

RPA Meeting Minutes 2025 (Notes in order from most recent to oldest)

RPA Meeting Minutes October 28, 2025 via Zoom

Welcome – Louise opened the meeting at 7:05 pm by welcoming all in attendance.

Approval of RPA minutes September 30– Under developments around the pond, Ken suggested an edit to the minutes clarifying that the dock was removed from the Richmond Shores swimming area. The minutes were approved. Doreen will amend the minutes.

Proposed meeting dates for 2026- The proposed dates for 2026 are 4/28, 5/26, 6/23, 7/28, 8/25, 9/22 and 10/27. There are no conflicts with any holidays. As of now the meetings will continue to meet by Zoom. Dates approved. Doreen asked if we may consider moving the meeting time to an earlier start. Louise will canvass the members to ask their preferred meeting time.

There was discussion on how to grow the attendance at our meetings. It is on the Town calendar and in the Richmond Record. Kerry suggested an article in the Richmond Record highlighting experience and backgrounds that would be useful as a RPA board member. Louise plans on doing more outreach at the pond communities during their annual meetings

Updates from Town Hall – No one from Town Hall was present. Louise noted that the handicap mat at the beach has not been removed. She also noted that new sand was added a few months ago but already eroding into the Pond. Doreen noted that the dock has been removed at the boat launch.

Financial report– Laura reported that she has done the filings for the IRS and for Massachusetts. With the increase in donations from the grant, she had to file a 990 form with Massachusetts. She has also sent out thank you notes to the donors.

Laura reviewed the financials. Our income increased by \$1000 and there were no expenses. The financial report was approved.

Project updates & other developments around the Pond

Weed Management-Bruce reported that the Pond drawdown will begin November 1st.

Pittsfield's ConCom requested that the weed management permit be tabled until their December meeting. Richmond's conservation agent is working with Pittsfield's agent drafting the order of conditions. The hope is, come December, or at least this winter, we'll have new orders of conditions and an approved NOI. The lake management plan is adequate for the NOI but once the NOI is approved, then a re-evaluation will be done to bolster the lake management plan with consideration of the resources that are available to us.

Cyanobacteria Update- Louise reported that as of October 25th, cyanobacteria was still visible in the Pond. As far as she knows no samples have been collected for retesting. Louise will collect a sample to bring to Shannon for testing if the water is clear.

Identification of winter projects and convener for each- Louise presented the winter projects and asked for volunteers to take the lead for each project. Follow up on the projects will be in February.

1. Lake Management Plan- Bruce will take the lead. He will reach out to Jim McGrath and Shannon Poulin for revisions based on the December Con Com meeting. He will also ask for input from Ken.
2. Education Connection for RCS and Outreach to Lake Communities- Louise will head this project. 2026 will include the 4th, 5th and 6th grades. She is hoping to involve the 8th grade in water testing. Louise will also plan for community outreach opportunities.
3. Annual Report-Doreen will do this.
4. 319 Grant Pursuit- Doreen will reach out to Alison Dixon to discuss possible grant opportunities. Holly Stover would like to be involved.
5. Record Digitalization- This will be a team approach with Cricket, Holly, Ken and possibly Kyle Brogan. This will include prioritizing which files should be digitalized and where they will be stored.
6. Zebra Mussel Signs- Doreen and Louise will work on ordering the signs.
7. Designing of Letterhead for RPA- Ken shared the image that his wife designed for the RPA. This is seen in the Richmond Record. Cricket will photo shop the image from the Richmond Record for use as a letterhead.

Update on Camp Russell-Cam was not present. Louise did shut some open windows at the camp. She will follow up with Cam about securing the doors and windows.

Camp Arrow Wood-Matt reported that the hockey teams are in residence at the Camp. Cabins are being renovated. The Camp's capacity for 2026 is 130 campers.

The light pollution from the Camp was discussed. Ken had received an email from Whitewood's president expressing concern about the lights affecting their community which led Ken to email Matt with the concerns. Ken did relay that Pittsfield has a zoning ordinance in place for lighting. Matt discussed the safety issue of the lights for campers and staff. He feels that the light on the health center is the cause of the problem. They plan to rotate and lower the light away from the Pond and towards the quad to see if that fixes the problem. Other solutions such as solar or moving the electric lines are not realistic at this time.

Recent developments around the pond

Community association reports:

Richmond Shores – Doreen reported the RSCA has their plowing contract finalized. The catch basins have been emptied. The Halloween caravan with trick or treaters will happen again this year on the Shores.

Branch Farm - Louise reported that the water will be turned off as of November 1st. The gate is closed and locked until May. The eagles remain present.

Whitewood – No new updates.

Independent Cottages- Ken reported that the docks have not been removed yet but will be removed by early November. Ken has had his roof repaired.

South Pond Farm – Laura noted that it is quieter but new residents have moved in. Sand was delivered for their beach but not incorporated. It is covered with a tarp.

Odds & ends:

Meeting Adjourned at 8:28 pm

ATTENDEE LIST:

Directors present (voting): Louise Brogan (vice-president, Branch Farm), Doreen Donovan (secretary, Richmond Shores), Laura Rosenthal (treasurer, South Pond Farm), Jonna Gaberman

(assistant treasurer, Whitewood), Matt Linick (Camp Arrow Wood), Miles Garfinkel (At-Large), Kerry Hamilton (At-Large), Ken Kelly (independent cottages)

Ex-officio present (non-voting):None

Alternates present: Holly Stover (At-Large), Bruce Wintman (Website director, Whitewood), Cricket Nardacci (Whitewood), Paul Neumann (Richmond Shores)

Guests present: Dick Stover, Carl Foote

Directors absent: Cam Stockton (Camp Russell)

Ex-officio absent: Danielle Fillio (Richmond Town Administrator) Jim McGrath (City of Pittsfield), Tom Potter (Richmond Con Com)

Alternates Absent: Kais Abderrahim (Camp Russell), Kitty Levitan (Whitewood), Joe McGovern (Camp Russell), Tim Mason (independent cottages), Gordon Dinsmore (South Pond Farm), Linda Kay (Richmond Shores), Al Nardacci (independent cottages).

Richmond Pond Association Meeting Minutes September 30, 2025, by Zoom

Welcome – Louise opened the meeting at 7:05 pm by welcoming all in attendance.

Approval of RPA minutes July 22, 2025 and the annual meeting August 26th– Doreen made a motion to approve the minutes of July 22nd and the annual meeting August 26th. The July minutes were approved as submitted. The annual meeting minutes were approved. Holly Stover asked for clarification on the wording in the second paragraph of the annual meeting report.

