

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2003, 2003
5:30 PM**

Members and Others Present	Katherine Levitan – (Whitewood), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm), Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), James Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Lois Kelly (Independent).
Members Absent	Ed Sawyer (South Pond Farm), Caleb Mitchell (Pittsfield Conservation Commission) Alex Nardacci (Independent), Everett Peterson (Girl Scouts), Holly Stover (Branch Farm).
Minutes of December 10, 2002 Treasurer's Report	MSP to accept as printed. RPA Checking: \$916.88; Berkshire-Taconic: \$6724.14 Town of Richmond: \$0. Balance due to Lycott: \$0. \$660 received so far this year. \$700 paid to accountant for annual reports. MSP to accept treasurer's report (see printed report).
Annual Incorporation Papers Membership Changes	Ms. Levitan will call for a street address for Western Mass. Girls Scouts, since a P.O. Box is not acceptable. A replacement is needed for Melanie Levitan (representing the Town of Richmond) because she is unable to attend meetings. Ms. Levitan will also check in with Ed Sawyer.
Lycott Engineering	Lee Lyman has written, asking whether we want to continue with his services. The board agrees we should continue the annual drawdown. There were questions about whether a weed treatment is needed again this year.
Sewer Project	The town of Richmond has appointed a sewer committee to make presentations. There will be a non-binding warrant. Residents will be asked whether they are willing to contribute to the costs, and whether they would allow the town to borrow money for the project. The sewer committee will be looking at costs for phases of the project. There is a meeting tonight with Tighe and Bond to consider more details of the project.
Drawdown	We need to review the order of conditions to be sure we comply and follow procedures for continuing the drawdowns. A report to the commission is required in the spring of each year (2003 and 2004). The sandbag dam at the beaver pond is still in place. Ms. Kay will check with Scott Richards, who installed the dam on behalf of White Engineering.
Section 319 Grant Update	There have been delays in the grant process. Ms. Kay, Mr. Foote and Bruce Garlow have met, and they are waiting to hear from Jane Pierce regarding the letter of confirmation from the state. The next step is to write the specific plan. We will approach Gene Shea about possibly helping to write the plan.
LAPA-West Update	Ms. Levitan brought the latest LAPA-West newsletter which has information on vegetative buffers and on upcoming workshop sessions. The first is May 3, in Lee.
Adjournment and Next Meeting	Meeting adjourned 6:40 pm. Next meeting: May 19, at 5:45 pm, Richmond Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Watkins, Secretary

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2003
5:30 PM**

*Sign
Canada Geese
Shape Kool Aid
summer flags*

Members and Others Present Katherine Levitan – (Whitewood), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm), Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), James Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Alex Nardacci (Independent), Holly Stover (Branch Farm), Ted Potter (Richmond Shores).

Members Absent Caleb Mitchell (Pittsfield Conservation Commission), Everett Peterson (Girl Scouts), Richmond town representative.

Minutes of April 4, 2003 MSP to accept as printed.

Treasurer's Report No changes from April treasurer's report. RPA Checking: \$916.88; Berkshire-Taconic: \$6724.14
Town of Richmond: \$0.
\$660 received so far this year.
MSP to accept treasurer's report.

Membership Changes Ed Sawyer has resigned. No replacement from South Pond has been located. We feel it is important to find someone to represent them, even if they are only able to attend in the summer.

Richmond Sewer Richmond voted in favor of two non-binding warrants. One hundred thirty people were present. One warrant called for the town to provide up to \$50,000 (per year) toward the project. The other warrant called for the project to move forward if the cost were paid 100% by the users.

Section 319 Grant Update This project has hit a roadblock. Jane Pierce called to report that Tracy has been laid off. About 70 people were let go. Jane Pierce will be picking up our case. There is some work we could do this fall. Before we receive any money, we must do the Quality Assessment Plan. Engineers must design the vegetative buffers and the drainage work. Part of our responsibility is to provide education regarding vegetative buffers. LAPA-West may be one source of leaders for such training. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission may be another source.

Water Monitoring The first monitoring date is June 16, 9:00 am. This will include deep hole testing and chlorophyll testing. Gene Shea's position will end soon, although he will continue to volunteer. We don't know whether we will continue to have access to the meter. Holly would like to at least check the two main tributaries each month. Questions remain about whether LAPA-West will pay for these tests.
MSP: RPA will pay for testing at the tributaries if LAPA-West will not.

