

Grand Isle Select Board
Minutes of the Special Meeting for
Thursday, April 7th, 2022 at 6:00pm at Grand Isle Town Office and via Zoom

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Members Present: Adam White – Chair; Josie Leavitt – Vice-Chair; Couper Shaw; Jeff Parizo; Eric Godin

Community Members Present: Ralph Scharsmith; Roth Perry; Ashley White; Jeff Nagle; Jake St. Pierre; Ron Bushway; Sue Moquin; Michael Trap; Glenda Leake; Joe Longo; Lynda Gardiner; Anza Myers; Lucille Campbell; Michael Case; Court Perry; Elaine Perry; Judith Steacy; Tom Irish; Shirley Mora; John Curran; Suzanne Curran; Emily Clark; Noni Stewart; Taylor Kilburn; Adam Rainville; Jane Bono; Debbie Williams; Levi Kramer

Board Members to Amend Agenda for Matters Not Listed:

II. GUEST OPEN COMMENT

III. NEW BUSINESS

Informational Session: The Islands Community Pavilion Association Inc.:

Board Vice Chair Josie Leavitt reminds everyone that tonight is a meeting to allow ICPA to apply for a planning grant for their projects, and is not indicative of the town approving any major projects at this time. Josie points out that ICPA won't even know if they've received the grant until mid-June. Roth Perry of ICPA says his organization had done a great deal of research, and would like to explore putting a chilled ice-skating rink in the town of Grand Isle. Roth says that given the popularity of the local pickleball association, ICPA thought it would be a good idea for the Donaldson Park, saying it could mean full year usage of the park. Roth says that the application window is closing, which is why this issue came to the Select Board in such a hurry. Roth says that there have been many questions about ownership, insurance, and other general use inquiries that have been voiced. Roth says that the Board agreeing to sign the submitted resolution is only saying that the Board is willing to learn more about the proposed project. Roth says that his organization put out a survey, which received nearly 300 responses, with the overwhelming majority supporting the plans. Roth goes on to say that there has also been interest from Island Stage theater company and from the Grand Isle Farmer's Market. Roth says that location has been narrowed down exclusively to the Donaldson Park, for the time being, and says that another location could still be considered if Donaldson Park doesn't work out. Glenda Leake asks whether this facility would be self-sufficient, or if there would be taxpayer dollars used for upkeep. Roth says that the planning grant will be used to determine facility parameters and used to work out how an agreement between the town and ICPA would be worded. Roth says that ICPA is fully committed to making sure it is self-sustaining and won't raise anyone's tax bills. Eric Godin asks if the recreation committee has been

involved at all. Roth says that ICPA has been in touch with rec, and they are very enthusiastic about the project. Michael Case expresses support for the project and suggests talking to some of the other towns that have put in recreational facilities. Michael also suggests reaching out to Bernie Sanders office about federal money for the project. Noni Stewart from Island Stage expresses support for this project, saying that there is a dearth of performance spaces in the Islands, saying that it would help strengthen the community. Judy Steacy from Island Arts also expresses interest in possible uses of this facility. Lucille Campbell asks if town voters would be voting on the final project. Eric Godin says that the final decision would likely stay with the Select Board. Jeff Parizo adds that there would need to be a town wide informational meeting, and possible approval from the DRB. Roth points out that there could be other grants that would need to have the town help with the applications. Josie Leavitt suggests talking to ZAO Scott Brown and the DRB if there are any future issues the town will need to be involved in. ***Jeff Parizo moves to accept the resolution for VCDP grant application authority. Eric Godin seconds. No further discussion. Josie calls the vote, which passes unanimously.***

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Parizo moves to adjourn the meeting at 6:29pm. Josie Leavitt seconds. No discussion. Josie calls the vote, which passes unanimously.

Select Board Scribe: _____
Eric Godin

Select Board Chair: _____
Adam White