

Isle LaMotte Recreation Department Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2026

Zoom Only

In attendance: Anne Jobin-Picard, Ruth Casey, Carmine Centrella, Andrea Carbone, Michael Simanskas, Kathy Simanskas, Mary Brennan-Centrella, Missy Forey, Nancy Dulude, Steve Reeves

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am by Anne JP

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Recreation Department meeting minutes from March 14, 2026; Michael S motion, Ruth C. 2nd

Administrative

Financial Report: Ruth C reported there were two expenditures paid, Paint & Steep event - \$115.47, and the Adaptive Swing - \$2382.42 leaving a balance of \$11594.60 for the Recreation Department.

May Recreation Department Meeting: Due to Mother's Day the May meeting of the Recreation Department will take place on May 16, 2026, at 8:00 am.

Walking Path – Town Offices: Due to workload and availability Andrea C suggested the Recreation Department table the work on the walking path behind the ILM Town Offices. Michael and Kathy S have plans to walk the path in hopes of determining level of effort needed to clean up the walking path. They will report back to Recreation Department.

Action Item: The Simanskas will report back to the Recreation Department regarding their walk-through of the path.

Rec Department Supplies: Due to renovations at the Town Offices the Rec Department supplies have been moved from the front lobby closet to the old art room in the north of the building. If supplies are needed the Town Office should be contacted to ensure the building is open. Once the renovations are complete the supplies will be returned to the front lobby closet.

ILM Parks – Selectboard Documents: Carmine C reports he has forwarded two documents to the Selectboard for their review:

1. Maintenance Responsibilities
2. Park Inspection forms

The documents are meant to assist in the determination of who may be responsible for the coordination and payment of routine maintenance and upkeep of the Veterans Park and the playscape area at the Town Offices.

Action Item: Carmine C will report back once he has heard back regarding document feedback and time on a Selectboard meeting agenda.

Adaptive Swing: The swing has been ordered and is in the process of being constructed. Once the swing is ready it will be sent to ILM for installation.

Cornhole Boards: Michael S reported on his research of reasonably priced all weather cornhole boards. Cornhole Boards made of Trex \$579 per set, PVC \$495 per set. This is in contrast to granite or concrete board at approximately \$1,800+ per set. The boards will need to be anchored in hopes of deterring theft. Motion to approve the purchase of two sets of cornhole boards – Carmine C, motion, Ruth C 2nd – Approved.

Action Item: Anne JP will contact vendor for any applicable discounts and an invoice and then send the information to Ruth C who will forward purchase information to ILM Town Treasurer for purchase.

Veterans Park Ball Field: No action

Veterans Park Storage Shed: Discussion regarding attempts to acquire pricing for a Rec Dept storage shed at Veterans Park, Anne JP reports only one quote, over \$2,200, has been received. More options need to be investigated.

Action Item: Missy F will continue to investigate prices for an 8’X10’ shed in the hopes of finding a shed for less than \$2,200.

Veterans Park Pavilion: Work continues through ILMCO in finalizing plans for a new pavilion at the Veterans Memorial Park. Discussed regarding siting of the pavilion with a consensus that the area of the current swing set and volleyball net as a preferred location. It was decided that those Rec Dept members in attendance at the ILM Plant Swap on May 17, 2026, should walk the park to gain a better understanding of a suitable location for the pavilion and make a recommendation to ILMCO.

Recreation Department Power Point/Presentation: Missy F reported on the need to develop a power point for Rec Dept projects, such as the Veterans Park walking path. Discussion regarding the ability to present a clear and concise project overview for the public and possible philanthropic activities.

Northwest Fiberworx: Discussion regarding a request from NWFx to attend ILM Rec Dept events to promote fiber intent on Isle LaMotte.

Action Item: Andrea C. will follow up with NWFx regarding upcoming ILM Rec Dept events.

Alburgh Spaghetti Dinner: Discussion regarding an upcoming spaghetti dinner in Alburgh to benefit Alburgh School teacher Vicki Peters. It was determined that given this is an event to benefit an individual a donation from the Rec Dept “public Town funds” may not be appropriate. Meeting attendees were encouraged to volunteer either to staff or provide food for the dinner. It is being left up to individuals how best to support this event.