Richmond Representative to RPA Drawdown Ms. Levitan spoke with Bruce Garlow. He is continuing to look for a Richmond town representative to this board.
Ms. Levitan reported that we should submit our request for the drawdown by the second Tuesday in August. She also reminded us that we are to report back to the Conservation Commissions regarding last year's drawdown. Mr. Watkins agreed to write a brief report.
Ms. Kay reported that the canal is in very bad shape. The drawdown had no affect there, although it seemed to help in the past. Mr. Watkins will approach the gentleman who did the weed review last fall, to see whether he will access the milfoil situation, as well as the condition of the canal.

Adjournment and Next Meeting Meeting adjourned 6:30 pm. Next meeting: July 14, at 5:30 pm, Richmond Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Watkins, Secretary

Next mtg Aug 4 - 5:30

Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2003
5:30 PM

Members and Others Present	Katherine Levitan – (Whitewood), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm), Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Alex Nardacci (Independent), Holly Stover (Branch Farm), Trina Zweig (Richmond Shores), Herb Zweig (Richmond Shores), Simone O_____ (Richmond Shores), Edith Frieder (Richmond Shores), Jeanne Siegel, Erick Kes, Len Allen, Alex Nardacci (Independent), Lenore Lapin, Erika Allen.
Members Absent	Caleb Mitchell (Pittsfield Conservation Commission), Everett Peterson (Girl Scouts), Richmond town representative. James Mooney (Boys & Girls Club),
Minutes of July 14, 2003	Ms. Levitan read the minutes from the July 14 meeting. MSP to accept as printed.
Treasurer's Report	About 50% of the dues have been collected. Richmond Shores will discuss the dues at their meeting this Saturday. MSP to accept treasurer's report.
Richmond Sewer	Bruce Garlow has requested results of our lake testing as part of the assessment process for the sewer project. Mr. Foote will see that Mr. Garlow receives this information.
Untreated Areas	Residents of Richmond Shores have expressed concern that areas near Richmond Shores (the canal and shoreline areas) were not treated. We want them to understand we are aware of that problem, that we were not allowed to treat those areas, and that we are working to get permission to treat those areas.
Section 319 Grant Update	Ms. Stover, Bruce Garlow, Ms. Levitan, Mr. Potter, met with folks from DEP regarding the grant. We still need to submit some additional information related to the QAP before we receive the grant. This can be done over the winter. We can move forward with vegetative buffer work. Road drainage work can begin this fall. A vegetative buffer seminar will be held August 26, perhaps at Camp Russell. Ted Potter is working to secure speakers.
Water Monitoring	Ms. Stover reported that water monitoring is continuing, both in the deep hole and at the tributaries. Elevated levels of bacteria were found last year at Clark's Brook. One crucial measurement is the level of dissolved oxygen in the lake. The state has not been making payments to the lab for testing, so that a large amount is owed to the Lee Lab. Individuals have covered some of this cost themselves. Mr. Foote noticed that the tributary water is very murky up to Dublin Road, but is clear at Route 41. The source seems to be between Dublin Road and Route 41. Water clarity at the deep hole is very good in comparison with other Berkshire County lakes.
Goose Problem	Residents are experiencing problems with geese on their property. One solution is to put up a fence, string, vegetative buffer, or other physical barrier. It is important that people not feed the geese.
Weed Treatment	Lee Lyman believes extensive runoff from the heavy snows has contributed to weed growth this summer. He suggests we modify our notice of intent to request treatment of the canal (which we were not allowed to treat last year). Ms. Kay brought us up to date on efforts to evaluate presence of species in question (i.e. the wood turtle). The fish study done last year revealed no bridal shiners.
Drawdown	The sandbags will need to be replaced in October, to maintain the water level in Nordeen Swamp when the drawdown begins. The drawdown can begin November 1. Ms. Levitan spoke to Bruce Garlow. He suggested we should meet with the Selectmen on August 12, to apply for the drawdown. Ms. Levitan's opinion is that we will never be able to get

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2003
5:30 PM**

Members and Others Present Katherine Levitan – (Whitewood), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Herb Zweig (Richmond Shores), Len Allen, Lenore Lapin, Erika Allen, James Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Joan Rosenberg.