Doreen explained the wording.

Updates from Town Hall – No one from Town Hall was present.

Financial report– Laura reviewed the income and expenses along with the status of the CD's.

Donations received were \$8000. Our balance as of September 30, 2025 is 106,743.43. The RPA CD will need to be renewed as of October 1st. Laura will renew this for 6 months so the money will be available if needed to help pay for weed treatment. Financial report approved.

Election of Officers- Doreen explained that this is the meeting in which the election of officers occurs. The by-laws explaining the process were attached to the Zoom invite.

The following positions were filled: Vice President-Louise Brogan, Treasurer- Laura Rosenthal, Assistant Treasurer- Jonna Gaberman and Secretary- Doreen Donovan. The role of president remains unfilled though Cricket Nardacci will consider filling this position in April 2026.

Project updates & other developments around the Pond

Weed Management-Bruce reported that the Richmond ConCom did approve the weed treatment NOI at their September meeting. The Pittsfield ConCom did not approve the NOI at their September meeting. Pittsfield has a new agent, Shannon Poulin. She had more questions and was requesting more details. There was a long discussion on the barriers Bruce is encountering as he works to explain all that is in the NOI and helping the commissions to understand the information. Bruce has met with the caretaker at Camp Arrow Wood for a demonstration on how they manage the winter drawn down. Pictures were provided to Pittsfield's Con Com. Richmond's agent will speak with Shannon to help facilitate the progression of the NOI. Bruce will present again at Pittsfield's October 1st meeting. Bruce was thanked for all his time and effort he has put into this project.

Update on Camp Russell-Cam was not present. Louise did note that they have cleaned up the garbage that a bear got into. She also noted that many cabin doors and windows were left open after camp season ended. She will follow up with Cam.

Camp Arrow Wood–Matt came in at the end of the meeting. He reported that their attendance increased 50% from last year. The goal is to grow this by another 50% for 2026 camp season. He discussed ideas for growth potential of the camp. They are bringing in more sports academies. Early registration ended today. They are renovating another cabin in the compound. Louise asked if there was any follow up to the light pollution that a couple of cottage owners had approached the camp about. She offered a suggestion where the lights might be placed so they were less intrusive,

Annual Meeting-Louise reported that the turnout was low for the meeting even though it was well advertised. The root beer floats were well received and the cost of this was minimal. Brittany Ebeling from Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT) did an overview of

BEAT's thoughts on fish stocking of Massachusetts waterways. They are talking with Mass Wildlife to hopefully change this practice.

Beach, tributary and cyanobacteria testing update- Shannon has shared the last of the cyanobacteria testing results. The levels have remained low all summer. Bruce will post the results on the website.

Garbage removal- Miles continues to collect the recyclable bottles and cans at the boat ramp and Clark brook. He then brings them to Paul Brown who brings them to a recycling center. He has noted that there is less trash in these areas.

Recent developments around the pond

Community association reports:

Richmond Shores – Doreen reported that dock in the swimming area has been removed for the season. The RSCA is currently seeking bids for snow plowing. The prices have increased from last year. Several residents volunteered their time to construct a wooden barrier around the culvert at the beginning of Shore Road.

Branch Farm - Louise reported that the baby eagles have not been seen for a few weeks but the adults are still very present. The roof on their pump house has been replaced. They are expecting a couple of loads of gravel for their road in November.

Whitewood – Jonna reported that their association did vote to add some gravel to Lake Road.

They are also in the process of pursuing a plowing contractor,

Independent Cottages- No update.

South Pond Farm – Laura noted that there are more full time resident moving to South Pond and with this expects to see more kayaks on the water. The dead tree at their beach has been removed. They did get approval from Pittsfield's Con Com to replace the sand at their beach. She was unsure if this needed approval with Richmond.

RPA Website- Bruce asked that we update him with any email changes. He continues to update the site with the minutes and reports.

Odds & ends:

Winter Projects- Louise asked that we start to think about winter projects to discuss at next month's meeting. Some projects to consider so far are the lake management plan, annual report, 319 grants, school education /public outreach, designing a letter head, notes cards or magnets, record digitalization and ordering zebra mussel signs. All these projects will need volunteers to manage them over the winter.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 pm

ATTENDEE LIST:

Directors present (voting): Louise Brogan (vice-president, Branch Farm), Doreen Donovan (secretary, Richmond Shores), Laura Rosenthal (treasurer, South Pond Farm), Jonna Gaberman (assistant treasurer, Whitewood), Matt Linick (Camp Arrow Wood), Miles Garfinkel (At-Large)

Ex-officio present (non-voting):None

Alternates present: Holly Stover (At-Large), Bruce Wintman (Website director, Whitewood), Cricket Nardacci (Whitewood),

Guests present: Dick Stover, Carl Foote

Directors absent: Kerry Hamilton (At-Large), Cam Stockton (Camp Russell), Ken Kelly (independent cottages)

Ex-officio absent: Danielle Fillio (Richmond Town Administrator) Jim McGrath (City of Pittsfield), Tom Potter (Richmond Con Com)

Alternates Absent: Kais Abderrahim (Camp Russell), Kitty Levitan (Whitewood), Joe McGovern (Camp Russell), Tim Mason (independent cottages), Gordon Dinsmore (South Pond Farm), Linda Kay (Richmond Shores), Al Nardacci (independent cottages)

Richmond Pond Association Annual Meeting August 26, 2025, Richmond Town Hall

Welcome –The meeting started at 5:30 in the Town Hall meeting room with a root beer float social. Tammy Jervas volunteered her time to serve the ice cream.

Louise welcomed all to our annual meeting. She introduced our guest speaker, Brittany Ebeling, the Director of Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT). Brittany discussed their current campaign on fish stocking of Massachusetts water ways. She discussed the cost and the harmful effects the stockings have on the biodiversity of the waters they are introduced into. She relayed that a large percentage of the trout die shortly after they are released. Richmond Pond has been stocked four times this year. Their campaign is asking Mass Wildlife to stop the practice of fish stocking. There was a signup sheet for those interested in volunteering their time to help with their efforts.

Summary of Year 2024-2025 at the Pond

Town Beach & Boat Launch– Danielle was not present but Neil Pilson, a Town selectman, was in attendance. Neil was feeling optimistic that with new members on the Conservation Commission that the weed management permitting process would be resolved. He encouraged those who are concerned about the permitting process to attend the next ConCom meeting to express their opinions.

