

Town of Isle LaMotte Recreation Department Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2025

Zoom Only Attendees: Anne Jobin-Picard, Ruth Casey, Mike Simanskas, Kathy Simanskas, Carmine Centrella, Mary Brennan-Centrella, Nancy Dulude.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM

Approve meeting minutes from November 8, 2025

Motion, Ruth C. 2nd Michael S.

Approved

Financial Report

Ruth C. reported a balance of \$13,025.97 which includes the 2025 Town appropriation.

Brief discussion regarding recent grant award for an adaptive swing. It will be installed in the Town Hall swing set in the spring. It was acknowledged that the Rec Department will continue to contribute \$50.00 per event to the ILM Methodist Church until repairs are complete at the ILM Town Hall Community Room. Brief discussion regarding recent grant award to ILMCO for a new pavilion at Veterans Park and what will happen to the existing structure. The existing structure could be reused elsewhere with a few repairs or improvements in supporting beams.

Isle LaMotte Selectboard

Carmine C. and Michael S. will connect to discuss completing the maintenance list for the Rec Department with the ILM Selectboard in determining fiscal and maintenance responsibilities. Discussion had regarding development of a schedule to go with maintenance items and responsible parties to avoid confusion, or questions going forward.

Recreation Department Activities

Fitness Trail

Michael S. had forwarded an estimate from DiStefano Landscaping in Colchester regarding the Fitness Trail project. Additional discussion was had regarding the maintenance and upkeep of the existing walking path behind the Town Hall offices. A question came up regarding who would be doing the work to clean up and maintain the existing path and Anne JP suggested that the “Scouts” may be interested in an Adopt a Trail program which would help Scout members achieve required badges for supporting the local community. Anne JP will follow up with local Scout troop(s). Discussion continued with how best to engage community partners to support a fitness trail at Veterans Park ahead of anticipated grant applications.

Top of the Mountain Performance

Anne JP reported the event was well attended with 70 attendees, demonstrating the importance of the collaboration with Island Arts bring events to Isle LaMotte.

Senior Savy Fair

Brief discussion regarding the success of the event.

Book Club

Anne JP reports that the sessions continue to go well with seven attendees at the last session. Karin E. continues to coordinate the sessions with back up from Anne JP.

Paint and Steep

Anne JP continues to coordinate event for a possible February, March date.

Winter Game Night

Discussion regarding a board game focus for a winter game night. Michael S. reported that the ILMCO game night attendance has dropped off. Although this was a promising idea, it was postponed.

Bone Builders

Anne JP will be conducting her first Bone Builders session this afternoon (Saturday December 13, 2025) at the Alburgh Library. The Alburgh Library has offered space until the Community Room at the ILM Town Hall repairs are complete.

Action Items

Grant Resources

Carmine C. will resend the link to the grant resources Zoom/workshop meeting held last month.

Winter Place Making Grant - AARP

Due to the impending application deadline, the Rec Department will have to forego applying this year. Discussion regarding the Rec Department's need to start planning now for the next grant cycle. Carmine C. was tasked with posting on Front Porch Forum and the ILM Face Book page regarding assistance in grant writing.

Anne JP mentioned that there may be community partners like Community Bank NA, and the North Country Federal Credit Union who give out small grants for community projects. Ruth C. will keep this on the agenda for next month.

Future Music Event

Anne JP discussed future music events and how she has been introduced to a very good local artist who performs at a reasonable fee that we may be able to bring to ILM for a future music event.

Veterans Park/Recreation Field Fixes

Discussion regarding the status of fixes such as the swing set and if the Town needs two swing sets, one at the Town Hall playscape and one at Veterans Park. Even though it may be a nice idea, it was noted that the Rec Department has other projects such as cornhole boards, bocci ball courts, etc. that would be of better use than another swing set. Additionally, the ILM Selectboard would not be keen on maintaining two sets of swings, and the cost of fixing the swing set area at Veterans Park would most likely exceed \$10,000.

Further discussion regarding the need for the Rec Department to review all proposed projects/improvements at the Veterans Park recreation field and develop a plan of action and schedule for project work and spending the Rec Department's budget to complete

enhancements. The Veterans Park slide has been taken down but if the slide is still in the park, we should have it removed.

Meeting Adjourned 8:56 AM
Anne JP motion, 2nd Ruth C.

Respectfully submitted,
Carmine Centrella, Secretary
Isle LaMotte Recreation Department

MEETING DATE	ACTION/STATUS	
	<i>topic</i>	<i>current status</i>
11-8-2025	2026 Budget	Carmine C. & Michael S. will work together on a strategy for the best approach to the ILM Selectboard regarding shared responsibilities and costs. No change
11-8-2025	Email assistance	Andrea C. will work on granting Carmine C. access to monitor Rec Dept emails. Yet to be done.
10/4/2025	Veterans Park opportunities	Carmine C will develop survey for ILM residents regarding public desires for the park. Yet to be done.
10/4/2025	Paint & Steep	Anne JP will follow up on a date after the holidays
10/4/2025	Island Railroads	Carmine & Mary C will follow up on presentation for 2026 on the history of the railroads in the Islands
10/4/2025 12-13-2025	Winter Place Making Grant	Mike & Kathy S will liaison with ILMCO for collaboration on project. Nothing to add. Rec Dept needs to decide on how best to move forward with grant application planning, CJC will post for assistance on FPF and Face Book.
12-13-2025	Town Hall Walking Path	Anne JP will reach out to local Scouts to see if there is an interest in an Adopt a Trail approach to cleanup and maintenance of the walking path behind the Town Hall.
12-13-2025	Movie Night – Film License	Anne JP will follow up with