Members Absent Caleb Mitchell (Pittsfield Conservation Commission), Everett Peterson (^{Resigned} Girl Scouts), Richmond town representative, Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm), Alex Nardacci (Independent).

Minutes of August 4, 2003 MSP to accept as printed.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer absent. No funds disbursed since last meeting.

Lee Lyman Ms. Levitan spoke with Mr. Lyman regarding the serious amount of weeds in the lake. His only explanation was that we were not allowed to treat the entire lake. Other lakes (i.e. Cheshire Lake) seem to be doing well this season. Richmond Pond users are observing that milfoil seems even worse than before last summer's treatment, and is present in areas where it was not seen before.

Our feeling is that people will not be willing to financially support further treatment unless we can treat the entire lake. The consensus is that we should press for a full lake treatment.

Drawdown A letter has been received from Richmond indicating we can go ahead with this year's drawdown. Pittsfield has given verbal permission. The drawdown may begin in October 15.

A call was received from DEP suggesting we need a DEP permit. The Pittsfield Conservation Commission has contacted DEP to inform them we should not need a permit.

Buffer Workshop The workshop had a reasonable turnout and was a pleasant experience. Perhaps some people did not attend because they weren't informed or were not sure what it was about. Ted Potter put the event together on short notice. The workshop met a requirement for the Section 219 grant. Dr. Leahy's garden center will give 25% discount coupons to attendees.

Drainage at Richmond Shores Bruce Garlow was to arrange for a contractor to view the projects on August 12, but this date was missed. Therefore, work has been delayed until Mr. Garlow can get information out to contractors. There is work to be done this fall.

NE Utilities Grant *Grant not written* Grants are available to sponsor local grass-roots efforts which are frequently overlooked by larger grant programs. The focus is on habitat and clean-up. A possible project would be to address the lower Richmond Shores road that drains into the canal. Ms. Kay will write a proposal to request \$1000 to construct drains and culverts. Mr. Mooney mentioned drainage from the orchard which runs toward the canal.

It was suggested a second request could be made to address needed work on the dam.

Section 219 Grant Money is available. It needs to be requisitioned as projects are set up.

Dam Mr. Watkins reported briefly on his attendance at a workshop on Dam safety.

Membership Concern was expressed about the lack of attendance by a representative of Camp Marion White (GSA).

Adjournment and Next Meeting Meeting adjourned 6:20 pm. Next meeting: TBA

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Watkins, Secretary

*Scapin
Lathrop*

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2003
5:30 PM**

*698-2516
Mark 447-8920
Call re all*

Members and Others Present	Katherine Levitan – (Whitewood), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Ted Potter (Richmond Shores), Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm), Roy Walchenback (South Pond Farm), Lois Kelly (Independent).
Members Absent	Caleb Mitchell (Pittsfield Conservation Commission), Camp Marion White Representative (Girl Scouts), Richmond town representative, Alex Nardacci (Independent), James Mooney (Boys & Girls Club).
Minutes of September 8, 2003	Mr. Foote read the minutes from September 8. MSP to accept as read and printed.
Treasurer's Report	\$2709 in checking account. \$6825 in Berkshire-Taconic Fund. \$9534 total. One bill outstanding: \$300 to Berkshire Environmental Research Center.
NE Utilities Grant	No grant proposals have been written for this year. We will address this again next year.
Section 319 Grant	Ms. Kay, Ms. Stover and contractors toured the areas to be addressed by the grant. Detention basins at Branch Farm and Camp Russell will wait until later due to extensive planning required. Drainage work at Richmond Shores will wait until next year, to be done in conjunction with other planned work, in order to maximize grant dollars. Bids from contractors are due November 30.
Richmond Sewer Project	Planning is to be completed by March, 2004, and the work should begin in the spring. The sewer committee has not met recently. Ariel surveys will be done this fall, and possibly ground surveys. The Richmond Selectmen will now handle the oversight of this project.
LAPA West Workshop	Ms. Levitan attended sessions on dam safety, storm water management, and invasive weeds. New regulations require registration and inspection of dams by owners. Deadlines have been postponed. They hope to have them in effect as early as this fall. There is no more funding available for lake projects. The only possibility remaining is the Section 319 grant. LAPA-West is struggling financially and requests contributions (suggested \$20 annually) from lake association members. Onota Lake has now had three whole-lake treatments and they are now attempting weevils (at a cost of \$18,000 for one spot treatment). Lake associations are encouraged to have a five-year plan and to continue to work the plan. Lee Lyman says Cheshire Lake is committed to continuing a light treatment every spring and has had good results. Presenters also encouraged boaters to pick weeds off the boat, rather than wash them off (which sends them back into the lake).
Berkshire Environmental Research Center	BERC has done a study on the lake. Ms. Levitan has their report and will share it with Lee Lyman. This is one part of our effort to determine which endangered species are present (or not). Another biologist will be visit this week.
Drawdown	The drawdown has begun and the level now is just below the spillway. It has been suggested we apply for a deeper drawdown by filing an application to amend our current order of conditions. MSP to spend up to \$2000 to have Lee Lyman file this application and to apply for permission to do Reward spot treatments on the entire lake, including the canal.
Education	Ms. Kay recommended we seek ways to educate the public about the needs of the Pond, so that we can build community support long term. The Richmond Record may be one avenue for this (perhaps a regular column).