The beach will be open until October 1st. There are no lifeguards. The times that Neil visited the beach, he observed families enjoying their time. He did note that the garbage bin was overfilled on a few occasions. There are new handicap chairs to assist people to access the water. Currently a user is required to call Town Hall to reserve the chair and have it unlocked from the storage shed. Ken suggested putting a sign on the storage shed with this information. Having a key pad with an access code was also suggested. Neil will follow up regarding removing the old access ramp which is in disrepair.

The Town is still waiting for approval from the State to move ahead with the needed permits for the zebra mussel wash station. Neil feels this will be in place for next season. The need to call the State on a daily basis was discussed to help move the process forward. Neil felt that this was unrealistic. He relayed that there have not been any problems with boaters signing the updated zebra mussel voucher. Louise discussed where the wash station would be located at the boat ramp. She also stressed the need for education on the many ways zebra mussels can find their way into the Pond.

Weed management of pond – Bruce reported that the Richmond ConCom and the Pittsfield ConCom have been working together to move the NOI for the weed management permits forward through for the Town of Richmond and the City of Pittsfield. The hope is to have the permit finalized at the September Con Com meetings. No herbicide treatment or harvesting will be done this year but the permit needs to be in place for the 2-foot drawdown in November. Weed mapping was done again in August and Solitude will be at the next Con Com meeting with a tentative treatment plan.

Waters (testing of beaches, tributaries, cyanobacteria) –Paul Neumann, who is coordinating the volunteers and boats for the cyanobacteria testing, reported that the results of the tests have been below the state threshold. The samples are taken at the deepest part of the Pond and a sample is also taken at the dock. Hot weather can cause the cyanobacteria to rise up from deeper

levels. There has not been any testing of the tributaries, but Louise will obtain a few samples for this year. She feels the data collected will be important moving forward with treatment plans.

Goose Management-There has not been a goose management plan since 2022. Louise's recent count of the geese on the Pond was at 68. The eagles have contributed to goose management by hunting the goslings.

Camp Arrow Wood 2025 Report – Matt was not present. Louise reported that the Camp hosted 120 campers for their sport sessions. Ken has been in contact with Matt asking if the flood lights could be shut off.

Camp Russell Summer 2025 Report – Cam was not present. Their camp season has ended for the summer. Each week was at full capacity of 350 campers per week.

Student Displays and Pond Information- This will be an annual event for the 4th grade class and each previous 4th grade class will continue to be included. The students created many different projects to demonstrate their learning, some of which were on display at the meeting. They also made signs with pictures they drew that they placed around the Pond. The signs included QR codes that discuss the Pond and a song that they made with the help of ChatGPT.

RPA website & Facebook page –Bruce Wintman is managing the RPA website. He explained that the website and its contents are updated on a regular basis.

Q&A – Bruce was asked to relay that there is a weed harvester for sale, condition unknown.

ATTENDEE LIST:

Directors present (voting): Louise Brogan (vice president, Branch Farm), Laura Rosenthal (treasurer, South Pond Farm), Doreen Donovan (secretary, Richmond Shores), Jonna Gaberman (assistant treasurer, Whitewood), Miles Garfinkel (At-Large), Ken Kelly (independent cottages)

Ex-officio present (non-voting): None

Alternates present: Bruce Wintman (Whitewood alternate)

Guests present: 26 in attendance

Directors absent: Matt Linick (Camp Arrow Wood), Kerry Hamilton (At-Large), Cam Stockton (Camp Russell)

Ex-officio absent: Jim McGrath (City of Pittsfield), Danielle Fillio (Richmond Town Administrator), Tom Potter (Conservation Commission)

Alternates Absent: Kais Abderrahim (Camp Russell), Joe McGovern (Camp Russell), Gordon Dinsmore (South Pond Farm), Tim Mason (independent cottages), Cricket Nardacci (Whitewood) Kitty Levitan (Whitewood), Al Nardacci (independent cottages), Holly Stover, Linda Kay (Richmond Shores), Ron Veillette

Richmond Pond Association Meeting Minutes July 22, 2025, by Zoom

Welcome – Louise opened the meeting at 7:02 pm by welcoming all in attendance

Approval of RPA minutes June 24, 2025– Doreen made a motion to approve the minutes of June 24th. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Updates from Town Hall – Danielle was not in attendance but Neal Pilson, was. He did not have any new information on the status of the wash station NOI. He reports that the boat monitor hours are fully staffed. There is no lifeguard at the public beach. Louise asked if the old handicap ramp at the beach was removed. Neal did not know but he will ask Heather, the administrative assistant, and will then follow up with Louise. Bruce updated Neal about the weed treatment NOI. He felt that the Richmond Con Com was very responsive to his report. Neal also shared that there is a contract to have the culvert on Dublin Road replaced. This should be finished by December.

Financial report– Laura reviewed our income and expenses. She feels that our finances are in good order for when we need to pay for weed treatment. Louise will get the contact information from Laura to send a thank you note to the WHH foundation.

Doreen will write the annual fund-raising letter and coordinate with Laura for the printing and mailing.

Project updates & other developments around the Pond

Weed Management–Bruce attended the Richmond Con Com meeting in July. There was not a quorum, so the NOI was tabled until the next meeting. Bruce and Louise met with Richmond agent, Franz Forester, and Jim McGrath and Jim Conant from the City of Pittsfield to discuss how to move the NOI forward through both ConComs.

Amending the NOI to ask for a 3 foot draw down in place of 2 feet was discussed. Bruce felt if the NOI was changed at this point, it would cause another delay as it would need approval from Natural Heritage. He felt that it would be practical to have the NOI amended after approval. The benefits of the drawdown, weed control, mitigating erosion, dam safety and flood control were discussed. Kerry provided the link to the study the state sited for their regulation on lake draw downs. The study is “Investigating the Effects of Winter Draw Downs on the Ecological Character of Littoral Zones in Massachusetts

Lakes.” <https://scholarworks.umass.edu/entities/publication/0e1c571f-6392-4cc3-accb-a1d70cbc597c>

Solitude will do a second weed mapping in late July or August.

Update on Camp Russell and Camp Arrow Wood – Cam and Matt were not present. Louise relayed that Camp Arrow Wood has finished their first session. Ken has been in contact with Matt regarding the light pollution from the flood lights on the camp’s property. He had not heard back from him prior to this meeting.

Beach, tributary and cyanobacteria testing update– Paul reported that Shannon has shared the cyanobacteria test results for the last 3 samples. They were all at extremely low levels. Paul questioned how we can communicate these reports to the public so they know that the Pond is safe. It was suggested that he write a paragraph for the Richmond Record and Town’s newsletter. Bruce will post it on the RPA website.

