

TALES OF TINMOUTH

May 2022
Vol. 36 Number 5

Tinmouth
Vermont

Editors' Notes: April Showers Bring May Flowers!

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the preceding month. Please email your information to *Tales of Tinmouth* (tinmouthtales@vermontel.net) or drop it off at the Town Office.

Gail Fallar & Pat Psholka

~ Special Town Meeting May 2, 2022 ~ Results

110 voters gathered on May 2nd at the Tinmouth Community Center for a Special Town Meeting to consider the following Articles. (There are 400 voters on the Voter checklist.)

Article 1. Shall the voters exempt the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department from property taxes for the term of five (5) years - 2027?

Unanimous voice vote, Yes.

Article 2. Shall the voters switch to the use of Australian Balloting for its Annual Budget votes?

72 yes votes, 35 no votes, the article passed.

Article 3. Shall the voters switch to the use of Australian Balloting for all Public Questions?

67 yes votes, 31 no votes, the article passed.

Article 4. Discussion regarding spending \$177,000 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)?

A wide array of ideas were suggested, including using it to cut down all the ash trees in the town's right of way due to the Emerald Ash Borer; donation to the fire department; pickleball/tennis court (on donated land); skating rink; pay taxpayers; town website update; digitizing land records; restoration of the old creamery building; disc golf course; shooting range; and others. The Select Board will take these under advisement, may appoint a committee to research and report back to them. The money has to be allocated by 2024 and spent by 2026. (If you are willing to volunteer for the committee, please call the town office at 446-2498.)

Article 5. To discuss any other lawful business.

Rainbow Squier reminded everyone of the up-coming Tinmouth Day on July 9th, asked for help with various activities, and announced that the Conservation Commission is sponsoring a Tinmouth Nature Photo Contest, photos due to the CC by June 13th. They will be on display at the Town Day.

There was also a reminder that Green-Up day is this Saturday, the 7th, meet at the transfer station between 8:30 and 9:00 to pick up bags and a stretch of road to clean, and then report back at 11:00 for free ice cream and prizes.

~ TINMOUTH GREEN UP – 2022 ~

By Doug Fontein



Green Up Day is Saturday, May 7.

The Tinmouth Green Up Committee is teaming up with the Conservation Commission to create a fun and delicious Green Up. In hopes of bringing the community out on Green Up Day, we're doing some fun activities at the Transfer Station at the conclusion of the event. It's been a long hard COVID and we're all looking forward to doing things together again!

Green Up volunteers will meet at the Transfer Station between 8:30 AM and 9:00 AM on Saturday morning to get bags and a section of road to clean up. We'll reunite at the Transfer Station at 11:00 AM for the GALA AWARDS CEREMONY (with prizes) and FREE ICE CREAM. This is a family and kid-friendly event so please come with your young ones so they can share the fun (and maybe learn a little about civic responsibility and protecting our environment).

There won't be a Green Up activity at the school this year so this is your kiddos' opportunity to be part of the team! People are also welcome to do DIY Green Up by getting bags from the Town Office (there are bags there now) and cleaning a section of roadside as your schedule allows. But we urge you to come with your family on Saturday morning to help build community momentum for this important and fun activity.

Please dress appropriately for the weather, including boots, work gloves, long pants and long-sleeved shirts (to help avoid ticks). For more info. on avoiding ticks, go to the Vermont Dept. of Health website and search ticks or use this link:

<http://www.healthvermont.gov/diseasecontrol/tickborne-diseases/prevent-tick-bites-tickbornediseases> Any items too large (or too yucky) for your vehicle we can pick up with a truck if you tell us where it is.

There is also the option of "adopting" a section of roadway in town and keeping it litter-free year round as you walk or drive on it. In addition to keeping your neighborhood beautiful, this will allow us to focus on other roads on Green Up Day to make sure we cover all the roads in town.

We hope to see you at Green Up on Saturday, May 7. Feel free to contact members of the Green Up committee with any questions: Doug Fontein 446-2928, Nelson Jaquay 446-2367, or Ed Hasenohr 446-2676.

~ **Firewood Logs For Sale by Sealed Bid** ~

By Cathy Reynolds

There are several large piles of hardwood at the Town Garage that the Select Board will be selling to help fund the Town Garage project. Each pile will be numbered. Sealed written bids will be accepted by log pile number in writing for a public bid opening on **May 12 at 7 pm at the Selectboard Meeting**. You can drop your bids at the Town Office in the drop box prior to the meeting.

Mark sealed envelope with "Firewood Bid" on the outside. Include name, phone number, log pile number and bid amount in your bid. You can bid on one pile or more. Bid opportunity limited to Tinnmouth taxpayers and residents. Highest bidders will be required to remove wood from the site by June 15.