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2003
5:30 PM**

Members and Others Present	Katherine Levitan – Vice President (Whitewood), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Roy Walchenback (South Pond Farm), Lois Kelly (Independent), Mary Richard (Girl Scouts of WMA).
Members Absent	Caleb Mitchell (Pittsfield Conservation Commission), Richmond town representative, Alex Nardacci (Independent), James Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm).
Minutes of October 20, 2003	Minutes from last meeting accepted as printed.
Treasurer's Report	Treasurer was absent. Balances as of last meeting: \$2709 in checking account. \$6825 in Berkshire-Taconic Fund. \$9534 total. We have an outstanding bill to Todd Hunsinger for his wood turtle investigation (\$100).
Wood Turtle Update	Todd Hunsinger (Simons Rock) investigated the pond and environs for evidence of wood turtles, including the railroad line and inflowing streams. He found no evidence of the presence of wood turtles. The upper area (Nordeen Swamp) appeared to be favorable habitat but no evidence was found. The inlet is not appropriate habitat for wood turtles. His report is being put in the form of a letter which we can forward to Lee Lyman and others as appropriate.
Moorhen	Mr. O'Brien knows Tom Smith who is a bird expert. Mr. O'Brien will talk with him about investigating the presence of the Moorhen. Nordeen Swamp may be habitat.
Lake Treatment	There was discussion about the high level of algae this past summer. This can be treated with copper sulfate. We need to come to a decision about our desire for treatments in the coming year. Ms. Levitan may speak with Lee Lyman about the possibility of treating for algae.
Section 319 Grant for Non-Point Source Pollution	Ms. Kay has proposals from two engineering firms to address drainage issues in Richmond Shores and elsewhere (Girl Scout gully, Branch Farm gully, runoff from soccer field at Camp Russell, and the gully near the boathouse at Russell). The grant is also to assist with vegetative buffers at the town beach, boat landing and Richmond Shores beach.
Drawdown	Richmond Shores residents have agreed to place the sandbags to maintain the level of Nordeen Swamp during the drawdown. They are working to maintain the sandbag dike. As of this morning, the lake level is 20 inches below the spillway. The drawdown should reach the maximum of 24 inches within a few days.
Fundraising	We will need to make plans soon for future fundraising.
Membership	Mary Richard will represent Girls Scouts of WMA. Mr. Watkins will speak with Jonathan Lathrop (the new ward 5 councilman in Pittsfield).
Adjournment and Next Meeting	Meeting adjourned 6:30 pm. Next meeting: December 9, 2003, 5:30 pm, at Richmond Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Watkins, Secretary

MINUTES 12/9/03 - RICHMOND POND ASSOCIATION

ATTENDANCE

Mary Richard
Al Narducci
Jim Mooney
Linda Kay
Katherine Levitan
Roy Walchenback

Pictures of Richmond Pond submitted for inlet and will be sent to Lee Lyman for application ammendment.