Louise questioned when the last tributary testing was done. She felt this data could be useful in gaining access to grants and also with continuing the winter drawdown of the Pond. Carl reported that it has been 2 years since the last testing was done. He relayed that each community is testing their beaches for e.coli which he felt was the most important test. Louise would like the RPA to restart the testing.

Ken cited a study the RPA paid for that spanned 2-3 years. This study documented that the drawdowns did not dewater the beaver dam. This information is stored in our files at the Town Hall.

Annual Meeting and all Town picnic-Because there was not a volunteer to coordinate a picnic, Louise suggested that the annual meeting be held at the Town Hall. The meeting would start with a root beer social. It was agreed that the August 26th meeting will be held at the Town Hall from 5:30 -7pm and that root beer floats will be served.

Louise would also like to hold smaller meetings with the communities around the Pond and in the Town with the hopes of growing the RPA membership. She would discuss updates with the Pond and answer any concerns. Doreen relayed that the RSCA annual meeting is scheduled for August 17th at 10am. Louise is willing to come and present at their meeting. Branch Farm and Whitewood have already had their meetings. Laura will make inquiries to South Pond's board asking if they would like the RPA to come to one of their social gatherings. The RPA would like to make root beer floats part of the meetings.

Zebra Mussel's Signs-The Town has posted a new zebra mussel sign at the boat ramp and the Town beach. Danielle sent the invoice from the printing company the Town uses along with the sign logo from the DCR to Doreen. Louise shared what the logo from DCR looked like and what it said. Discussion was held as to the best material to use for the signs the RPA would order for the communities around the Pond. Doreen had a quote from Your Color Connection. They would make the signs on 1/8 sintra while the Town has an engineer grade sign. No decision was reached at this time but will continue to research what will work best for the RPA

Garbage removal- Miles continues to collect the recyclable bottles and cans at the boat ramp and Clark brook. He then brings them to Paul Brown who brings them to a recycling center. He has noted that there is less trash in these areas.

Recent developments around the pond

Community association reports:

Richmond Shores – Doreen reported that their annual meeting is August 17th. She has heard comments on the increase of weeds. She has noted that Eurasian milfoil has increased in their swimming area.

Branch Farm - Louise reported that their annual meeting was held recently. The eaglets have fledged. She has seen and heard black bear activity on her property.

Whitewood – Bruce reports that their annual meeting was held several weeks ago. He has noted more Eurasian milfoil when swimming. Ken relayed that there was a vote to have a special assessment that everybody would contribute to for fixing the steep part of the road coming into Whitewood and also the drainage. This will be done when the engineer and contractor are available.

Independent Cottages- Cricket discussed changes with her home insurance coverage. The agency she was using is not covering lakeside homes that do not have a basement. She was able to find another company to cover her home insurance but wanted to make others aware in case they find themselves in the same situation.

South Pond Farm – Laura noted that there has not been and work done on their beach remediation. Louise has observed 46-48 geese in their area.

RPA Website- Bruce added an article on the RCS field trip to the Pond.

Odds & ends:

Nominations for President-Louise asked if there were any nominations to fill the president's position. There were no nominations.

Wildlife sightings-Miles described the wildlife he has seen while biking and also the loon he observed on the Pond. He reported a positive experience attending the open house at the old schoolhouse.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 pm

ATTENDEE LIST:

Directors present (voting): Louise Brogan (vice-president, Branch Farm), Doreen Donovan (secretary, Richmond Shores), Kerry Hamilton (At-Large), Miles Garfinkel (At-Large), Ken Kelly (independent cottages,), Laura Rosenthal (treasurer, South Pond Farm)

Ex-officio present (non-voting): None

Alternates present: Holly Stover (At-Large), Bruce Wintman (Website director, Whitewood), Cricket Nardacci (Whitewood), Al Nardacci (independent cottages)

Guests present: Paul Neumann (Richmond Shores), Carl Foot (independent cottages), Neal Pilson (Town Selectman), Barbara Shatlin, Kyle Brogan

Directors absent: Cam Stockton (Camp Russell), Matt Linick (Camp Arrow Wood), Jonna Gaberman (assistant treasurer, Whitewood),

Ex-officio absent: Danielle Fillio (Richmond Town Administrator) Jim McGrath (City of Pittsfield)

Alternates Absent: Kais Abderrahim (Camp Russell), Kitty Levitan (Whitewood), Joe McGovern (Camp Russell), Barry Kellogg (Richmond Shores), Tim Mason (independent cottages), Gordon Dinsmore (South Pond Farm), Linda Kay (Richmond Shores)

Richmond Pond Association Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2025, by Zoom

Welcome – Louise opened the meeting at 7:05 pm by welcoming all in attendance. Several members had trouble connecting to the meeting. Ken could not access the meeting and Holly and Kyle had video trouble. She introduced Paul Neumann, a Richmond Shores resident, who will be writing the RPA report for the Richmond Record. Paul also coordinates the cyanobacteria testing and volunteers his boat for the testing.

Approval of RPA minutes May 27, 2025– Doreen made a motion to approve the minutes of May 27th. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Updates from Town Hall – Danielle was not in attendance but did email Louise with the Town updates. Louise relayed that the Town has posted their zebra mussel signs. Danielle will email a copy of the invoice that shows the company they ordered from and what they ordered so the RPA can order signs for our communities. The Town is still working on the NOI for the washing station. They have been trying to get needed information from the state but they aren't confirming with them as quick as they would like.

There is a road plate over the hole in the culvert on Beach Road, this is the current fix. They are looking at repair options. Danielle reiterated that this is an extremely complicated repair due to its size, location and the fact that the sewer line is encased in concrete under the culvert.

There was an issue with a pond monitor and people getting locked in at the public beach. That was resolved and that pond monitor is no longer employed. His shifts have already been covered.

To Ken's follow up email regarding the lake management plan for cyanobacteria and beach testing, Danielle reported that the board of health like both of them and approve their use.

The Town received two floating beach wheelchairs for public with disabilities to use. They are working on how to make them available, most likely by calling to arrange use. They are hoping to have a celebration about them at the town beach towards the end of July. Danielle is working on getting that scheduled. They are also working on getting better disability access to the water since the majority of the ramp has been torn up due to erosion.

There are still no lifeguards. Though there has been some interest, no one has applied. She encouraged any suggestions. Jim McGrath relayed that Pittsfield is in the same situation for life guards this year. This will be the first time in 50 years that there will not be a lifeguard at Burbank Park.

