

Isle LaMotte Recreation Department Meeting November 9, 2024

Meeting called to order: 8:02 AM

Attendees; Anne Jobin-Picard, Ruth Casey, Michael Simanskas, Kathy Simanskas, Carmine Centrella, Mary Brennan-Centrella, Barbara Callahan, Andrea Carbone, Ivy Krezinski

Budget review for 2024 by Ruth C. Discussion regarding the need for more programs for teens and the potential for bike ramps. The due dates for the budget request and annual report were set for the second week of December and January, respectively. The Rec. Dept received a donation from the Isle LaMotte Masonic Lodge. The Rec. Dept will send a thank you card to Dave Wales from the lodge.

Discussion regarding putting an all-weather ping pong table at Veterans Park. Andrea had reached out to carpenters for estimates and had priced out the materials and equipment, which came to roughly \$500. Also discussed was the idea of purchasing a ping pong table for the community room. However, there was concern about the logistics of opening the room every Saturday and monitoring the activity. They decided to put the idea on hold for now and Andrea agreed to continue getting estimates for the outdoor option.

Discussion regarding the ball field at Veterans Park and the amount of work it would take to establish a "regulation" field. An option would be for the field to remain as a grass field for at least the first year. Mike S. will follow up with Martin Jensen regarding excavation of infield. The need for equipment and benches was also discussed. All types of pickup games to include wiffle ball were discussed.

On-going and new projects reviewed to include:

- New horse-shoe pits
- Site prep work for new mulch at Veterans Park
- Mulch for Town Hall play-scape

It was agreed to expend Rec. Dept. budget funds and move forward with projects.

Discussion regarding replacement of swing set at Veterans Park and the need for adaptive swings as well as the removal/replacement of the metal slide currently in place. Option for a bike ramp at Veterans Park was tabled due to insurance concerns.

Discussion regarding fitness and wellness enhancements at Veterans Park to include stretching stations and a walking path. The recent/2024 AARP grant application for fitness stations was reviewed and it was decided to reapply for the grant in 2025. Andrea C. will follow up when the grant period opens.

Discussion regarding adding a 3rd pickle ball court at Veterans Park. It would be the back portion of the parking lot and would need to be repaved. It was suggested that the Rec. Dept. could piggy-back off future Isle LaMotte paving projects and would need review and approval from the ILM Selectboard. Ruth C. to discuss at future ILM Selectboard meeting(s). The status of a small sinkhole on the current pickleball court was reviewed.

Discussion regarding the best time to conduct/sponsor Rec. Dept. family events. It was felt that weekends may be better than Thursday evenings.

Ivy Levy was present to discuss holding family friendly sip and paint events. Most likely to take place over the winter months (January). Ivy will provide material for a small fee and events will require RSVP registration. Anne J-P will coordinate with Ivy.

Potential events for 2025 reviewed to include pick up ball games, a Franco-American presentation, tours of the Isle LaMotte lighthouse, a civil war presentation, Fun Day in the Park, and birding with the Bird Diva.

The recent Star Gazing event was discussed. Although there were only a few attendees the event was extremely informative and exciting. Other events for 2025 include birding with the Bird Diva, Fun Day in the Park, as well as presentations for

The need for volunteer recruitment was discussed with a focus on a youth representative for the Rec. Department committee. Carmine will follow up with reaching out to the Isle LaMotte community.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 AM

Respectfully submitted

Carmine Centrella