The piles can be seen at the Transfer Station. Any questions, call Eric at the Town Garage at 446-9163.

~ **Tinnmouth Community Fund June Events** ~

by Jan Krantz

The Tinnmouth Community Fund (TCF) will host a special awards event on **Thursday June 2nd beginning at 6:30 pm, at the Community Center!** All 2022 TCF grant and scholarship award recipients will be announced at this time. This will include new Community and Small Business Grants, as well as K-12 and Continuing Education scholarships.

The **TCF Annual Meeting** will be held prior to announcing the awards. We hope you will join us for this special event on Thursday evening June 2nd, whether you applied for a grant/scholarship or not.

Refreshments will be served! Please save the date!

~ **Annual Tinnmouth Plant Sale** ~

By Cathy Reynolds



The Famous Tinnmouth Plant Sale returns to the Squier Family Farmstand at 12 McNamara Road 05757 from **Saturday April 30-Sunday May 15 - daily 10-7**. This is a self-serve sale with excellent signage (thank you Chuck Bronk sign maker extraordinaire!) describing each plant type and its special features and growing preferences. You can take a photo of each sign to help you remember the details. All sales are cash or check.

All proceeds benefit the scholarship program of the Tinnmouth Community Fund. This is the sale's 30-something year (we have lost track!) but we are still having fun digging and potting and selling our hardy Tinnmouth grown perennials and shrubs to benefit a good cause. Please tell your gardening friends about us and send them to the Farmstand.

Also, at the Farmstand you will find organic beef, veggies, Vermont made products, syrup and pre-made meals from Sissy's Kitchen.

And since the sale lasts two weeks, you may need to make a return trip to see what we added to the sale as the weather gets warmer. The Hosta aren't even up so they will show up soon. We also have pre-potted dahlias already growing to give you a jump on springtime. The dahlias do not come out until the weather warms up though as they are tender. Info at 802-446-2928 or cathyreynolds802@gmail.com.

Thanks to all the volunteer diggers, potters, truckers, unloaders, organizers and helpers! We pulled it off again.

~ **Nature Photo Contest** ~

By Rainbow Squier

The Tinnmouth Conservation Commission is inviting you to get out into the wilds of Tinnmouth and photograph one of your favorite places in Town. We are hosting our first ever "Nature photo contest" to celebrate the natural beauty that surrounds us! Here are the details:

-Participants can submit one photo each

-It must be taken within Tinnmouth

-Categories include:

-Scenic landscapes

-Interesting shapes found in nature

-Creatures of the wild

-The submission deadline is June 13th and can be emailed to r.squiert@gmail.com (if you don't have access to a computer and you still want to submit a photo call 446-9529 and we will figure something out)

-Photos will be displayed with a projector at Tinnmouth Town Day where they will be voted on and winners will be announced.

-The top photo will be highlighted on the main page of the town website. All others will be added to an album on the website with credits given to the photographers. You can opt out of having your photo put on the website if you choose to. Other fun prizes will be awarded to our younger contestants!

Please email Rainbow at r.squiert@gmail.com to get a submission form!

Be sure to suit up for ticks before adventuring into the woods! Happy photo taking, we can't wait to see what you find!

**The Town Office will be closed
Saturday, May 28th and Monday, May 30th
in observance of Memorial Day.**

**The Transfer Station will be open
on Saturday the 28th.**



TINMOUTH
CHURCH

~ **Tinmouth Community Church** ~

Easter is past, but not really. Easter is an ongoing reality of life resurrected, of life ever new, of life renewed, of life everlasting.

Spring is the glorious, annual sign of the resurrection of life as nature awakens from what appeared to be the sleep of death. Yet, here it is, rising forth in new growth, vigor, and splendor, declaring once again that life triumphs over death.

But Spring is seasonal and death comes around again as the cycle of life and death and new life keeps recycling. It is all part of the life of life ever new.

But there are deaths we experience that feel so permanent, like my father-in-law's passing this past winter. In the natural realm of experience, they are. Sue can't go visit her dad this Spring, because it is a wintertime of loss.

But Sue is not without hope that she will yet see him again. The resurrection of Jesus that first Easter morning is God's assurance that as Jesus lives, so does George.

There is a natural realm of reality and there is a supernatural realm that transcends it. There is the mortal life of our physical body and there is the eternal life of our being in spirit. And in the higher wisdom of God, even death ends up the servant of life, opening our minds to life's greater realities and our hearts to greater compassion toward all of life, here and now, and hereafter.

Hear more, where love grows, Sunday mornings at 9:00 at the Tinmouth Community Church.