Financial report– Laura was not present but emailed her report prior to the meeting. Doreen read Laura's report. A motion was made to accept the report. Her report was approved. The RPA did receive a grant for \$20,000 from the WHH foundation. This is a family foundation. Laura asked for a help to write a thank you note to the foundation.

Project updates & other developments around the Pond

Weed Management–Bruce attended the Richmond Con Com meeting on June 10th and reported on the status of the NOI to the new members and the new agent. Jim McGrath relayed that he was baffled that Pittsfield's Con Com did not approve the NOI at their meeting as he felt all the needed information was there. He will coordinate a meeting with himself, Pittsfield's board chairman, Richmond's agent, Louise and Bruce to discuss the next step. This meeting would

make a final determination about what information needs to be provided to Pittsfield for their review. They will also discuss what Richmond may need for their next Con Com meeting. Jonna reported that the weed mapping was done mid May. This report showed more curly leaf pond weed and some milfoil. She now observes large areas of milfoil. Jim felt that Solitude should come and do another survey before any treatment is done. Louise questioned if this would be cost effective if we lose the window for herbicide treatment due to delay in permitting. Doreen thought weed harvesting would be more realistic for this year. Solitude can coordinate the harvesting. Jim will discuss costs with Dominic. The state guidance allows up to a 3 feet draw down. Because the NOI has yet to be approved, Jim thought that changing the draw down from 2 feet to 3 feet would be reasonable. This will need to be reviewed by Natural Heritage. Jim also relayed that this is Rob Van de Kerr's last day as Pittsfield's conservation agent. He will be leaving to work for the DEP.

Garbage removal- Miles continues to collect the recyclable bottles and cans at the boat ramp and Clark brook. He then brings them to Paul Brown who brings them to a recycling center. He reports that there is less garbage in those areas. Miles also did some clean up on the other side of the dam by Camp Arrow Wood. He removed folding chairs, wood and foam insulation. Louise will discuss this with Matt.

Beach, tributary and cyanobacteria testing update- Paul reported that the latest test for cyanobacteria was done this past Thursday. He had not received the complete report from Shannon but she did say the levels were low. Because the weather conditions are perfect for an algae bloom, Shannon advised to be on alert for any changes and if possible, get a sample or call her to retrieve a sample. Jim McGrath noted that Pontoosuc Lake has a non-toxic cyanobloom and is currently being retested. Due to the change in our climate many lakes throughout Massachusetts are experiencing this. The BOH is responsible for the appropriate warnings. He stressed the importance of Pittsfield and Richmond's BOH working together to post the warnings if a cyanobacteria bloom was to happen at Richmond Pond. Louise will follow up with Danielle about the lake management plan Ken had sent her and more information on the BOH's approval.

Update on Camp Russell and Camp Arrow Wood – Cam and Matt were not present. Louise will be teaching sailing at Camp Arrow Wood.

Recent developments around the pond

Community association reports:

Richmond Shores – Doreen reported that their community beach looks inviting. She has been cleaning the weeds out of the swimming area. The dock is in.

Branch Farm - Louise reported that their residents are back and enjoying the Pond. The 2 eaglets are getting ready to fledge. There was a reunion for Branch Farm and independent cottages kids, one of which is now a Whitewood resident.

Whitewood - Jonna reports that her association will be meeting on July 13th to discuss their roads.

South Pond Farm – Laura was not present, but Suzanne Cassidy relayed that there are more residents now. There are many geese on their properties.

Education Connection at RCS-Louise reports that Richmond's 4th and 5th grades had their field trip to Richmond Pond on June 5th. They cleaned the swales between the detention basin and the Pond. They were able to see both eaglets' heads peeking from the nest and an adult flying over head.

The students made 5 signs that included a picture and 2 QR codes on them for communities around the Pond. When you scan the QR code, there is information about the Pond, zebra

mussels, how to clean up after yourself and clean your boats. The other is a song that they created using ChatGPT which helped them create the song and to perform it. The signs were placed at the boat ramp, at the boat launch area in Whitewood, and 3 placed at the boat launch and swim areas in Richmond Shores. They hope to place one at South Pond Farm when we get final permission from them. Doreen did inform Louise that after a heavy rain the QR codes became blurred and unable to read. She will follow up on this.

Annual Picnic-No one has volunteered to take the lead on planning the picnic. Ken has reached out to Balderdash to ask if they could host the annual picnic in either August or September. They are amenable to this. Miles voiced his personal opinion that he and his family and friends would not attend if Balderdash is the venue. He did emphasize that he did not want this to impact the decision for using this location. This will be discussed further at July's meeting.

Grant Opportunities- Louise will follow up with Alison Dixon regarding grant opportunities that were discussed at May's meeting. The hope is that this will be available for next year so that the RPA can make a plan on how to use the grant.

File Management Plan- Cricket was not present at the meeting. She was to report on the questions to use with digitalizing the files.

RPA brochures- Doreen has ordered more brochures of the boat tour and replenished them at the boat ramp kiosk. She is working on updating the RPA brochure. The brochures at Bartletts are now located on the window sill.

Odds & ends:

Nominations for President-Louise asked if there were any nomination to fill the president's position. There were no nominations.

RPA Website- Bruce continues to update the links. He will post pictures from RCS's filed trip.

Richmond Record- Paul Neumann will write the RPA update for the Richmond Record taking this over for Kerry.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 pm

ATTENDEE LIST:

Directors present (voting): Louise Brogan (vice-president, Branch Farm), Doreen Donovan (secretary, Richmond Shores), Jonna Gaberman (assistant treasurer, Whitewood), Kerry Hamilton (At-Large), Miles Garfinkel (At-Large)

Ex-officio present (non-voting): Jim McGrath (City of Pittsfield)

Alternates present: Holly Stover (At-Large), Bruce Wintman (Website director, Whitewood)

Guests present: Paul Neumann (Richmond Shores), Suzanne Cassidy (South Pond)

Directors absent: Cam Stockton (Camp Russell), Ken Kelly (independent cottages), Laura Rosenthal (treasurer, South Pond Farm), Matt Linick (Camp Arrow Wood),

Ex-officio absent: Danielle Fillio (Richmond Town Administrator)

Alternates Absent: Kais Abderrahim (Camp Russell), Kitty Levitan (Whitewood), Joe McGovern (Camp Russell), Barry Kellogg (Richmond Shores), Tim Mason (independent cottages), Gordon Dinsmore (South Pond Farm), Cricket Nardacci (Whitewood),), Linda Kay (Richmond Shores), Al Nardacci (independent cottages)

Richmond Pond Association Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2025, by Zoom

Welcome – Doreen opened the meeting at 7:05 pm by welcoming all in attendance. Louise was unable to attend the meeting this evening.