ILM Recreation Department Activities

Recreation Department Calendar of Events

Andrea C reports that the level of effort to maintain the Rec Dept events poster is time consuming and that she intends to update the calendar on a quarterly basis with the next update scheduled for May.

Action Item: Andrea C will continue to update the Rec Dept calendar of events quarterly.

Book Club: No report

Meet the Author – Poetry Reading

Anne JP reported that the event was well received with eight attendees.

VT State Parks Presentation

Presentation on the VT State Parks network is being held today (April 11th) at the ILM Methodist Church.

ILM Community Plant Swap

The plant swap is set for May 17, 2026, from 1 pm to 2 pm at the Veterans Park. Discussion regarding how best to contribute to the event with the distribution of biodegradable seed packets/seed book markers as “swag” for those people who attend the plant swap. Kathy S stated she has seeds available from her flower garden and can put together some seed packets.

Action Item: Kathy S will make up flower seed packets for distribution/donation at the plant swap.

Flatfootin’ Clogging Workshop

Anne JP wants to ensure the flooring at the ILM Methodist Church will be acceptable acoustically for clogging.

Action Item: Anne JP will follow up with workshop presenter.

Ukulele Music Event – June

Event in June in collaboration with the Goodsell Ridge Preserve – No Action

Bike Station – Tune Up

Michael S reported on communications with a friend regarding putting on a bike repair and safety workshop. They expressed an interest in providing the workshop and are checking schedules for an appropriate date and time. They will also send a quote for a bicycle repair station for installation at Veterans Park. A repair station at Veterans Park will be an enhancement to the park and benefit the many bikers who tour Isle LaMotte.

Music Bookings – Mark Shelton

Anne JP confirmed the music event in September 2026. She encouraged Rec Dept members to make recommendations for the type of music that would be appropriate in celebration of the 250th anniversary. Rec Dept members should be in attendance to support the work around the event.

250th Anniversary

No action

Sweets Ferry Historical Presentation

Discussion regarding a historical presentation on Sweet’s Ferry (early ferry service between Isle LaMotte and New York). This event will be presented by David and Barbara Sweet. The Rec Dept is awaiting dates for consideration.

Grants

Grant Assistance

Discussion regarding the level of effort and time needed to effectively conduct grant research, develop grant applications, and monitor/track grant document requirements. The AARP grant for a new walking path at Veterans Park was used as an example of the need to think beyond one or two grant resources, (ILM has applied twice to AARP with no success and may in fact not be a good match for that type of ILM project). Carmine C stated that the ILM Rec Dept needs to accept the fact that leaving this work to volunteer status only may not be feasible.

Action Item: Anne JP will follow up with the Rouses Point NY walking path creators to see how/where they acquired their grants for their walking/exercise station path. Carmine C will reach out to Age Well Vermont to see if they have or recommend grant resources. Carmine C will also follow up with Lynn Cole regarding his thoughts and availability to conduct grant work.

No discussion or action took place on the following:

- Walking Path – Today Show segment.
- VT Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports
- Northern Border Regional Commission
- VT Recreational Trails Program- 2027

Respectfully submitted, April 11, 2026

By Carmine Centrella, Secretary
Isle LaMotte Recreation Department

MEETING DATE	ACTION/STATUS	
	topic	current status
4-11-2026	ILM Parks responsibilities and inspection forms	Carmine C. will forward documents to Donna B. and Selectboard requesting Selectboard agenda space. Will follow up w/Rec Dept when feedback is received.
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	Island Railroads	Carmine & Mary C will follow up on presentation for 2026 on the history of the railroads in the Islands
3-14-2026	Grant Assistance	Carmine C will follow up with Lynn Coles regarding assistance and availability.
4-11-2026	Town Hall Walking Path	Tabled, but Michael & Kathy S will walk path and report back to Rec Dept
12-13-2025	Movie Night – Film License	Anne JP will follow up with initiative for the fall
4-11-2026	Wiffle ball	Michael S. will continue to research needs and schedule. No follow up
4-11-2026	Veterans Park Swing Set	Michael S. will follow up with Peter B. / Carey S. for Selectboard approval to have the swing set and slide removed from Veterans Park.