Common Bitterin Is also a bird beside moorhen that Jack should work on. Jack working on getting a letter about moorhen.

Pontoosac and Onata go down 3 feet. We want to also and want spot treatment on whole lake.

Katherine Levitan will call Jack.

Katherine Levitan will call Lee - and see how long it will take - and then we can work on fundraising - Hopefully Ed Sawyer will still help although he is moving to Salisbury.

Proposals submitted by engineers for our 319 grant - for detention basins for Boys Club soccer field gulley, and other gulley on East Beach Road, and Girl Scouts camp and by Shore Road going to boat ramp. Vegetative Buffers seminar to be held in Spring with a presentation - a good

Girl Scouts project said Mary.

We will try to put plants in Town Beach and also Richmond Shores area - need to dig and put plants in.

Mary will go to United Way to promote this project. Linda will give her a copy of grant.

Jonathon Lathrup - Ward 5 - new councilman to be invited to next meeting.

Question as to water testing. Al pointed out agricultural run off is probably worst thing for pond. Al will talk to Holly about it.

Roy will call as to vegative buffer as an Eagle Scout project.

Next meeting: 5:30 January 12 - Back to Monday.

Happy New Year
See you Jan 12

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2004, 2004
5:30 PM**

Members and Others Present	Katherine Levitan – Vice President (Whitewood), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Mary Cotton Richard (Girl Scouts of WMA), Holly Stover (Branch Farm), James Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm).
Members Absent	Richmond town representative, Alex Nardacci (Independent).
Minutes of December 9, 2003	Minutes from January 12, 2004 accepted as printed.
Treasurer's Report	\$50 donation received in January. Paid Berkshire Enviro-Lab for water testing fees. \$2037.88 in checking account; \$7179.92 in Berkshire-Taconic Fund; total assets \$9217.80. Mr. Foot prepared year-end returns in January and final work is being done by the accountant.
Berkshire-Taconic Fund	We affirmed that the Berkshire-Taconic fund is still the best place for funds, in light of the fact we do not have our own 501(c)(3) status.
Town of Richmond Funding	We desire to open a discussion with the Town of Richmond at some point about ongoing funding for the needs of the pond. Names suggested for people to work on this effort may be Lois Kelly, Al Nardacci, Jack O'Brien.
Water Quality Testing	Results from Berkshire Enviro-Lab have been received. Nitrite levels were minimal. Nitrate levels fluctuated. There is concern about high bacteria levels near Whitewood in July. Fecal-Coliform and e-coli were high at the Richmond Shores inlet and at Clark's Brook in June. There were some elevated levels near Camp Marion White in September.
Berkshire Conservation District Vegetative Buffers	Trees, shrubs and other plants can be ordered through the Conservation District. Orders need to be placed in April. Ms. Stover will provide copies of the flyer for Ms. Kay and Ms. Levitan. Ms. Richard has received one response from a Girl Scout willing to work on this project for her Silver Award.
Section 319 Grant	Tighe & Bond has been selected as the contractor. Water flow needs to be measured. This will require trained volunteers. The QAP will require a chart listing training procedures, trained people, etc. The suggestion is that residents living near the areas to be measured be recruited. Some practical and possibly financial assistance may be required for preparing the QAP. Gene Shag and Carolyn Sibner may be possible resource people. Berkshire Regional Planning offers each town a certain amount of assistance, which also may be helpful. Specific plans, locations for retention basins, and other details still need to be developed. MSP to provide up to \$1000 for preparing the QAP.
Sewer Connection Fee	Ms. Levitan spoke with Mr. Lathrop The Pittsfield sewer connection fee has been lowered to \$425,000. There may still be a possibility of reducing this further.
Adjournment and Next Meeting Date	Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm. Next meeting: March 15, 5:30 pm, at Richmond Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Watkins, Secretary

Oct 18 04

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2004
5:30 PM**

Present: Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Alex Nardacci (Independent), Jim Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Katherine Levitan – Vice President (Whitewood), Holly Stover (Branch Farm), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Lois Kelly, Leonard Levitan.

Absent: Carl Foote – Treasure (Branch Farm), Mary Cotton Richard (Girl Scouts of Western Mass.), Town of Richmond Representative.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer was absent so no report was available.