Approval of RPA minutes for April 29, 2025– Doreen made a motion to approve the minutes of April 29, 2025. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Updates from Town Hall – Danielle relayed that the kayak launch is in the water and the dock will be installed soon. The pond monitors started on May 23rd. They will staff the boat launch 7 days a week from 6 am to 6 pm. There have not been any applicants for the life guard position. The Town has purchased a boat washing station at a cost of \$5,600. This unit heats quickly to 140 degrees or higher and uses steam to clean so it does not harm the boat. They are looking to purchase a shed to house the washing station. DCR suggested placing the station by the drainage ditch to minimize any contaminated water entering the Pond. The Town has hired an engineer to help with the NOI and the plan is to present at the June 10th ConCom meeting.

The gate to the beach has been closed because the hole in the culvert located on Beach Rd. has gotten bigger. A new plate has been ordered and once a plate is in place, the road will reopen. Ken reported to Danielle that there were cars at the beach today. She will follow up with the boat monitors to ensure the gate stays locked until a plate is in place. They are still researching options to repair the culvert.

New zebra mussel signs have been ordered from DCR. The RPA would like new signs for the communities around the Pond. Danielle will email Louise the prices for the signs

The Town has appointed a new Conservation Agent, Franz Forster. He has experience in lake management and has been a member of Pittsfield's ConCom. Danielle relayed that with new members on the ComCon, all information presented at prior meetings about the weed management NOI will have to be presented again.

Miles asked Danielle about garbage pick up at the boat launch and the fishing spot at Clark brook. He has noted that the garbage cans were over flowing. The garbage is collected on Fridays and Mondays.

Grant Opportunity Massachusetts Environmental Trust-Alison Dixon discussed a grant opportunity that has not been available for a few years from Massachusetts Environmental Trust. She thought this may be of interest to the RPA. The grant is funded by the sale of special license plates. The funds are made available for various environmental projects. Potential projects need to be submitted by June 30th and completed in a years' time. The grants awarded are between \$5,000 and \$50,000.

Alison identified some area such as training for water quality testing and funding for publication of outreach materials as potential projects. This grant also supports nonprofit workshops, events and conferences. If the RPA does not have a project at the present time to submit, she asked that we discuss plans for next year.

Financial report and Approval of fiscal Year 2026 Budget– Laura reported on the finances for May. The directors and board insurance has been paid. She then shared the annual budget on screen and explained the fiscal budget for 2026 with comparisons to 2025. This budget is from 7/1/25 to 6/30/26. Total expenses budgeted are \$24,087. A motion was made to accept the annual budget, motion passed.

Laura completed and sent the WWH grant application.

Project updates & other developments around the Pond

Camp season plans for Camp Arrow Wood – Matt relayed that the international staff arrives on Sunday. He also made know that the Pittsfield Sheriff's department's dive team would be doing training sessions in the Pond on June 2nd. They will be based at the camp.

Update on Camp Russell – Cam is looking forward to the start of the camp season. He reported that they have registered 300 campers for all eight sessions. Their orientation for staff is on June 14th and camp begins on June 23rd. He has spoken to his waterfront staff to slow down when bringing the motorboat to the dock.

Weed management planning update– Bruce reported that Solitude would be conducting a weed mapping of the Pond by the end of May. He feels that once those results are in, the NOI for weed management should be approved by the Pittsfield Con Com. He will follow up with Dominic. Bruce will present the NOI application information to the new members of the Richmond ConCom on June 10th. Doreen asked that Dominic be present at the ConCom meetings to discuss treatment plans.

\$5,000 for weed treatment was approved at the Town meeting. Our total contribution from the Town is \$25,000 to use for weed management.

Beach, tributary and cyanobacteria testing– Ken has not heard back from Danielle regarding the lake management protocol. The cyanobacteria testing will begin in June and run through September. The testing will be done every 2 weeks on Mondays at 3pm. Paul Neumann, a Richmond Shores resident, will coordinate the volunteers offering their boat services and the communications with the tester. The relaying of that information to the RPA still needs to be determined.

Garbage removal and invasive plant update– Miles reported that any treatment plan with purple loosestrife is on hold. He has continued to monitor the garbage output on Beach Road. He has placed a white bucket at the fishing spot by Clark brook for cans and bottles. Miles brought the recyclables to Paul Brown of Richmond Shores. Paul then brings them to a recycling center that employs individuals from BARC.

File Management Plan– Ken spoke about the need for parameters for the files that may be digitalized. As far as we know, no one has accessed the files since they moved to Town Hall. Cricket discussed scanners that could be used for this project that scan quickly and also have the ability to connect to software that will make searching for information easier. These scanners cost approximately \$500.

Cricket suggested that a first step to determine what files should be digitalized, is to have a set of questions and using them as a general guideline to help identify those that we think merit scanning. Cricket will work on these questions. She also discussed different options for storing the files.

Recent developments around the pond

Community association reports:

Richmond Shores - Doreen reported that the Town has graded their roads and the community beach was prepared for the summer. Two articles prepared by Linda Kay were passed at the Town meeting. The first was increasing the amount the Town spends on private roads from \$3,000 to \$6,500. The second was amending the by-law that required the associations to match the funds the Town spent on their roads. This requirement was eliminated.

Branch Farm – Doreen relayed for Louise that summer residents are moving in and using their cottages. The eagles have been active and chatty. Two babies have been spotted in the nest! Rains have kept the water level of the pond notably high; detention basin and swale are holding their own.

Whitewood - Bruce reported that their dock is in. Their roads have been graded but in doing so the crowning of the roads were removed. This has caused more standing water after a rain storm. Jonna had addressed this earlier in the meeting with Danielle.

South Pond Farm – Laura relayed that summer residents are arriving. South Pond will be appearing before the Pittsfield Con Com in June asking for a permit to rejuvenate their beach which has eroded over time.

Education Connection at RCS-Doreen relayed for Louise that students from grade 4 and 5 will be utilizing their rain date of June 5th for their field trip to the Pond as it was very cold and rainy on 5/22. They plan to clean out the swale, check out the eagles, post the QR code signs that they have made at 5 locations around the pond, and make note of the flora and fauna of the area.

Zebra Mussel signs-As stated earlier Danielle will email Louise the cost of the signs from DCR. Louise also asked in her notes if sending an email to all our residents and RPA subscribers describing the threat of zebra mussels and how to decontaminate their boats and equipment would be beneficial at this time. All thought this was a good idea.