Blessings,
Pastor John

Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman
(802) 282-7532 (cell, preferred)
(802) 884-8249 (parsonage)
hzfam@hotmail.com

~ **Community News** ~

Get Well Wishes are sent to **Roy Lockwood, Charlie Wrobel, Chuck Bronk, and Roland Wilbur**, and all those suffering from Covid and the nasty cold/virus that is spreading like wild fire.

~ **Wanted ~ Handyman and/or Painter** ~

For the Town Office and Old Fire House.
Please contact the Town Clerk at 446-2498 for details.



~ **Library News** ~
By Ruth Drachman,
Librarian

Important News : THE LIBRARY IS OPEN ! WE ARE OPEN THURSDAYS FROM 2:00 UNTIL 5:00

IF YOU TOOK BOOKS OUT OF THE LIBRARY DURING COVID, AND YOU HAVEN'T RETURNED THEM YET, PLEASE DO SO. WE ARE MISSING SOME BOOKS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

New for adults:

French Braid by Ann Tyler, a funny, brilliantly perceptive look at one family.

Give Unto Others by Donna Leon, a seemingly innocent request leads Commissario Brunetti into troubling waters.

A Sunlit Weapon by Jacqueline Winspear, "a series of possible attacks on British pilots leads Jacqueline Winspear's beloved heroine Maisie Dobbs into a mystery involving First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

Death of a Green Eyed Monster by M. C. Beaton, a story of a beautiful woman, a murder, and Hamish Macbeth.

The Last Bookshop in London by Madeline Martin, a story of love, friendship, survival, and BOOKS against World War II in London.

Books about **Mrs. Pollifax**, a series of adventure books by Dorothy Gilman about Mrs. Emily Pollifax, who is a widow with grown married children. She is tired of attending her Garden Club meetings and wants to do something good for her country. So she becomes a CIA agent! There is a series of these delightful adventure books in the library.

Open on Thursday afternoons. Come see us!

~ **Nature Notes** ~

Daffodils are everywhere, pussy willows and Colts' foot are gone by, peepers are peeping again (had a brief retreat with the snow at the end of April), shad is blossoming, Trillium is out, leaves are starting to unfurl, lawns are being mowed, gardens will soon be planted . .

There are LOTS OF TICKS – beware, be careful.

~ **Helpful Items for Loan** ~

Someone getting a new hip or knee? Or just needs some help getting around? The Town Office has walkers – two wheels and four wheels; crutches, a potty seat, a potty chair (commode), and a wheel chair to loan.

We even have a high chair.

Please call 446-2498 to make arrangements.



May 1, 2022

To the Tinmouth Community,

We're in the final stretch before summer break. As the weather warms and Covid restrictions are lifted, students are attending activities outside of school. Grade 5/6 students are visiting Merck Forest. PreK is going to Wonderfeet in Rutland, and Grades K/1 students are visiting Hildene. Students in grades 2, 3, and 4 are visiting the Capital building in Montpelier along with the Vermont History Museum.

Additionally, Grades 2,3, and 4 students are collaborating with the Vermont Farmers Food Center's FABEL Program on their pollinator garden. The FABEL program representative will be coming to TMS to work in the garden alongside students during the month of May and again in the fall.

Grades 4 and 5 have raised trout from eggs again this year through the *Trout in the Classroom* program. Students will be releasing these minnow sized fish at an undisclosed location in Tinmouth during the month of May.

Tinmouth Mountain School Spring Concert will take place on May 18th at 6:00 in the Community Center. All are invited to this delightful musical celebration!

We are very appreciative of the beautiful Children's Library located outside the Community Center double doors. We would like to thank Cathy Reynolds, Ken Kranz, Nelson Jaquay, and the Tinmouth Community Fund for all the work involved in building, painting, and funding this library. Yankee Paint on Route 4 in Rutland donated the paint as well.

Be sure to check out the book review by Gabe LaFerriere included in this issue of *Tales of Tinmouth*. The book he reviewed, *Don't You Know There's a War On?*, is currently available in our new Children's Library!

Last week, Mo Squier ("MoPa") and Dave Birdsall cleared the outdoor classrooms of limbs that were potentially hazardous. Teachers and students were delighted when they returned to school on Monday and found a carved chair and climbing stumps! Thank you for all your thoughtfulness and kindness!!

Maureen Fitzgerald-Riker
Principal
Tinmouth Mountain School

~ **Book Review** ~

Don't You Know There's A War On?

By Gabe LaFierrere

Don't You There's a War On? is a work of historical fiction in the adventure subgenres. It is intended for a middle grade reading audience and was penned by author AVI. This historical fiction book starts with a young boy named Howie Crispers who lived during WW II in Brooklyn, New York.

