, treasurers report and slate of officers. Thank you to all who voted.

List of those who voted:
Richard Bernard, Ed Brodsky, LaVergne Brodsky, Jorja Burke, Jeff Burke, Michael Czarny, Jan Funk, Don Funk, Ronie Jacobsen, Kyle Kirkpatrick, Barbara Olson, Tom Olson, Mark Osberg, Wendy Osberg, Bill Schroeder, Diane Schroeder, Andrew Sisler, Roberta Sisler and Jim Sprester.

We received an inquiry regarding lighting regulations on the lake front. We directed that person to the Presque Isle town ordinances, Subchapter 404, which has the rules for outdoor lighting. We will post a link on the website to that document and add a note encouraging property owners to review the rules.

This definitely has been a strange year and we hope you all are safe and well. We hope to be together next year.

Respectfully submitted.
Diane Schroeder, secretary

Van Vliet Lake Association 2020 Annual Meeting Agenda

Remote meeting via email or paper ballot

Vote due August 15, 2020

- Approval of minutes of 2019 meeting (http://vanvlietlake.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Van-Vliet-Lake-Association-Annual-Meeting-Minutes-2019.pdf)

- Treasurer's report (http://vanvlietlake.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/VVLA-treasurers-report-2020.pdf)

- Election of Officers
    - President Ronie Jacobsen
    - Secretary Diane Schroder
    - At large Richard Bernard
    - At large Jim Sprester

- Discussion topics

    - Discovery Center felt they could not safely house their summer interns so the Clean Boats, Clean Waters 2020 inspection hours at our landing were cancelled. The WDNR has rolled the grant over to 2021. We pay in the spring and get reimbursed in the fall and no money was paid this year.

    - Plant survey conducted by WhiteWater Associates last summer revealed no aquatic invasive plant species. They have provided us a summary of their results (http://vanvlietlake.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Van-Vliet-Lake-2019-Summary.pdf). We hope to reschedule a presentation on this work for next summer.

    - We are no longer pursuing a mechanical harvesting permit based on the Onterra study. The plan would need to be updated and the Board is not planning to apply for another study.

- At this point in time, the Carlin Lake Association has won all the court decisions to prevent the pumping of water for bottling from their lake. So far there are no new appeals from the water company but there is no guarantee that the issue is resolved.

- The Friends of the Van Vliet Hemlocks continue to work on behalf of the State Natural Area on both sides of our lake. Signs have been posted by the DNR to direct visitors to the site. Group hikes are scheduled in Sep and Oct with a size limit of nine and a mask requirement. Sign up on the Discovery Center website. Individuals are also encouraged to enjoy the trails on their own.

- Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association has a new section on their website with helpful brochures about best practices for your shoreland property (https://vclra.org/new-owner/). It is directed to new owners but has valuable information for all of us.

- One member expressed a concern about litter on our roads, especially beer cans tossed from cars. We thank everyone who picks up roadside litter and recognize that those who cause the problem are not part of the solution. This is an enforcement issue for the law rather than the Lake Association.

- We have a request in to the WDNR to paint directional arrows or install a one way sign at the landing based on a member's observation of traffic issues on busy weekends.

- There are now at least four homes on our lake being used for short term vacation rentals. Many of the renters are respectful family groups but there was one incident this summer where the Vilas County Sheriff was called in the middle of the night due to unruly guests.

- A pair of eagles built a new nest on the north end of our lake on the east side and many of us enjoyed watching the nest and the not one, but two eaglets being raised in our neighborhood.

- Thank you to Deanne and Brett Bussler for organizing the First Annual Fun Flotilla on the 4th of July. A dozen boats circled the lake waving flags for thirty minutes of pure fun. Spectators on the shore enjoyed the show.

