Unofficial

Tinmouth Community Fund Board Minutes March 26, 2015

Members Present: Cathy Reynolds, Ramsey Yoder, Jan Krantz, Jo Reynolds, Patty McAulso, Melody Squier

Call to Order: 7:10 pm

Members of the Tinmouth Community Fund held a joint meeting with the Tinmouth Selectboard to hear a presentation by Patrick Barry of the Vermont Community Foundation or VCF. Ramsey Yoder began by giving a brief history of the Tinmouth Community Fund. Patrick provided an overview of VCF, and then narrowed the presentation down to types of funds which are offered, and how they differ. The Tinmouth Community Fund currently operates out of a Donor Advised Fund, which is what was available at the inception of TCF in 1999. Since that time, other fund options have been added.

The funds discussed were Donor Advised, Designated, Nonprofit Endowment, and Nonprofit Reserve. Patrick focused on the Non-Profit options as the Town of Tinmouth currently operates in conjunction with the TCF as our non-profit partner. Within each fund there are three different pools, long term, mid-term, and socially responsible.

The Donor Advised Fund has a 3.5% annual recommended spending policy, has a 2% fee attached, and in the case of TCF, is Committee Advised.

A Nonprofit Fund Endowment has a 5% per year spending policy, has a .8% fee, and can only be changed if the nonprofit folds.

A Nonprofit Reserve Fund has a 5% per year spending policy, a 1% fee, and a provision that allows you to take additional money out, i.e. to fund a special project. Patrick did say that it is possible to set up more than one fund. In the case of TCF, the Town of Tinmouth could serve as the Nonprofit. The purpose of the joint meeting was to hear about fund options, and to discuss with the Tinmouth Selectboard, how best to work together going forward into the future. The joint meeting concluded at 7:50 pm, at which time the TCF moved into the library.

Present at the TCF meeting were Ramsey Y., Cathy R., Patty M., Melody S., Jo R., and Jan K. Cathy suggested that we move to a Nonprofit and Reserve Fund, with the bulk of the funding going in the Non-Profit, and the remainder into the Reserve Fund, which allows additional monies to be taken out. Ramsey offered that we go with a split of 75/25. All those present agreed. As far as pools, our current fund is set up in a long term one. Cathy reiterated what Patrick spoke of earlier, that the socially responsible pool has done well, and in the last three years has outperformed the other pools. She said “as our mission is to make the world a better place, let’s tie our investments into our mission.” She suggested that we place both of the above discussed funds, into socially responsible pools. All in attendance agreed with her.

The final recommendation to VCF would be to divest from our existing Donor Advised Fund, and reinvest in two funds a Nonprofit Endowment for 75% of our total, and a Nonprofit Reserve fund for the remaining 25%. Cathy offered to share our decisions with the Selectboard, and talk to Grant about assisting in the revision of our by-laws in the future. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Cathy presented the TCF proposal to the Selectboard at their meeting which continued during the VCF meeting and they approved.

Cathy and Gail Fallar, Town Treasurer will work with VCF to make the change in our Funds and investment strategy.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Krantz, Vice Chair