During WW II Howie has a wondrous teacher named, Ms.Gossim. But his principal Mr.Lomister is plotting to get rid of Ms.Gossim. Howie tries with all of his might to get Ms.Gossim to stay, but he needs to find out why she was getting fired in the first place?

Through dialogue we learned what it was like to live during WW II. The author used slang to make it authentic. The author also used analogies to make the story more understandable and interesting for the reader.

AVI's book, *Don't You Know There's a War On?* helps younger readers understand what it was like to live during WW II. The various subplots all come around in the end and the reader fits the story segments together. By far, the author did an excellent job at making this book about history into a factual and intriguing story for his audience.

~ **Amphibian Crossing Alert** ~

You may have noticed some brightly-colored amphibian crossing signs on the roadsides in Tinmouth. These are placed by the Tinmouth Conservation Commission in areas where there are known migration routes for salamanders, frogs and turtles. These animals move on a seasonal basis to their breeding and egg-laying sites and are at risk of being killed by car traffic where their paths cross roads.

Please slow down and avoid hitting animals when you see these signs on the roads. There are especially high numbers of amphibians moving on rainy spring nights, so pay extra attention in those conditions. If you'd like to know more about amphibian migration, go to www.vtherpatlas.org. Please do not hit, move or disturb our signs, many of which are hand-made, and please contact me if you see a sign that's damaged or moved. The signs will be removed around July 1 and stored until next year.

Thank you,
Doug Fontein,
Tinmouth Conservation Commission
446-2928

~ Meeting Highlights ~

(Complete minutes are available at the town office.)

As the Select Board asked that their minutes only provide the minimum required, there will be a supplemental report provided for readers following each of their meeting's Highlights.

Select Board ~ 4/14/2022 – Regular Monthly Meeting and Hearing for Proposed Flood Hazard Regulation Amendments

*These Highlights are from **unapproved** minutes.*

Members present (in-person): Kevin Eaton, Cathy Reynolds, and Meadow Squier

Others present: Via Zoom Eric Buffum – Road Commissioner, Rick Fallar, Sherry Johnson, and Kim Harbaugh; In-person- Michael Fannin-EMD, and Gail Fallar-SB Assistant

Proposed Amendment Hearing was the first order of business. Cathy read the warning for the Hearing, no comments received from state or regional planning commission or any others. Board voted to approve proposed amendments and move to voter approval at the August Primary.

Board reviewed agenda, added proposed changes to the Tinmouth Community Fund's Bylaws.

Citizen Input – Michael Fannin spoke about Select Board duties, and Kim congratulated the Board regarding the grant for the salt/sand shed.

Public Works Facilities Update ~ Board read Stan's email regarding the salt/sand shed, will use posts to anchor the canvas, and use waste block inside for walls, not the foundation. Cathy noted the TAP Grant for the salt/sand shed requires hiring a project manager, which was included in the grant request – 10% of project cost, \$40,000. The Town will need to hire Rutland Regional Planning Commission for that. Engineering and permit work can happen this year, construction next year.

Cathy and Eric agreed to be co-clerks of the works for the Town Garage.

Highway ~ Eric reported many roads have been graded, a few still have a wet spot or two that will need a touch-up. Had trouble with the storage trailer, will repair so it can be moved to another spot near the salt shed. Discussed time sheets to ensure separation of hours worked on the town garage, tree work and highway work. Glenn has completed the Game of Logging and Storm Damage Clean-up for tree work.

Board reviewed draft paving bid request, then voted to approve. Bids will be due May 12th.

Board discussed Butterfoss driveway on Rte 140. He wants to the use current access. Eric advised the town needs to remove a huge tree for safety reasons. Much discussion, get estimate?; let Eric decide?; what if it costs more than \$1,000?; in the end, Board voted that Eric and Kevin will decide what to do about the tree.

Old Town Garage – Board asked Eric to make a list of repairs needed for May Board meeting.

Michael Fannin – EMD (emergency Management Director) presented the 2022 LEMP (Local Emergency Management Plan), the NIMS and Mutual Aide Agreement with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. After brief discussion, Board voted to approve all and authorize Cathy to sign.

Old Business ~

Follow-Up To-Do List ~ Board inquired about generator hook-up for the town office and verified approval for use of town equipment to dig a ditch to the old creamery for an electrical line. Also discussed the handicap ramp to the old fire house – need to get it fixed.

New Business ~

Cat Yoder was unable to attend, Cathy read her email regarding creating an ice skating rink, Board discussed and took under advisement, will ask Cat for more information.

