

# Town of Plum Lake – Lakes Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 5, 2006, Plum Lake Town Hall

1. **Call to order** – Frank Splitt called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.  
**Attending** – Debbie Becker, Vicki Gillett, Lee Johnson, Jerry and Sue Kurth, Denny Nielson, Frank and Judy Splitt, Jim Sprinkman, and Chris Wise. (Jan Wise arrived late due to a conflict with another meeting.)
2. **Open meeting Verification** – Notices were posted at the Star Lake Store in Star Lake; at the Post Office, Town Hall, and Plum Lake Library in Sayner; in the Vilas County News-Review of Eagle River; and broadcast as a public service message by the WERL-WRJO radio station, Eagle River.
3. **Approve Agenda** – Minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and approved.
4. **Review Mission Statement** – The proposed mission statement was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Debbie Becker to approve the mission statement as written with a minor word change in item number 4. The motion was seconded and approved.
5. **Review Ranking List for All Lakes** – A revision to a previously discussed ranking list was proposed by committee member Bill Sloey. The proposal was reviewed and discussed. The list identified those lakes thought to be more susceptible and vulnerable to invasive species and suggested that initial efforts of the Town Lakes Committee be directed toward them. After discussion of this idea, committee members preferred not do a ranking of lakes at this time. The proposal was tabled for further discussion at a later date.
6. **Discussion and Action on progress of the membership and structure** of the Town of Plum Lake (TPL) Lakes Committee, including the number of voting members needed from each lake in order to set agendas and carry on the business of the Lakes Committee – Frank Splitt proposed two voting members for each lake. Chris Wise suggested that we consider voting members to mean only those lakes that choose to send a representative or representatives, as there are lakes in the township that as of yet do not have anyone representing them (Razorback is one) or that have no one living on them. The committee members were in agreement with this. The following representation was proposed and approved:

<b>Ballard, Irving, White Birch</b>	Voting members:	Frank Splitt, Vicki Gillett
	Alternate:	Judy Splitt
<b>Laura</b>	Voting member:	Bob Munsen
	Alternate:	none at this time
<b>Partridge</b>	Voting member:	Jim Sprinkman
	Alternate:	Lee Johnson
<b>Plum:</b>	Voting members:	Jerry Kurth, Chris Wise
	Alternates:	Sue Kurth, Jan Wise
<b>Razorback</b>	Voting member:	no representation at this time
<b>Star &amp; Little Star</b>	Voting members:	Jim Haberle, Bill Sloey
	Alternate:	Mike Errington
<b>Chamber of Commerce</b>	Voting member:	Debbie Becker
	Alternate:	Marcia Kittleson
<b>Vilas County Board Liaison</b>	Voting member:	Denny Nielsen

In addition, Chris Wise suggested possibly staggering the committee members' terms of service so that all terms would not expire at the same time. This would help to insure that there are continuing members on the committee to provide continuity and forward progress while new members become acclimated. Due to time constraints, it was decided that further discussion of this proposal be tabled until the next meeting.

7. **Discussion and action regarding management approach for each lake** – Frank called upon Chris Wise to give a report about the December 6, 2005, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Planning Partnership - Year One Review meeting. In his summary, Chris mentioned the bill introduced by Representative Dan Meyer (Assembly Bill 757) to appropriate 5 million dollars for the purpose of control of AIS in Wisconsin lakes and streams. At the December 6 AIS meeting, it was suggested that attendees visit their respective town boards and urge them to send a letter, similar to one drafted by the Town of Manitowish Waters, to Representative Dan Meyers in support of this bill. Because time was of the essence, Chris took it upon himself to do this at the Town of Plum Lake December board meeting, at which a letter of support was signed by board members and forwarded to Dan Meyer.

Frank mentioned the Town of St. Germain's application for a grant and their request for our committee's endorsement in support of their application.

Discussion then turned to possible activities and projects that could be undertaken on behalf of the lakes in the Town of Plum Lake.

- **Chris Wise** mentioned Ted Ritter's idea of having standardized signage available to all lakes that would make such signs less expensive than each lake going out and contracting for their own. Chris volunteered to pursue this for more information.
- **Denny Nielsen** mentioned the Vilas Country Travel Guide and that half of the back page of the 2006 guide will be devoted to a message about AIS and how to prevent their spread.
- **Debbie Becker** reported that the Sayner-Star Lake Chamber book also will have a portion devoted to AIS. Debbie also said that Sayner merchants would prefer to use stickers on their own bags rather than switch to a generic type of bag, such as the one used in St. Germain by Camp's grocery store. Debbie will continue to work on coordinating the purchase of the stickers.
- **Vicki Gillett** passed around a sample of an item that volunteers with the Three Lakes Waterfront Association handed out to boaters during the summer of 2005. It was a Ziploc bag with several items in it, among which was a floating key chain with the Three Lakes Waterfront Association name and the "Clean Boats Clean Waters" logo on it. The committee liked the idea of the bag and key chain, and Debbie Becker volunteered to look into the cost of the key chain.
- **Lee Johnson** suggested possibly tapping into young adults to help volunteer for assembling the plastic bags and/or working at the boat landings. He mentioned an experience he had at Statehouse Lake some years back and that if we could find something similar, it could be a positive thing for both our lakes and the young people involved. Another idea would be to enlist the help of scouting groups, young adult church groups, and other such organizations.
- **Frank Splitt and Chris Wise** volunteered to meet with Ted Ritter within the next two weeks to discuss the grants programs, signage, sources for items such as the key chain, and the possibility of working together at a county level for grants, rather than each town lakes association or individual lakes association working on their own.
- **Vicki Gillett** mentioned the possibility of hiring a dive crew to inspect some or all of the lakes at key locations to see if we have any AIS problems so that action can be taken if needed. Discussion followed, and it was decided to hold off on this for the present for budget reasons.
- **Chris Wise** raised a question about the need between now and our next meeting to possibly

spend some of the funds allocated to the Town Lakes Committee by the Town Board. He suggested giving authorization to spend up to \$750.00 as needed for AIS awareness campaign items. Discussion followed.

- **Debbie Becker** then made a motion to give authority to Frank Splitt and Chris Wise to approve spending up to \$750.00, as needed, for awareness campaign items. If there is a need to go beyond the \$750.00, then Frank and/or Chris would be authorized to approve up to 20% beyond the \$750.00 (total of \$900.00). Denny Nielsen seconded. The motion carried.

- **Debbie** also mentioned that if we have need of copy paper (and possibly printer cartridges) that Jack Damos had told her we could get some of these items from the Town and possibly use the copy machine at the Town's office in the Town Hall. We may need to talk with Jack for further details.

8. **Set date and place for next meeting** – The next meeting will take place on Thursday, May 18, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Doug McKay needs to be contacted in advance for access to the Town Hall.
9. **Correspondence and citizens' comments** – There were none.
10. **Adjournment** – Debbie Becker motioned for adjournment, seconded by Chris Wise. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Gillett  
January 19, 2006