Annual Picnic- Louise in her notes asked if we should take a break this year from hosting a picnic due to the time and expense. The consensus was that most would like the picnic to continue this year. Ken felt that this has been a way to capture new people who are interested in the RPA. He suggested Balderdash as an option. He will reach out to them and ask about their schedule. Cam will need to check his calendar to see if Camp Russell is available. He will need to know the date, which was not decided.

RPA Website- Bruce has continues to update the links. He is looking for a new fishery link to post from the State. We are still looking for volunteers to manage Facebook and to write for the Richmond Record. Kerry has been writing the RPA updates. Ken also reminded us that pictures along with a caption can be sent in to the Record.

Odds & ends:

Nominations for President-Doreen asked if there were any nomination to fill the president's position. There were no nominations.

RPA Brochures /Kiosk-Ken noted that the boat tour brochure holder at the kiosk needs to be refilled. Doreen will do this. Doreen discussed changes to the RPA brochure. She does not feel that our emails should be on the brochure. The RPA website's email is there. She will follow up with the officers to ask if they would like theirs removed. Ken would like to be removed as the contact person along with his phone number.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 pm

ATTENDEE LIST:

Directors present (voting): Doreen Donovan (secretary, Richmond Shores), Jonna Gaberman (assistant treasurer, Whitewood), Ken Kelly (independent cottages,), Laura Rosenthal (treasurer, South Pond Farm), Matt Linick (Camp Arrow Wood), Kerry Hamilton (At-Large), Cam Stockton (Camp Russell), Miles Garfinkel (At-Large)

Ex-officio present (non-voting):Danielle Fillio (Richmond Town Administrator)

Alternates present: Cricket Nardacci (Whitewood), Holly Stover (At-Large), Bruce Wintman (Website director, Whitewood), Al Nardacci (independent cottages), Gordon Dinsmore (South Pond Farm)

Guests present: Dick Stover, Alison Dixon (BRPC)

Directors absent: Louise Brogan (vice-president, Branch Farm)

Ex-officio absent: Jim McGrath (City of Pittsfield)

Alternates Absent: Kais Abderrahim (Camp Russell), Kitty Levitan (Whitewood), Joe McGovern (Camp Russell), Barry Kellogg (Richmond Shores), Tim Mason (independent cottages), Linda Kay (Richmond Shores).

Richmond Pond Association Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2025 by Zoom

Welcome – Louise opened the meeting at 7:05 pm by welcoming all in attendance. This is our first meeting of 2025.

Approval of RPA minutes for October 22, 2024– Doreen made a motion to approve the minutes of October 22, 2024. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Approval of RPA 2024 Annual Report- Doreen made a motion to approve the 2024 annual report. This has already been submitted to the Town for publication for the Town meeting. The report was approved.

RPA contact list review- Louise asked that the RPA contact list be reviewed and updated with the current contacts for the Town, camps and associations. She will email the individual associations and camps asking for the current contact information

Updates from Town Hall – Danielle was not in attendance. Neal Pilson was present and had prepared information on Pond related business to share at this meeting. He reported that the dock and kayak launch will be installed after Beach Road is graded. The BOS will meet this week to confirm new members to the Conservation Commission. The agent and three members resigned after the last Con Com meeting. The selectmen hope to confirm 3-5 new members. Danielle is working on securing a new conservation agent. The ramp monitors are fully staffed. Some may be utilized as beach monitors. A few individuals have expressed interest in the lifeguard position but as of today, the position is still vacant. The monitors have a new zebra mussels form for boaters to sign. This form does ask if the boat has been in Onota and/or Pontoosuc Lakes. If a boater refuses to sign, the boat monitor does not have the authority to prohibit the boat from entering the Pond. The Town has a call in to an engineering firm to evaluate the broken culvert on Beach Road. They are anticipating that this will be an expensive repair. New road plates have been ordered to cover the hole as they work on a permanent repair solution. The Town is looking for grants to help with culvert repairs throughout the Town. The Town will be evaluating 2 different wash stations this week. They prefer a power wash at 140 degrees over a hand wash option. The cost is from \$4500 to \$6800. Neal felt that the wash station should be up and running fairly quickly after approval from the Con Com. The station will be housed in a metal shed. The shed cost is from \$400 to \$600. The Town has earmarked \$10,000 for boat monitors and \$5000 for weed management. Because the Pond has not been treated for 3 years, \$20,000 has accumulated. With this additional \$5000 there will be \$25,000 for weed management from the Town. Neal expressed his concerns about the roadblocks that have stalled the permits for weed management. He is hopeful that the new members on the ConCom will work with the Town and the RPA on the permitting process allowing for some treatment to be done this year. Ken Kelly informed Neal that he has emailed Danielle asking that she review the beach, tributary and cyanobacteria testing protocol that the Pond Association has been using for a number of years and to share it with the appropriate people and boards as he did not know if this had ever been reviewed by anybody at Town Hall. The Board of Health has major responsibilities if there is ever a problem. Ken asked that any feedback be sent to him so that he can update the protocol. Neal will follow up with her.

Financial report– Laura reported on the finances that have occurred since our last meeting in October. She renewed both CDs. The CD for the dam fund was renewed for one year and the RPA's for 6 months. She discussed the income and the expenses. Donations have continued to be received. Because there has not been any weed treatment for the past 3 years, the RPA's income

is in a healthy range right now. Laura will work on the grant application that was sent from a resident of Richmond Shores. This grant would donate \$20,000 to the RPA. There is not a time limit on the grant, but she will get it submitted very soon. She will also work on the budget for the coming year.

RPA participation in the Scholarship Awarding Committee- Jan Hartford asked for a representative of the RPA to participate in the scholarship awarding committee. Doreen volunteered last year and volunteered again to represent the RPA this year.

Nominations for President-Louise asked if there were any nomination to fill the president's position. There were no nominations.

Project updates & other developments around the Pond

Camp season plans for Camp Arrow Wood – Matt relayed that the camp is renovating another cabin. Their attendance has increased by 30%-40%. They are adding a new program after the summer session is over called Arrow Wood elite, which will be a 5 day over night session. This session includes basketball, soccer, and baseball camps. There will be directors coming in from out of state including college coaches and players. There will be 40 campers for each sport. Camp orientation for the staff begins June 24th and the camp sessions begin June 28th. Matt commented that there is a reasonable amount of international campers that come over for the camp sessions. They have a specific protocol in place about how to deal with ICE if they were to come to the camp. They are thoroughly checking that all the needed documentation for the campers is in place. Matt also relayed that the scholarships for Berkshire County residents has increased. They also have 6-8 counselors who are local. They are working on the Hockey Camp coming back in the winter. Matt wants there to be more oversight with this program. There is a possibility that Camp Arrow Wood could partner with an online school called Aeon and bring their academies onsite to the camp. Louise asked if there were any updates pertaining to the dam. Matt reported that the dam is inspected on a quarterly basis and there has not been any change in its functioning. They have applied for a grant to help fund the maintenance and repairs. As of the last inspection, the dam is stable.