Financial ~ Board reviewed and approved financial report, payroll, and account payable warrants.

TAP (Transportation Alternative Projects) Grant ~ Board voted to accept \$300,000 TAP Grant for the sand/salt shed, authorized Cathy to sign paperwork, and to hire the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to be Project Manager.

Nuisance Dog Complaint ~ Request for a hearing was put on hold for now.

Equity and Inclusion Committee (E & I) Update ~ Meadow, as E & I Committee Chair, reported on its three working groups (town events, mutual aide-help during a crisis, and research and development), trying to get them going and reaching out to get others involved. They are working with other E&I Committees across the state.

Community Center Board Meeting Update ~ Cathy reported the meeting went well, members decided it was time to reset cooperation between community and school use of the community center, due to 2 year covid hiatus.

The School District is replacing the slide that was removed per insurance company request. The Select Board voted to approve new slide to be installed in the same place as the old one.

Feedback Form – Board briefly discussed, needs more room for comments.

Board appointed Logan Birdsall to the Website Committee.

Forming a Subcommittee Policy ~ Board briefly discussed, no action taken.

Tinmouth Community Fund Bylaw Update ~ Cathy reported on the proposed updates, these changes bring bylaws into conformance with current TCF practices. Board voted to approve and adopt the proposed changes to the TCF Bylaws.

Mail/Correspondence – Rutland Town Select Board’s letter regarding changes coming to emergency dispatching – taken under advisement – Rutland County Sheriff’s Department is working on taking on this responsibility.

Town Clerk advised the Town Office will be closed April 23rd through April 30th.

Select Board Meeting April 14, 2022
Supplemental Report for Tales

Citizen Input – Michael Fannin spoke to Kevin about Select Board duties information at the Rutland Library, and Kim congratulated Cathy for her work on the grant for the salt/sand shed.

Cathy asked Eric if he would be clerk of the works for the town garage, he said yes. She then volunteered to be the clerk of the works for paper and Eric could be the on-site clerk of the works.

Butterfoss driveway permit application was not on the agenda.

Nuisance Dog Complaint – on hold as the neighbors are trying to comply, dogs are licensed and fenced.

Board appointed Logan Birdsall to the Website Committee. Cathy gave a history of the town’s website development to Kevin and Meadow.

As the Select Board Assistant not notified of and was unable to attend the SB’s April 26th meeting, below are the minutes as prepared by the Select Board Chair – no supplement or recording is available.

Select Board ~ Special Meeting 4/26/22

With thanks to Cathy Reynolds, SB Chair

Unapproved minutes

Meeting was held at 3 pm at the Town Garage Site.

Members present: Cathy Reynolds, Meadow Squier and Kevin Eaton

Others present: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbaugh, Ken Krantz, Hollis Squier, Stan Wilbur, Eric Buffum

Meeting called to order at 3:00

1. The Board reviewed the site work on the Town Garage being performed by the Road Crew. Eric showed the Board the stumps that need to be removed to allow for the necessary grading to be done per the permitted plans.
2. Eric presented an hourly quote from Allard Excavating (\$200 per hour plus \$300 equipment move charge) to bring in a large machine that can pull the stumps and pull the bank back to meet the permitted site design. As the scope is less than \$10,000 the work does not have to go to bid. Meadow made the motion that the Town hire

Allard Excavating per the quoted rates to pull the stumps and regrade the bank as necessary to meet the permitted site design. Seconded by Kevin. All voted in favor. The stumps cannot be removed on the Salt/Sand shed site at this time because we do not have a stormwater permit in place for that project.

3. Eric asked permission to rent a compactor to allow the crew to compact the site for the slab. Cathy made the motion, Kevin seconded to rent a compactor for the skid steer for \$500 per week to allow the crew to compact the site for the Town Garage. All voted in favor.
4. Eric asked the Board if they would like the piles of wood cut in preparing the site to be sold off using the same method we have done in the past. Kevin made the motion that the Town put the firewood up for sale by sealed written bids to be received at the Town Office before the next Selectboard meeting on May 12 at 7 pm. Wood will be split into piles that will be numbered. Sealed written bids will be accepted for each pile by number. All proceeds will go back to the Town Garage project budget. Seconded by Cathy. All voted in favor. Cathy will put a note in FPF and submit to Tales.
5. Town Meeting May 2. Cathy asked that the Board show up at 5:30 to help set up chairs and get ready for the meeting. Discussed the agenda and Logan Younce’s work. The Board declined the power point offer and will place his article and a copy of the Town Meeting process document from years past on each chair. Discussed the input requested from citizens for the ARPA money. Suggested that we discuss this item before the Australian Ballot items. The agenda can be amended at the start of the meeting if a motion is made. Discussed asking for ideas and giving each voter post-its to allow them to “vote” for the ideas they prefer. Sherry volunteered to bring post-its. We will need big paper to collect ideas on.
6. Kevin spoke to his brother Dave about screening the Town Garage property from his using trees/fencing/a berm combination. They are working on design ideas and potential costs. Kevin will encourage the Eatons to attend the Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting on 5/16 to discuss their screening request/ideas.
7. To add to agenda for May12 meeting:
 - a. Open Firewood Bids
 - b. Discuss decision making for Town Garage project and what Clerk of the Works’ can

decide on their own, and what level of decision needs to come to the full board.

