

# TOWN OF SAINT GERMAIN LAKES COMMITTEE

Chair – Ted Ritter

Vice-chair – Jim Wendt

Alma/Moon

K. Beier  
D. Zielinski

Big St. Germain

M. Deets  
J. Penkalski

Found

R. Gawrys  
C. Thier/D. Kloepfer

Little St. Germain

T. Best  
K. Stofflet

Lost

J. D'Amico  
B. Wissing

Chamber

R. Watson

## LAKES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2004

Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm in the Red Brick Schoolhouse.

Committee members present: Ken Beier, Mike Deets, Jim Penkalski, Tom Best, Ken Stofflet, Bob Wissing, and Ted Ritter.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Mike Deets, seconded by Tom Best to approve the meeting agenda as posted. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of minutes of March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting: Motion by Ken Beier, seconded by Mike Deets to approve the minutes. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Committee Revision: Ted Ritter reported that committee assignments have been revised for the town board following the recent election. Ted will continue to serve as Chairman of the Town Lakes Committee. Jim Wendt will now serve as Vice-chairman.

Aquatic Plant Inventory Project: Ted reported that:

- Efforts to increase WDNR funding for the project from 50% to 75% had failed. Ted had received a letter from Jennifer Wudi advising that the project had been funded at 50% and our options were to accept that or reject it. Ted has responded that we will accept the 50% funding and move ahead with the project.
- The project community kick-off meeting will be Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00p.m. in the St. Germain Community Center. The meeting will last approximately 1-1/2 hours. Tim Hoyman has requested that our committee meet with him following the kick-off meeting. All committee members are encouraged to attend this very important meeting.
- Tim Hoyman had provided a draft of his proposed mailer for the kick-off meeting. Committee members present reviewed it and made suggestions for improving it. Ted will forward the suggestions to Tim for his consideration and request that the final version be sent to each committee member ASAP so that each lake group can prepare a cover letter and make arrangements for sending the mailer to all lake organization members in a timely manner.
- Committee members suggested a list of items that each lake organization's cover letter for the mailer should include:
  1. How people can obtain more information about the project if they are unable to attend the kick-off meeting.
  2. The cost for their lake organization to participate in this project.
  3. Mention that Tim Hoyman of NES has been awarded the 2004 WI Association of Lakes Stewardship Award for his leadership in lake protection/preservation issues.
  4. A copy of the Lakes Fair Flyer

Public Education: Ted explained that the Little Saint Germain Lake District is in line for a WDNR grant that will provide 50% for managing exotics species in the lake over the next five years. Other town lake organizations may be in need of applying for similar grants if exotics become established in their lakes. However, the WDNR appears to be placing increasing emphasis on

the importance of public awareness and education as a qualifying aspect of the grants programs. Therefore, it may be wise for the Lakes Committee to become involved in some awareness projects at the town level beyond what will be done for the upcoming plant inventory study. Ted suggested involvement in the "Clean Boats – Clean Waters" campaign as well as boat landing signage and various other possibilities including bar coasters, restaurant place mats, lodging facility posters, etc. Grant money is available for educational programs of this nature. Ted suggested that committee members not already committed to the Lakes Fair project step forward to get involved in coordinating a public education project. This will be discussed more at future meetings.

Vilas County Initiative: Ted explained that the Vilas County Land & Water Conservation Committee has decided that the proactive efforts of the St. Germain Town Lakes Committee should be expanded to the county level. A three year project has been designed that will feature employment of a full time person to coordinate aquatic exotic invasive species projects across Vilas County. A resolution was presented to and unanimously approved by the County Board on April 20<sup>th</sup> to support this project. A grant application will be submitted to the WNDR prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>. If approved, and it likely will be, the grant will provide funding to cover all out of pocket costs associated with employing the coordinator. The county's 50% portion of the project will be satisfied in full by volunteer time from town and lake organization representatives from throughout the county. There will be no actual out of pocket expenses for the county for this program. More information about this project will be forthcoming in the near future.

Lakes Fair: Larry Acker reported that the team of committee members working on the upcoming Lakes Fair is making good progress. The list of participants continues to grow as does contributions for the silent auction. Larry suggested that a decision regarding the possibility of a 2005 Lakes Fair be made early so that opportunities for promotion of the event can be utilized. Our decision to move ahead with the 2004 Lakes Fair came too late to take advantage of certain opportunities. Ted requested that someone step forward to coordinate the Town Lakes Committee booth at the Lakes Fair. There are many good ideas for what the booth could include, but if no one coordinates the booth development, the booth won't happen. Mike Deets is considering volunteering to do this and will decide prior to our next meeting.

WAL Lakes Convention: Ken Beier gave a report on the annual convention that he and his wife attended in Green Bay. There is a tremendous amount of information available at the convention and very enthusiastic exchanges of information. Ken highly recommended attendance by more people in the future. Ted suggested that perhaps next year some people from the Town Lakes Committee should attend.

**The next meeting of the committee will follow the plant inventory kick-off meeting at approximately 2:30p.m. on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Community Center. Committee members are requested to arrive at the Community Center shortly after noon to set up chairs for the meeting.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40p.m.