VAN VLIET LAKE ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jul. 27, 2020

Beginning balance 06/22/2019	$6362.80
Income	
Membership dues/contributions	115.00
Total-2020 income to date	6477.80
Transfer of savings acct. to checking	2500.00
DNR grant reimbursement CBCW 2019	583.25
Total	$9676.05
Disbursements	
WAL Annual membership	137.50
Mailings	95.00
Van Vliet Hemlocks	200.00
Aquatic harvesting contributions returns	1985.00
Town of Presque Isle lake monitoring share (DNR/Whitewater)	190.09
Checking acct. transfer back to savings	5283.25
Total-2019/2020 disbursements to date	7890.75
VVLA checking acct. to date	$1670.21
Savings acct.-	
Fund (w/ interest)	$9383.66

2019 Field Work at Van Vliet Lake Summary of Findings

White Water Associates, Inc. (Dean Premo, Ph.D.)

Van Vliet Lake 2019 Aquatic Invasive Species Survey

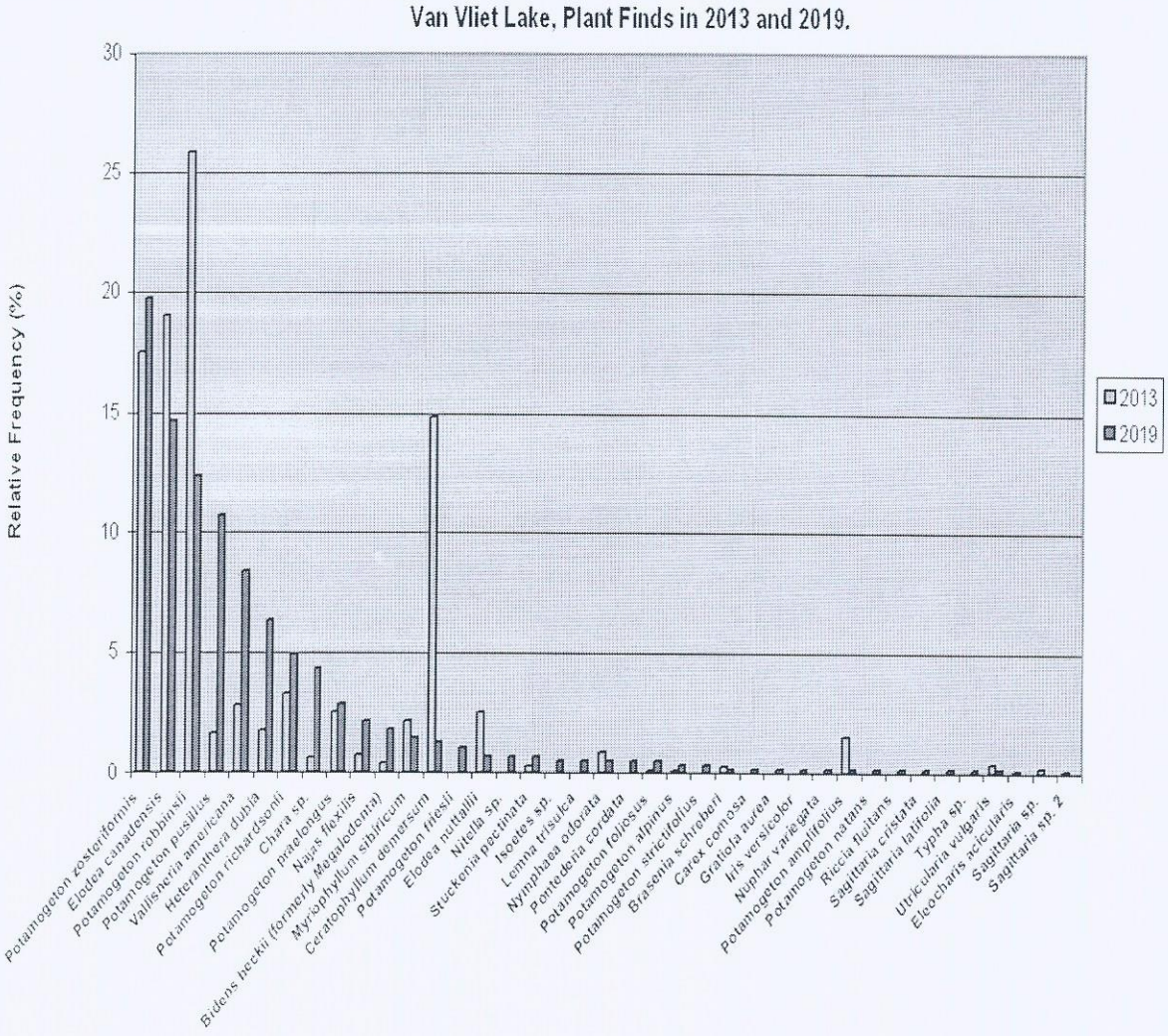
- Rusty crayfish were previously documented in the Van Vliet Lake.
- Aquatic Forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*) was documented in the 2019 AIS survey at Van Vliet Lake by White Water Associates. Aquatic Forget-me-not can crowd out native plant species and is able to form large monocultures. This plant is restricted in Wisconsin.