Update on Camp Russell – Cam was not present.

Goose Management Program-There was no interest in continuing the program this year.

Weed management planning update- Bruce reported that he presented at Richmond's April ConCom meeting. He addressed his concerns with the 50-60 stipulations that they wanted done before approving the NOI for the weed management. Some of their stipulations would be very expensive, more that the Town or RPA could fund making them unrealistic. Neal Pilson also spoke about these conditions at the meeting and how the Town does not have the finances to do what they are ordering. Bruce reminded the members that part of their job is to manage the Town's natural resource which includes Richmond Pond. There was no resolution, but all the 3 members and the agent resigned after the meeting. Bruce felt optimistic that at Pittsfield ConCom's May meeting, they will approve the combined weed management NOI after reviewing the most recent weed mapping. Bruce felt that because Pittsfield has provisional approval by Natural Heritage and the environmental endangered species program that the Town of Richmond ConCom will likely be able to work with the Pittsfield ConCom to help move approval of the NOI forward. Pittsfield's conservation agent, Rob Van de Carr, has been very helpful with Pittsfield's side of the permitting process. Herbicide treatments are usually done in the spring which makes it unlikely that this will be done this year. Weed harvesting would be a

good option for this year. The permits will be for 5 years if approved. Members voiced their appreciation to Bruce for all work he has done on the permitting process.

Garbage removal and invasive plant update- Louise reported that Miles plan to continue to pick up garbage on Beach Road to the public beach. He will place a garbage can near the beach. His work has made a difference. There is no information on the invasive plants.

Update the Lake Management Plan- Ken, as noted earlier has sent Danielle the protocol for beach and tributary testing. Once this is updated, Ken plans on sending this to the community organizations and camps. The emergency contact list should be reviewed and updated so he has the most current contact information. LAPA West will arrange the cyanobacteria testing for the summer. A draft schedule will be done in May. The testing will be scheduled every 2 weeks from June to September. Ken has organized the schedule of the volunteers who offered their boats for the testing. He would like to transition this task to someone who is on the Pond full time.

Recent developments around the pond Community association reports: Richmond Shores - Doreen did not have any new updates. Branch Farm - Louise reported that people are getting ready to move back as a May 1st. She has seen the adults feeding at least one eaglet. Whitewood - Jonna reports that her association will be having another engineering evaluation of their roads. They are in need of repair, but funding is an issue. She also questioned if the Town has disseminated any information on short term rentals. South Pond Farm – Laura relayed that summer residents are arriving. South Pond will be appearing before the Pittsfield Con Com asking for a permit to re-grade their beach which has eroded over time. Louise asked if there is a plan for the birch tree that has fallen onto their property. Laura did not know.

Education Connection at RCS-Louise reports that Richmond's 4th and 5th graders are planning to visit Richmond Pond on a field trip May 22nd. June 5th is the rain date. 34 students and 5 adults will be present. They plan to visit the eagle nest, clean some swales and learn about how runoff from properties affects the health of the Pond. Louise asked for a motion for the RPA to fund the field trip up to \$500. Motion approved. The 4th grade students have created a QR code with information on zebra mussels and boat cleaning. Their goal is to post these in various locations around the Pond where boats are launched. Bruce offered to post it on the RPA website. The Town is looking at getting new zebra mussel awareness signs from the State.

File Management Plan- Doreen asked Kyle Brogan to relay the information he has researched on digitalizing the RPA files. He described 3 options. The first would be scanning by hand which would be very time consuming but there would be no cost. The next option is to use a local commercial business. Staples in Great Barrington charge \$1 per page. Lastly a larger commercial company gave him a quote that would require a minimum order of \$1000. These files would all be saved as PDF's. He discussed the best options for storing them on an on-line service. Cricket volunteered to help with this project if needed. Ken felt that all of the files did not need to be digitalized as some of the information can be found on Massachusetts State websites and on the RPA website. He felt that the historical files would be the most important. The next step will be for Ken and Doreen to each independently review what should be digitalized and then compare notes to come up with one list. They will then discuss with Kyle and Cricket to prioritize the files.

Book sales- Kerry reported that the book sales have been slow over the winter. There are only 32 books available to sell and is hoping they will sell over the summer. The 3rd editions copies will be sold first followed by the 2nd edition.

RPA Website- Bruce has continues to update the links. He has compiled the minutes and has updated the latest map from Mass.gov. He asked that we continue to send him updates. We are still looking for volunteers to manage Facebook and to write for the Richmond Record.

Odds & ends:

Trout Stocking-Ken reported that Richmond Pond has been stocked with rainbow trout along with Onota and Pontoosuc lakes in Pittsfield.

LAPA West symposium- Ken relayed that the symposium is usually held in the fall. Meeting Adjourned at 8:56 pm

ATTENDEE LIST: Directors present (voting): Louise Brogan (vice-president, Branch Farm), Doreen Donovan (secretary, Richmond Shores), Jonna Gaberman (assistant treasurer, Whitewood), Ken Kelly (independent cottages,), Laura Rosenthal (treasurer, South Pond Farm), Matt Linick (Camp Arrow Wood), Kerry Hamilton (At-Large)

Ex-officio present (non-voting): None present

Alternates present: Cricket Nardacci (Whitewood), Holly Stover (At-Large), Bruce Wintman (Website director, Whitewood), Linda Kay (Richmond Shores), Al Nardacci (independent cottages)

Guests present: Dick Stover, Kyle Brogan, Carl Foote, Neal Pilson (Town Selectman)

Directors absent: Cam Stockton (Camp Russell), Miles Garfinkel (At-Large)

Ex-officio absent: Danielle Fillio (Richmond Town Administrator), Jim McGrath (City of Pittsfield)

Alternates Absent: Kais Abderrahim (Camp Russell), Kitty Levitan (Whitewood), Joe McGovern (Camp Russell), Barry Kellogg (Richmond Shores), Tim Mason (independent cottages), Gordon Dinsmore (South Pond Farm)