Sand Bags: Richmond Shores paid \$157 for the sandbags for the dam at Nordeen Swamp. They have asked to be reimbursed. MSP to reimburse Richmond Shore. Ms. Kay will talk with Mr. Foote about getting the check.

Section 319 Grant: Ms. Kay reviewed the project areas again with Tighe and Bone. We are waiting for their designs and plans to be prepared. The actual work on detention basins will not begin until at least this fall, as the QAP must be written first.

Vegetative Buffer: This initiative needs to wait until we have the plans from Tighe and Bond. Ms. Kay knows someone who is willing to assist with this project.

Natural Heritage: Ms. Levitan has received a response to her letter. They are requesting documentation that we have complied with the conditions of the drawdown. We will copy them when we send the letters to the Conservation Commissions this spring. They did not address any other issues we raised (i.e. endangered species) and stated we have the three-year approval for a limited drawdown and nothing more. We may try to arrange a face-to-face meeting with them. Ms. Levitan will call them. She will also send a copy of the drawdown monitoring records. Copies will also be sent to Richmond and Pittsfield Conservation Commissions, and we will request certificates of compliance from the conservation commissions.

Lycott Engineering: Ms. Levitan has spoken with Lee Lyman about possibilities for future weed control efforts. She will try to arrange a date in May for him to meet with us.

Water Quality Monitoring: Ms. Stover would like to begin monitoring in the tributaries this month. The cost for testing is about \$100 per month for lab work.

Nordeen Swamp: The old sand bags at Nordeen Swamp need to be removed. Ms. Kay will call Marshall White about this.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:05. Next meeting to be scheduled at a later time.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Watkins, Secretary

PLEASE NOTE: RPA's next meeting will be Wednesday, May 12, 5:30 pm, at Richmond Town Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend as we will be meeting with Lee Lyman of Lycott Engineering, to discuss our next steps with regard to weed control and other issues.

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2004
5:30 PM**

Lake Plan: The board met with Lee Lyman of Lycott Engineering to decide on a lake plan. He will try to arrange a meeting with Tom French of Natural Heritage, asking for a three-foot drawdown, and permission to use herbicide in the inlet. He will also provide an estimate for hand-pulling weeds in the inlet.

Finances: We currently have about \$9000 in the treasury. We would need close to \$20,000 to proceed.

Pittsfield/Richmond Contributions: Jonathon Lothrop, Pittsfield City Councilman, was present at the meeting. He did not believe Pittsfield would make any contribution. It is too late to ask Richmond Selectman for funds for this summer.

Lake District: Mr. Lothrop suggested forming a Lake District, but this was voted down as taking too many years to do.

Fundraising: Fast fundraising voted down as too difficult right now, especially with the sewer money having to be expended. Linda suggested, and it was agreed, that we will try to involve the summer people in fundraising, that we go to the Selectman and the mayor of Pittsfield (with Mr. Lothrop) in the Fall and be ready to do a whole lake weed project next Spring.

Section 319 Grant: Linda is meeting with Tighe and Bond next week.

Involving Others: It is important that we try to bring as many other people to the next meeting so that we can discuss what Lyman has suggested for the pond and discuss how to raise money to implement it. It was suggested that letters go out to the community detailing our plans. This should be implemented in June.

Next Meeting: June 7, 5:30 pm.

Katherine Levitan

Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2004
5:30 PM

M Aug 2
M Aug 23 5:30
RPA

Present: Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Carl Foote – Treasurer (Branch Farm), Alex Nardacci (Independent), Judy Nardacci (Independent), Jim Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Katherine Levitan – Vice President (Whitewood), Holly Stover (Branch Farm), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Vinny DiSpagna (Richmond Shores), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Dot Walchenbach (South Pond), Roy Walchenbach (South Pond), Tiesie Melillo (Richmond Shore), Lenore Lapin (Richmond Shores).

Absent: Mary Cotton Richard (Girl Scouts of Western Mass.), Town of Richmond Representative.

Minutes of Last Meeting: An addition to the minutes is that our report on endangered species was submitted to Natural Heritage. Attempts to meet with them have so far been unsuccessful.

