

Tinmouth Community Fund Annual Meeting and Awards Night Minutes

May 28, 2024

Present: Board members Todd Dennis (Chair), Cathy Reynolds (Treasurer), Lisa Patry, Martha Stanley, Melody Squier, Lynn Buffum, Bess Lewis, and numerous residents of the Town of Tinmouth.

Todd called the meeting to order at 6:34pm with an introduction to Tinmouth Community Fund and its twenty-five years of service. The TCF was created in 1999 with the intention of providing funding for citizens in community enrichment opportunities. Todd also acknowledged the December Fundraising Letter which had received generous support.

The minutes of the 2023 annual meeting were reviewed. Cathy moved, and Melody seconded to approve the minutes of June, 21, 2023. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report:

Cathy Reynolds, Treasurer, provided an overview of the funding channels that contributed to this year's awards. The TCF holds its funds at the Vermont Community Foundation in three accounts: The Tinmouth Community Endowed Fund, The Tinmouth Community Reserve Fund and The Continuing Education Scholarship Fund. Also awarded annually by the TCF are two privately funded scholarships that have allowed for more educational opportunities to town residents: The Susan McIntosh Lloyd Scholarship and the Pam Garceau Memorial Scholarships.

The Tinmouth Community Fund awards community grants, small business grants to residents with entrepreneurial interests, and K-12 Scholarships which are typically used toward summer camp or extra curricular activities. The Continuing Education Scholarship Fund provides scholarships towards internships, two and four year year college degrees, graduate degrees, certification courses, and continuing education. The TCF has helped send students to college, masters and PhD programs, yoga and massage training, and lineman's school to name a few.

Cathy took time to clarify Continuing Education Scholarships are awarded based on an application, which includes an essay. Essays are read by multiple reviewers guided by a grading rubric. In this method of assessment, financial need has the greatest contributing factor at 40% of the score. Cathy noted further, scholarship amounts vary from one year to the next based on the number of applicants and the amount of funding available. The Vermont Community Foundation sets the annual giving limits for The Tinmouth Community Fund, and The Continuing Education Scholarship Fund based on 5% of a three year average value.

Cathy acknowledged the Tinmouth Plant Sale which directed its profits to the Tinmouth Community Fund. This year the gross was~\$15,000.

Jan Krantz thanked loyal volunteers who dug, potted, moved plants to the sale location, watered, set up plants with signs, and cleaned up. Each year the plant sale is in need of new volunteers to help. Please consider joining in on the fun by contacting Tracy Byford at 446-2633.

Elections: Todd, Jan and Martha all agreed to renew their three year positions on the board. Lisa moved, Tracy Byford Seconded. Motion carried.

2024 K-12 Camp Scholarships Melody presented the 2024 K-12 Scholarships to: Alana Smith, Aliza Smith, Isaac Smith, Clara Williams, Liliana Williams, Erin Martone, Sadia Martone, Sophia Warfle, Tayla Davis, and Tyler Davis. This year students will be attending camps for horseback riding, music, soccer, Theater in The Woods, gymnastics, and at the Wonderfeet Kids Museum.

2024 Community Fund Grants Jan presented the 2024 Community Fund Grants to: Imagination Library - Rutland Free Library, Tinmouth Elves - Outerwear, School Break Gathering Support, Old Firehouse Concerts, Tinmouth Milfoil Project Support, Tales of Tinmouth, Tinmouth Historical and Genealogical Society - Headstone for John Irish, and a Class to Make Greeting Cards.

Small Business Grants This category received one application this year. Rainbow Squier was awarded a grant for startup funds for her art business: Rainbow Sky LLC.

Susan Macintosh Lloyd Scholarship:

Cathy introduced Sue Lloyd's interests in music, sustainable forestry, and agriculture. This year, awards were presented to Cris Carabeau, Aliza Smith, Emmaline Squier, Sadie Martone, and Sara Schmelzenbach. Awards funded music lessons and a national bell ringing conference.

Pam Garceau Memorial Scholarship:

This year there were no applications from Mill River Graduates. Cathy presented the award to Sara Schmelzenbach for her outstanding essay. Sarah Schmelzenbach graduated from Christ the King School in Rutland.

Continuing Ed Scholarships:

Awards were presented to Cris Carabeau, Sara Schmelzenbach, Sadira Majorell, Tor Majorell, and Julia Deppert.

Continuing Business:

Todd asked for volunteers to read application essays in 2025.

Cathy drew names for the 10 lucky winners of crabapple trees.

Motion to adjourn at 7:46pm made by Lisa, seconded by Cathy. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bess Lewis