Van Vliet Lake 2019 Point-Intercept Aquatic Plant Survey

Comparison of summary statistics for 2008, 2013, and 2019 aquatic plant surveys in Van Vliet Lake.

Summary Statistic	2008	2013	2019	Comments
Total number of sites on grid	432	432	432	This is the number of points on the sampling grid (each located about 30 yards apart). We sampled each point with a rake to collect & identify any aquatic plants found.
Total number of sites with vegetation		299	216	These are the number of sites at which we found rooted aquatic plants (all native plants)
Maximum depth of plants (ft.)	18.0	16.0	13.0	Plants were found in the lake to this depth. No rooted plants existed in depths greater than this value.
Total number of sites shallower than maximum depth of plants		376	284	This was the total number of sites where the depth was shallow enough for there to be rooted aquatic plants.
Frequency of occurrence at sites shallower than maximum depth of plants	88.6	79.5	76.1	This is the percentage of those sites where it was shallow enough for there to be plants that actually had aquatic plants present.
Simpson Diversity Index	0.85	0.84	0.89	A measure of diversity of the aquatic plant community. Van Vliet has a highly diverse plant community and one that has stayed diverse over the 11 year period of study.
Average number of species per site (vegetated sites only)	3.1	3.1	2.5	A fairly high number reflecting the diversity of the plants in the lake.
Species Richness at point-intercept sample points	23	24	36	This is the number of species documented in the lake by sampling the grid points.
Floristic Quality Index (FQI)	30.2	28.8	35.7	This index reflects the floristic quality of the plant community. Van Vliet numbers are high indicating a high quality plant community. Lower numbers would reflect a plant community comprised of species that prosper in more disturbed habitats.

The figure below shows the distribution (relative frequency) of plants in the plant surveys conducted in 2013 and 2019. Both years show a good ecological distribution (some plants are relatively common in the lake and many plants are not encountered very often). Although there were some changes between the years, both years reflect a healthy situation.



Van Vliet Lake 2019 Shoreland and Shallow Water Survey

The following table page summarizes observations made during the shoreland and shallow water habitat assessment on Van Vliet Lake in 2019.

Summary of shoreland and shallow water habitat for Van Vliet Lake.		
Date of Survey: May 23 and June 18, 2019	Miles of shoreline: 5.42	
Number of ownership parcels: 78	Mean parcel frontage feet: 367	
Riparian Buffer Zone	# of parcels	% of parcels
Impervious surfaces	63	81
Manicured lawn	17	22
Agriculture	0	0
Other (duff, soil, mulch)	49	63
Human structures (buildings, boats on shore, fire pit, other)	47	60
Runoff concerns on the parcel (e.g., point source; channelized water flow; stair, trail, or road to lake; lawn or soil sloping to lake; bare soil; sand/silt deposits)	63	81
Bank Zone	# of parcels	% of parcels
Concerns in the bank zone (e.g., vertical sea wall, rip rap, other erosion control structures, artificial beach, active erosion)	6	8
Littoral Zone	# of parcels	% of parcels
Human structures in littoral zone (e.g., piers, boat lifts, swim rafts, water trampolines, boat houses over water, marinas, other)	59	76
Emergent and/or floating aquatic plants	43	55
Evidence of aquatic plant removal	0	0
Large Wood Habitat		
Total Number of large wood pieces	275	
Number of large wood pieces per mile of shoreline	50.7	

Subchapter 404. Lighting

404.1.PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to balance the need for safety and security with the need to eliminate glare, light trespass, light pollution and the obstruction of the night sky.