Treasurer's Report: No change in finances. (About \$9000 in the accounts.)

no Bridal Shiner found in last survey by DFW
Thomas French of Natural Heritage: Concerned about affect of three-foot drawdown on potential habitat of Bridal Shiner. Mr. Lyman would charge \$2000 to provide this information. Ms. Kay will ask Don Roeder from Simons Rock whether he can assist with this project.

Richmond Shores Rep: Vinny DiSpagna has agreed to serve as a representative to this board from Richmond Shores. Linda Kay will continue as an officer of the board.

Hand-Pulling: Lee Lyman provided an estimate for the cost of hand-pulling weeds in the inlet. The cost would be \$3000. Mr. Mooney moved that we match Richmond Shores donations up to \$1500 for hand-pulling in the canal. Mr. Foote seconded. Motion passed. Mr. DiSpagna will contact Richmond Shores residents about this.

Anyone swimming on my beach has to hand pull from the beach 10 weeks

Some Richmond Shores property owners on the lake (between the Richmond Shores beach and the boat ramp) are arranging for hand-pulling near their property.

Herbicide Treatment: The cost for herbicide treatment would be \$14,000. After extended discussion, the decision was to delay treatment until next summer, allowing us more time to make plans and raise funds.

Letter: We will send a letter to the various association boards to inform them of current progress and plans. A fundraising letter to a larger audience will be sent later, in August.

Section 319 Grant: Ms. Kay and Mr. DiSpagna met with Tighe and Bond. They reviewed specific plans for various areas to be addressed. These will be prioritized based on how they fit with the grant.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:35. Next meeting is slated for July 19, at Richmond Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Watkins, Secretary

*Aug 2 - \$1500 grant
muddy - shores end
hand pull + rake
Drawdown + chemical P
write note selectmen thinking for interest in RPA*

*18
8800*

**Richmond Pond Association
Board Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2004
5:30 PM**

Present: Linda Kay – President (Richmond Shores), Katherine Levitan – Vice President (Whitewood), Jack O'Brien (Branch Farm), Lois Kelly (Independent), Mary Cotton Richard (Girl Scouts of Western Mass.), Leonard Allen (Whitewood), Erika Allen (Whitewood), Leonard Levitan (Whitewood), Bruce Wooley (Interprint), Bob Kerwood, Judy Nardacci (Independent), Joanne O'Brien (Branch Farm), David O'Brien (Branch Farm), Michael DiNicola (Richmond Shores), Terry DiNicola (Richmond Shores), Alan Schmit (Whitewood), Fran Schmit (Whitewood).

Absent: Alex Nardacci (Independent), Carl Foote – Treasure (Branch Farm), Jim Mooney (Boys & Girls Club), Mark Watkins – Secretary (Lakeside Christian Camp), Vinny DiSpagna (Richmond Shores), Town of Richmond Representative.

Treasurer's Report: (Treasurer absent.)

Lake Plan: Mary will try to get someone to look at our lake proposal. We will file a notice of intent for a three-foot drawdown and herbicide treatment. In addition, we will conduct hand pulling. Mr. O'Brien will show our lake plan to a professor at BCC. We need to educate people about pulling Eurasian Milfoil and vegetative buffers. Bruce Wiley will contact a friend on Cheshire Lake.

Beaver Dams: Ms. Kay is talking to ecological experts, seeking information for Natural Heritage. We are exploring whether the dams can be partially breached and beaver pipes installed. Ms. Levitan will contact White Engineering about beaver dams. Ms. Richards is investigating beaver dams on behalf of the Girl Scouts and will keep us posted.

Fundraising Letter: A letter will be prepared giving updates on our various projects. The letter will be sent to residents, possibly through Berkshire-Tacnoic.

Hand-Pulling: The board agreed to pay Mike Scorpa up to \$5000 for the hand pulling of Eurasian Milfoil around the lake.

Richmond Selectmen: Ms. Kay met with the selectman last week. They agreed to write to Natural Heritage on this board's behalf. They will contact representatives Nuciforo and Kelly, and they will consider matching our fundraising. They also suggested we develop a five-year plan. Ms. Kay plans to take the selectman on a tour of the lake in August.

Adjournment: Next meeting August 2, at Richmond Town Hall..

Katherine Levitan