- c. Discuss accepting sealed bids on the John Deere 500C backhoe.

Meeting adjourned 3:33.

Tinmouth Planning Commission ~ 4/21/22

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Judy Gilmore, Andy Gilmore, and Larry Carabeau.

Members present via Zoom: Vito Macaluso, Bob Lloyd, Pat Psholka, and Kim Harbaugh.

Others present: in-person Gail Fallar, Secretary.

Members discussed Affordable Housing. Members were provided copies of Tinmouth Zoning Regulations regarding Accessible Housing/Uses prior to the meeting and copies of the Town Plan's section on Affordable Housing at the meeting. Bob read from page 33 of the Town Plan which explained that Tinmouth being so rural, is not very suitable for affordable housing. He commented that it had been tried through NeighborWorks and that the project was not able to attract more than one owner. He noted that he used to assist Habitat for Humanity when he was in Massachusetts – they select a potential owner who then makes a commitment and helps with the construction/renovation. There was much more of a population there and support from churches etc. back then. He noted there is a HH organization in Rutland, wondered if that might work for Tinmouth.

Michael suggested speaking with the family who did participate to see how they felt about being part of the October Hill Project – there are a number of strings attached to subsidized affordable housing.

Several members questioned what the need for it was in Tinmouth and the county, suggesting that there needed to be jobs available in order to attract more workers who then might need housing. Members also discussed the definition of affordable housing – typically 35% of gross income should be what is spent on housing. How to determine what to do differently than what was done in past attempts? The high cost of construction, some estimates are over \$400 per square foot – a number of folks attempting to build are delaying due to the increase in the cost (was \$200 per square foot). Some members inquired if we want to become a Wallingford or Rutland? The Town Plan was written with keeping Tinmouth rural in mind. What are other towns doing for AH – need to check with RRPC. As this was Rainbow's concern and she was unable to attend, Andy moved and Larry 2nded to table until the next meeting to allow her input.

Bob reminded everyone that the PC can only create opportunities, they can't make it happen. Current zoning and subdivision regulations already allow for this if someone wants to make it happen.

No updates on proposed subdivisions – still waiting for surveyors to complete work.

Conservation Commission ~ 3/21/22

With thanks to Chuck Bronk, Sec.

Members Present: Ed Hasenohr, Nelson Jaquay (Zoom), Rainbow Squier, Doug Fontein, Robbie Leeds and Chuck Bronk; Public Present: Gail Fallar, Colleen Balch(Zoom), and Doug Inkley(Zoom)

As this meeting represented the start of a new year the Commission reorganized and the following were elected: Rainbow Squier – Chair Doug Fontein – Vice Chair Chuck Bronk - Secretary

Ongoing Business:

Rainbow asked Doug Fontein to report on the Ski on the Channel event held on January 29th. He reported that the event was a moderate success with some 10 people attending including 8-9 non-Commission members. The use of Front Porch Forum to advertise such an event seems to have worked well.

Rainbow presented a draft description of the Photo Contest for the Commission's review. Nelson commented that Mount Holly has been unresponsive with information regarding their Photo Contest. Rainbow suggested that submissions be due by June 13th so that they could be shown/judged at Town Day on July 9th. Applicants need to be landowners in Tinmouth, not necessarily full time residents. Rainbow agreed to edit her draft and provide it for review at the next meeting.

As an update to Cat Yoder's request that the Commission consider the placement of a Skating Rink on town lands, Rainbow reported that she had been unable to speak with Cat. Doug recalled the previous attempts at a skating rink on the Ball Field at the School. Gail Fallar commented that Eric Buffum suggested that the land East of the drive at the Transfer Station might work as it is reasonably flat. All agreed that this was not strictly within the Commission's purview, as it is a recreation issue not a conservation issue.

There was no update from the Trails/Walking Loops group.

Rainbow initiated a discussion of a resource packet for residents of Tinmouth directed at conservation topics. She reported that she is part of a working group on the Inclusion Committee, and that this is a topic that they have raised. Other possible topics included transportation, gardening tips and energy choices.