404.2.AUTHORITY. The Town of Presque Isle has the authority, pursuant to s. 60.22(3), 60.23(29) and CH 61, Wis. Stats. to enact this ordinance.

404.3.DEFINITIONS

(1). Fixture - the assembly that holds the lamp (bulb) in a lighting system. It includes the elements designed to give light output control, such as a reflector (mirror) or refractor (lens), the ballast, housing, and attached parts.

(2). Full-cutoff - a light fixture which prevents all transmission of light above the horizontal.

(3). Fully shielded - a fixture with housing or attachment which prevents a line of sight to the bulb when viewed from another property and which prevents a line of sight to any part of the light source at or above a horizontal plane running through the lowest portion of the fixture.

(4). Glare - a light source which often results in annoyance, discomfort or loss of visual performance causing visual impairment and/or discomfort experienced by an observer with a direct line of sight.

(5). Shoreline lighting – a light source within the 75 foot shoreline setback.

(6). Light trespass - light projected onto a property from a fixture not located on that property.

(7). Light source - the bulb and lens, diffuser, or reflective enclosure.

404.4.ORDINANCE

(1). Exterior lighting, such as vapor, flood and spot, within the Town of Presque Isle shall be controlled and directed to minimize glare and light trespass onto neighboring properties, roadways, water bodies and the overhead sky by:

(2). Using fully shielded, or full cut-off fixtures, so that the light emitting portion of the fixture cannot be seen from off of the property;

(3). Directing light from fixtures directly downward rather than outward or upward;

(4). Using motion-detecting fixtures rather than dawn-to-dusk fixtures when automated activation is necessary;

(5). Flashing or rotating exterior lighting is prohibited, except for emergency purposes.

(6). Shoreline lighting shall be prohibited, except that no more than one (1) permanent fixture shall be permitted on a berthing structure; and said fixture shall be configured in such a way to prevent illumination more than 50 feet beyond the berthing structure. Illumination shall only be activated during those times when the dock or watercraft is in use.

404.5.EXEMPTIONS

(1). Outdoor holiday lights and decorations shall be exempted from the shielding and directional requirements of this ordinance.

(2). Lighting otherwise prohibited may be authorized by written permit from the Town Board if there are special circumstances relating to public safety and if the public interest in the provisions of this section can be adequately protected.

(3). Messaging units permitted under Subchapter 203-04(5)(a)(i).

404.6.COMPLIANCE. Exterior lights on structures for which building permits were issued after December 31, 2004 shall comply with the provisions of this ordinance. A copy of this ordinance shall accompany all building permits issued by the Zoning Administrator. A violation of this ordinance shall be deemed a public and/or private nuisance.

404.7.ENFORCEMENT. No unnatural act or act of God shall negate the land owner's responsibility to comply with this ordinance. Any town officer may issue a written notice respecting the existence of such defect. Such written notice shall be served on the owner of such property and shall direct the owner of such property to promptly remedy the defect within 30 days. If owner fails to remedy or improve the defect in accordance with the written notice the landowner shall be issued a citation.

404.8.PENALTIES.

(1). Violators shall be subject to a forfeiture of $50 to $1,000. A second violation within 24 months of the initial violation will have a forfeiture of $50-1,000. A third violation within 24 months of the initial violation will have a forfeiture of $50-1,000.

(2). Any person violating this section shall pay the recommended forfeiture for every offense for each day of the continuance of the violation, after being so notified by the Town's representative. Each day thereafter shall constitute a separate violation of each offense.

404.9.EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and posting or publication as required by law.

9/2/2004, 11/4/2010, Statutory Review 8/7/14, 1/7/16