

**Thomas Pond Improvement Association (TPIA)
Annual Membership Meeting
20 June 2026**

In Attendance: Annibella Properties, Anderson, Catrambone, Chapin, Close, Cormier, DeLuca, Eaton, Goldstein, Hall, Horr, Jaffe, Jarvis, Khuen, Krause, Masselli, McCarthy, McMeekin, Morrell, Pankewicz, Rekemeyer, Richard, Tindley, Wallace

The following members were represented by **Proxy**: Genova, Grotto, Hodgson, Marchant, Rogers

President Bob Chapin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum of the membership was present.

Guest Speakers

Nancy Crilly-Kirk, Vice President, Raymond Waterways: Nancy briefly explained both the mission of Raymond Waterways and the Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) program which employs individuals to inspect boats for invasive species at the four public boat launches in Raymond from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. She also noted the presence of the invasive Asian/Chinese Mystery snail and the Zebra mussel and the importance of draining one's boat away from the lake. Nancy can be contacted via email: nancy@raymondwaterways.org

Steve Craine is the Environmental officer of Raymond Waterways. Steve spoke about the Lake Smart program which helps landowners enjoy their lake while protecting the water from pollution from erosion and other harmful inputs. Landowners can sign up to have their properties evaluated to see what, if any, actions they might take for this purpose. Steve also mentioned that Raymond Waterways annual meeting will be August 5 @ 9 a.m. at the Raymond/Casco Historical Society on Rte 302.

Administrative Matters

Rules for Speaking: Since the 2025 annual meeting, the Board developed a policy for speaking at the annual and special meetings of the membership. Bob reviewed these rules. The main purpose is to keep speakers "on topic" and to limit each speaker's time in an effort to enable all who wish to speak the opportunity to do so.

2025 Meeting Minutes: The minutes were posted to the website, thomaspond.org, for the past year. Sue Chapin also provided copies of the minutes for review prior to the start of this meeting. No one had any comments or questions; therefore, a motion was made to approve the 2025 meeting minutes as written. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved by the majority.

Treasurer's Report: Paul McMeekin thanked everyone who donated to the dam repair fund. He then presented both the financial report and the budget for the next year. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to approve the report and budget as presented and the vote by the majority was to approve.

Annual Dues are currently \$35. After brief discussion, it was voted and approved to keep dues at \$35.

Elections: Nominations were made for three Board positions (3 years each) and the offices of Vice President and Secretary. Nominations from the nominating committee for the three Board positions were Lyn Anderson, Diane Cormier, and Dick Horr. There were no nominations from the floor. Lyn, Diane, and Dick were elected by the majority to serve on the Board.

The Nominating committee nominated Chuck Khuen for the office of Vice President and Mary Krause was nominated for the office of Secretary. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Chuck and Mary were elected by the majority to the offices of VP and Secretary respectively.

Lake and Dam Matters

Dam Repair/Dam Keeper's Report: Tom McCarthy showed the sequence of the dam repairs that were done this past year. He then presented a visual summary of activities that occurred at the dam since last year's June meeting to include, but not limited to, log entries by dam monitors, stop log adjustments, visits to the dam for removal of debris, and cleaning of the flow and level measurement rulers. More than 380 actions were taken. He emphasized the goal of keeping the lake within the dam management plan's directed seasonal levels.

Water Quality: Dick Horr reported that the water quality is stable. He continues to monitor for clarity, dissolved oxygen, and phosphorus. He submitted the tests this year's phosphorus but has yet to receive the results. He mentioned that the method for testing for phosphorus will switch from using the Van Dorn (water samples from surface, middle, and bottom) to doing a core sample which entails using a long tube to draw a water sample from the surface down to approximately fifteen feet. The trend will be measured, but since this is a new method for Thomas Pond, it will take about ten years of testing to establish a trend.

Documents Update: Frank explained minor changes that were made to the following:

Dam Maintenance Plan: In order to do the dam repair as a Permit By Rule, a separate dam maintenance plan was required. Once this plan was written, it was submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection and deemed acceptable.

Dam Keeper Position: Duties were re-aligned with the dam maintenance and management plans.

Water Level Management Plan: The dates for the fall drawdown were simplified and the twenty-five year rainfall was changed to a ten year rainfall. Edits were also made to the document for clarity and to account for the various sizes of the new tongue-in-groove stop logs.

Call For Volunteers: Bob emphasized the need for volunteers. Postcards were available at sign-in for those interested.

New Business

2026/27 Goals & Objectives:

- Bob listed three items:
1. Expand water quality testing to assess for bacteria.
 2. Explore process and apply for a grant(s) for a Thomas Pond watershed survey.
 3. With property owners' permission, place signage at the private boat launches around Thomas Pond to explain procedure for self-inspecting one's boat for invasive species. The same signage will be placed at the public boat launch on Rte 302.

A question was asked if there is money in the budget for the above goals. There is money budgeted for water quality testing and money available for signage. Watershed surveys are very expensive and would need to be mostly funded by grants.

Marking Rocks: There was discussion as to whether this is the responsibility of TPIA and whether the membership would want TPIA to do this. The general consensus among members present was that TPIA not mark rocks close to the surface. However, individual homeowners may do so in the water near their property.

Snails: Judy Morrell has been collecting and removing snails from the rocks in the shallow water near Thomas Pond Terrace and Shore Road. She believes they may be the invasive Chinese Mystery snail. She collects them and bleaches them in order to prevent those snails from reproducing. TPIA will work with Judy on this matter.

Wake Boats: Diane Cormier has observed a wake boat operating too closely to the shoreline. While standard recreational boating (tubing, waterskiing, etc) must occur 150 feet from shore, state regulations mandate that wake surfing must occur at least 300 feet from shore and in a minimum depth of 15 feet which leaves only a small area of Thomas Pond for this activity. It was mentioned that wake boats can stir up the bottom down to 30 feet. There was discussion concerning the purchase and placement of floats to mark the acceptable distance and depth from shore for wake boating and regular boating operations in an effort to emphasize and familiarize the required distances from shore to boaters. The general consensus among members present was for TPIA to explore marking those distances.

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Chapin, Secretary