All concurred that Green Up day this year could occur in person and not be "do it yourself" as in the past two years. This year the event will be on Saturday May 7th. Chuck Bronk recalled that we were recipients of a Tinmouth Community Fund Grant Award in 2020 in the amount of \$340.00, designated "to purchase orange safety vests for our youngest trash-picker-uppers". Since we have not had an in-person event since then,

Chuck agreed to purchase the vests now and print “Tinmouth – Green Up” on them. He reported that we have a number of leftover prizes for youngsters and could most likely purchase additional ones with a portion of the grant funds. Nelson agreed to pitch the event to Tinmouth Mountain School prior to the event. All agreed that we needed a meeting in April ahead of Green Up.

After a discussion, a workday was set for either the 21st or 28th of May, to be scheduled at the following meeting. This was to work on the Tinmouth Ridge trail, bog bridges and switch backs.

Next regular meeting set for April 18, 2022 at 7:30 PM to plan for Green up Day. May’s meeting moved to June 20, (at April meeting that was changed to the 13th.)

Conservation Commission ~ 4/18/22

Minutes not yet available.

Tinmouth Community Fund Board ~ 4/13/22

With thanks to Helen Mango, Secretary

Present in person: Board members Jan Krantz (Chair), Cathy Reynolds (Treasurer), Helen Mango (Secretary), Lisa Patry, Todd Dennis, and Asha Carroll McCullough; also others Gail Fallar, Martha Stanley.

Present on Zoom: Board member Melody Squier and Cat Yoder.

Jan called the meeting to order and commented on how nice it was to be both in person with some and have the new Meeting Owl video conferencing camera combined with Zoom to connect with those tuning in from home.

Treasurer’s Report

Cathy reported that the TCF’s three funds at the Vermont Community Fund (VCF) contain, as of Dec. 31, 2021:

- Tinmouth Community Continuing Education Scholarship Fund: \$353,206 (with an additional \$8,240 in the Town checkbook).

(The spending policy calculation endorsed by the VCF is that we annually allocate 5% of three-year rolling average; this would be \$13,454.)

- Tinmouth Community Endowment Fund: \$158,516 (with an additional \$6,722 in the Town checkbook); 5% to allocate would be \$,9280.

- Tinmouth Community Reserve Fund: \$62,228; 5% to allocate would be \$2,741.

Several past grants that people were unable to use due to COVID have been returned to the fund (\$1,500 from 2020 and \$1,000 from 2021).

Cathy noted that the TCF Board can add funds from the checkbooks (“cash on hand”) to increase the available funds for grants.

Discussion ensued regarding allocations to the various funds. Based on this, Board voted that the TCF:

- Use “cash on hand” to round up the funds available in the Susan MacIntosh Lloyd Scholarship to \$1,500 (the amount available in this dedicated fund is \$1,382)

- Allocate \$20,000 for Continuing Education scholarships

- Allocate \$1,000 for K-12 (camp) Scholarships

- Allocate \$1,000 for Small Business grants

- Allocate \$12,000 for Community Grants

- Authorize the Treasurer to request the needed funds from the VCF.

Jan reported that, received to date, there was one K-12 (camp) scholarship application, five applications for Community Grants, and one a Small Business grant.

Jan also reported that final reports from six previous grantees have been submitted.

Publicity

Jan thanked Todd for sending out the reminder to eligible people who received Continuing Education Scholarships last year to encourage them to apply again this year.

Cathy will send out a Front Porch Forum reminder for Continuing Education Scholarship applications, Asha will submit one for Small Business Grant applications, Jan will submit one for Community Grant applications, and Melody was volunteered to submit a post for the K-12 camps scholarship.

The meeting of committee members to review applications for Community Grants and Small Business Grants is scheduled for May 18 at 7 p.m.

The annual meeting and grant awards ceremony is scheduled for June 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Bylaws: Jan distributed the TCF Bylaws with proposed changes. Bylaws need periodic review and alterations to keep up with changing circumstances and requirements. After much discussion of wording and meaning in various sections of the Bylaws, Board voted that changes to the Bylaws be adopted, signed, and forwarded to the Select Board for its approval.

Board also voted that the Select Board receive the “cleaned-up” version of the Bylaws (with strike-throughs and other editorial mark-ups removed).

Jan reported that Nikki Pfeiffer has had to resign from the TCF Board. Jan thanked Nikki for all her help and participation on the board, especially for her outstanding work with the capital campaign.

