

Town of Isle LaMotte Recreation Department  
Meeting Minutes – August 9, 2025

**Zoom Only Attendees:** Anne Jobin-Picard, Ruth Casey, Mike Simanskas, Kathy Simanskas, Nancy Dulude, Laura Miraldi, Andrea Carbone

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.
2. **Additions to Agenda:** Additional discussions requested include
  - Friends of the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge
  - Bike Repair Workshop
  - Open Meeting Law updates
3. **Administrative:**
  - *Open Meeting Law Updates* – Michael Simanskas has emailed leadership an overview of recent updates to Open Meeting Law. A copy of the email will be forwarded to all department volunteers for review and to ensure ongoing compliance. Additional discussion can be held in the fall.
  - *Approve Minutes from July* – A motion to approve the minutes for the July meeting was made by Ruth Casey, seconded by Andrea Carbone, all in favor.
  - *Financial Report* – Ruth Casey provided an update on the finances; the current balance is approximately \$8,300. The Town has yet to receive the mulch grant awarded by PACIF and Andrea Carbone will follow up.
  - *Upkeep of Park* – Going forward, park maintenance issues that arise will be communicated to the members of the Recreation Department then shared with the community to tackle issues that can be handled by residents, such as bee removal. During the upcoming budget season, the chairs will discuss with the Selectboard the possibility of the Town stocking maintenance supplies for use by volunteers for maintenance issues and the assignment of Selectboard member as a Department liaison. Ruth Casey will listen to the last Selectboard meeting recording, as topic was on the agenda.
  - *Ash Tree at Property Line* – Wayne Dengler's request for support in saving the ash trees at the property line was discussed. Michael Simanskas will advise Mr. Dengler to contact the Selectboard regarding the possibility of supporting saving the trees and to contact UVM regarding free options to save the trees.
  - *Stewart's Shop Donation Program* – Anne Jobin-Picard will follow up with Carmine Centrella on the ice cream donation and to see if certificates for ice cream are possible.
  - *Open Action Items* –
    - Mulch at Town Office Swings – The spreading of the mulch has been completed at the Town Office Swings.
    - Wiffleball – Michael Simanskas will follow-up on a late summer wiffleball get together at the park.
    - Flag Invoice – The flag invoicing questions has been resolved, the payment has been completed.
    - United Way Bone Builders Program – Anne Jobin-Picard will become educated in the program and future implementation will be discussed at a future meeting.
    - Len Miraldi Plaque Dedication – As previously discussed, the next meeting has been cancelled and members will meet to celebrate Len Miraldi on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.
    - Thera Pets – The event is confirmed for August 26 at 1:00 PM. Photos from the organization's website will be added to social media posts pending approval of their use. Parking aides – signage and cones – will be arranged by Michael Simanskas, and

Nancy Dulude will provide drinking water needed for the animals. Bags and boxes for the clothing donations collected at the event will be supplied.

- Lighthouse Tour – Coordination to be discussed at a future meeting.
- VEC Grant – Grant will be submitted for during the upcoming quarter.
- Missisquoi Friends – The event is confirmed for Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, and Anne Jobin-Picard has activities for attendees following the presentation. Andrea Carbone will prepare a poster for the event.
- SASH/Age Well – Anne Jobin-Picard will discuss with the various groups a fall senior fair.
- Islands Railroads – Coordination to be discussed at a future meeting.

4. **Activities/Grants:**

- *Book Club* – A winter book club event will be discussed at a future meeting.
- *Island Arts* – The November event is confirmed; an alternate location may need to be discussed. Coordination will be discussed at a future meeting.
- *Paint & Steep* – A sponsor for the event will need to be sourced, and Adnrea Carbone will contact Michael's craft store in Burlington for their support. The cost could also be covered by the Recreation Department.
- *Bike Repair Event* – A possible collaboration with a bike repair mechanic will be considered and discussed at a future meeting. Michael Simanskas will look into insurance considerations and pricing. As suggested by Anne Jobin-Picard, Michael Simanskas will also look into the possibility of addition a bike air pump station on the Island.

5. **Other Business:** Michael Simanskas discussed the Library's annual Halloween event and that support will be needed from the community. As soon as he receives the request, he will forward the details to all members for support.

6. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 8:45 AM by motion of Michael Simanskas, seconded by Laura Miraldi, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrea Carbone  
Isle La Motte Recreation Department

| MEETING DATE | ACTION/STATUS    |  |
|--------------|------------------|--|
|              | topic            | current status   |
| 8/9/2025     | Paint & Sip      | Andrea to contact Michael's craft store for possible sponsorship of event.   |
| 8/9/2025     | Thera Pets Event | Open items to be completed before the event include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Michael to create parking signs</li><li>- Michael/Andrea to source parking cones for event</li><li>- Anne to obtain permission from organization to use photos from website</li><li>- Andrea to repost flyer with photos, once approval received</li><li>- Andrea to create donation signs for cash and clothing donations at the event</li><li>- Anne to follow up with Carmine regarding Stewart's Shops donation</li></ul> |

|           |                                 |   |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|
| 8/9/2025  | Bike Pump Station               | Michael will look into adding a station on the Island.  |
| 8/9/2025  | Bike Repair Event               | Michael will look into insurance and liability issues as coordination of possible event develops.   |
| 8/9/2025  | Open Meeting Law                | Andrea will forward email to all members for review and future discussion.  |
| 8/9/2025  | Age Well/SASH                   | Anne JP will follow up, possibly coordinate a fall senior fair.   |
| 7/12/2025 | Bone Builders                   | Anne JP will complete training and discussions will take place at future meetings.  |
| 7/12/2025 | Wiffle Ball                     | Michael will working date through community survey to gauge interest. Anne JP will provide snacks   |
| 7/12/2025 | ILM Lighthouse Tour             | Anne JP following up with Rob Clark   |
| 5/10/25   | 2026 Budget – tracking for fall | Items to track for inclusion in the next budget:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Park maintenance supplies inventory (insect remover, etc.)</li> <li>- Selectboard Liaison</li> <li>- funding for insurance required renovation of swing set at Veterans Park</li> <li>- cornhole set.</li> <li>- equipment locker for park</li> <li>- Ball field upgrades</li> </ul> |
| 5/10/25   | Sons of the American Revolution | Follow up with Andrew Whipple in fall about their interest in a program at the community room.  |
| 4/12/25   | VEC Grant                       | Andrea to apply for a grant to partially fund the purchase of an adaptive swing for the Town.   |