

Van Vliet Lake Association  
Special Informational Meeting – Lake Planning Grant  
June 5, 2004

**A special informational meeting** of the Van Vliet Lake Association was held on June 5, 2004, at the Presque Isle Community Center. A total of 28 people were in attendance, including Board Members Nancy Frank, George Kupfer, Dick Novak, Tom Olson, Jim Sprester, and Jill Wilm.

**Association President Tom Olson** called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. He explained that the purposes of the meeting were to update people on the lake planning grant, to report on its progress thus far, to inform the membership of future plans, and to seek suggestions and/or areas of concern.

**Steve Smithson, Chair of the Planning Grant Committee** (members Jeff Burke, George Kupfer, Dick Novak, Jill Wilm, and Steve), spoke about the background of the grant, the application and writing process, and the selection of a consultant. He said that the planning grant was basically a \$10,000 grant with roughly a one-third in-kind contribution on the part of the association. The grant's purpose was fact finding and data collection in order to develop a long range plan for the lake. This long range plan would include such things as water quality, watershed analysis, fish management, aquatic plants surveys, shoreland surveys, and a history of the lake and local area.

**Steve McComas, the lake association consultant from Blue Water Science**, expanded on several of the above mentioned aspects of the planning grant, discussed geological aspects of Van Vliet Lake, and emphasized the importance of collecting new and existing data. All of this would be used as a benchmark in order to develop a "blueprint" for the lake.

He also described the two tests which he and volunteers from the association had completed the previous day. These tests were a conductivity survey ( a test to determine water sources such as springs, seepage, etc.), and a shoreland survey (pictures taken to determine erosion, vegetation, natural conditions, and development.) These would both be analyzed, along with subsequent testing and various other tests and surveys this summer, to help develop a final report. This report would then help determine what kind of, or if, a management plan is needed, and whether it be active or passive.

Steve answered questions and solicited input concerning the plan, things done thus far, and things planned to be done. He said that he valued suggestions and ideas, and that they could be sent to him at any time by contacting Steve Smithson. He also encouraged people to voluntarily take informal surveys of wildlife, fishing, water, etc.

**Tom Olson** thanked the Planning Grant Committee and Chair Steve Smithson, Steve McComas, and all in attendance. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Sprester,  
Association Secretary