Safety & Wellness Committee~ 4/20/22

Members present: Ronnie Crossman, Kevin Eaton, Ray Pratt, and Gail Fallar

Others present: Wade Masur from VLCT PACIF (Town Insurance Company)

Present via Zoom – Kim Harbaugh and Sherry Johnson

Ray called the meeting to order at 7:00, minutes of 7/28/21 were approved as written (last meeting due to covid).

Ron reported one of the last snow storms has such bad white out conditions at 3:30 AM, that he decided to return to the town garage and wait for the storm to subside. Almost had a near miss.

Members discussed proposed Chainsaw Safety Practice received from the Select Board. Wade provided suggestions from VOSHA (Vermont Occupational Safety and ?? Agency). Members decided to incorporate them and return proposal to the Select Board for their review.

The policy should require 2 employees when completing jobs/tasks that require the use of operating a chainsaw and include that the other workers be a minimum of twice the height of the tree which is being cut away when cutting standing trees

Work Area Safety

* Ensure the area is marked and that there are no people in the immediate area. Other workers should be twice as far as the height of the trees being felled.

* Identify and clear any obstacles that may interfere with stable footing, cutting, or impede retreat/movement paths.

* Identify electrical lines in and near the work area.

* Identify "hangers" and "widow-makers"- branches that may dislodge and fall into the work area from above.

Members discussed safety grants from VLCT PACIF – TVFD will apply for tourniquet kits for all vehicles – including town trucks- and a storage locker for gas cans.

Members discussed having Wade/VLCT PACIF perform a risk assessment of town and fire department buildings – decided to wait until the new town garage is completed this summer.

Next meeting is July 27, 2022.

* * * *

~ From the Email Basket, author unknown ~

Mergatroyd! Do you remember that word? Would you believe the spell-checker did not recognize the word Mergatroyd? Heavens to Mergatroyd! And several more! Try it!

The other day a not so elderly (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy; and he looked at her quizzically and said, "What the heck is a Jalopy?" He had never heard of the word jalopy! She knew she was old But not that old.

Well, I hope you are Hunky Dory after you read this and chuckle.

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included: Don't touch that dial, carbon copy, you sound like a broken record, and hung out to dry. Shazam!

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker, to straighten up and fly right.

Heavens to Betsy! Gee Whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy Moley!

We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley; and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A., of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes, and pedal pushers.

Oh, my aching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, "Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!" or, "This is a fine kettle of fish!" We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those great phrases gone?

Long gone: Pshaw. The milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Wake up and smell the roses.

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff! (Carter's Little Liver Pills are gone too!) Leaves us to wonder where Superman will find a phone booth...

See ya later, alligator! After while crocodile. Okidoki. You'll notice they left out "Monkey Business"!!!

We are the children of the fabulous 50's ... No one will ever have that opportunity again. We were given one of our most precious gifts: living in the peaceful and comfortable times, created for us by the "greatest generation!" I'm hip!!

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~ May 2022 Calendar of Events ~

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Special Town Meeting | Monday | 2nd | 6:30 | Community Center |
| Fire Department | Thursday | 5th | 7:00 | In-Person/Virtual |
| Green-Up Day | Saturday | 7th | 8:30 - 9:00 | Start at the Transfer Station |
| Select Board | Thursday | 12th | 7:00 | In-Person /Virtual |
| Equity & Inclusion Comm. | Tuesday | 17th | 7:00 | In-Person/Virtual |
| School Spring Concert | Wednesday | 18th | 6:00 | Community Center |
| Community Fund Board | Wednesday | 18th | 7:00 | In-Person/Virtual |
| Planning Commission | Thursday | 19th | 7:00 | In-Person/Virtual |
| <i>Tales of Tinnmouth</i> Deadline | Friday | 20th | | Don't Miss It! |
| Select Board (if needed) | Tuesday | 24th | 7:00 | In-Person /Virtual |

~ June 2022 Calendar of Events ~

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| TCF Annual Meeting | Thursday | 2nd | 6:30 | Community Center |
| Tin. Community Fund Awards | Thursday | 2nd | 6:30 | Community Center |
| Fire Department | Thursday | 2nd | 7:00 | In-Person/Virtual |
| Select Board | Thursday | 9th | 7:00 | Town Office /Virtual |
| Conservation Commission | Monday | 13th | 7:30 | Town Office/Virtual |
| Planning Commission | Thursday | 16th | 7:00 | Town Office/Virtual |
| <i>Tales of Tinnmouth</i> Deadline | Monday | 20th | | Don't Miss It! |

Transfer Station hours are Wednesday 4:00 – 7:00 pm & Saturday 8:00 am – noon.

~ Sunday Church Service ~ 9:00 AM ~

~ The Library is open Thursdays 2:00-5:00 PM ~



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