TINMOUTH EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

May 17th, 2022

Minutes

Meeting was held at the Tinmouth Town Office and virtually through zoom.

Present in-person: Meadow Squier, Todd Denis, Michael Fallar

Present via Zoom: Sherry Johnson, Kim Harbough, Rainbow Squier, Melody Squier, Emma Weatherhogg, Logan Birdsall

Guests in-person: Gail Fallar

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by convener Meadow Squier

Review Minutes

 Rainbow moved to approve minutes, Emma seconded. Committee voted and minutes were approved.

Review the Agenda - See Attached 1

 Meadow moved to approve Agenda, Logan seconded. Committee voted and agenda was approved.

 An issue arose over various members not receiving emails from the working groups and committee members, Meadow will check the google group lists are correct.

Working Group Reports

Mutual Aid Working Group

1. The group is continuing to edit the Tinmouth Operator’s Manual.
2. They are adding new sections to the manual, such as information about the town pizza oven, ticks, and the Tinmouth Mountain Cabin.
3. They will be reaching out to a number of people to review sections that pertain to their work, town positions, and/or expertise.
4. Michael Fannin came to a meeting and asked if the group would help spread the word and encourage volunteers for his proposed emergency phone network – homes with generators who could offer their phones to community members for emergencies only during power outages. Logan is working on a letter which the working group will present to the E&I committee for approval.
5. Meadow asked if the group would consider adding the statement of inclusion to the beginning of the manual.

The next Mutual Aid Working Group meeting will be Monday June 6 at 7pm.

Research and Development Working Group

1. The group is continuing to brainstorm ideas around affordable housing, currently reviewing what doesn’t or hasn’t worked in the past.
2. Rainbow brought some of the questions the group had been discussing to the Planning Commission meeting. Michael reported that at the following meeting they discussed the ideas and he thinks it is a difficult project to attempt in Tinmouth.
3. Gail provided the group with old surveys, and the group is reviewing them and working to develop a new survey. Perhaps the E&I survey can be combined with the upcoming Planning Commission survey.
4. The group is also having discussions around how to help existing town farmers and encourage new farmers. In past surveys agricultural development has been identified as a type of development residents would like to see in town. One idea the group is discussing is a round table of farmers in town to hear from them on this subject.
5. Meadow brought up matchmaking programs that link landowners to farmers, such as Vermont Land Link ( vermontlandlink.org ) and Todd shared that there are similar programs run by the Vermont land trust. The committee then discusses the intersection of the need for affordable housing and farmland – that if local landowners lease their lands to farmers, where would those farmers live? This lead to Rainbow defining that the working group is approaching the concept of affordable housing not like a state program but more as what are solutions to housing issues that will work in Tinmouth and address Tinmouth’s needs, i.e. Auxiliary housing, rentals, and alternative housing solutions.

The next Research and Development Working Group meeting will be Tuesday June 14th at 7pm.

 Events Working Group Report

1. The timing of Tinmouth Day has been changed from 10am to 2pm.
2. The group has been discussing the size of Tinmouth Day – whether or not we want the event to involve fundraising or be a completely free event. Being so close to the event, this year’s Tinmouth Day will probably be a but more low-key than perhaps future events could be. One goal of the group is for Tinmouth Day to be as accessible as possible, which is also why they feel inclined to keep the event free.
3. The group is discussing how to get more involvement and bring in more people to plan future events.
4. A Facebook page for Tinmouth Events has been created, with Theresa Butts as admin.
5. At the last meeting, the group discussed whether BYOB will be possible at Tinmouth Day. Rainbow shared that there is a form on the Community Center rental page, and that the sheriff will need to be informed if alcohol will be present,
6. Upcoming events discussed by group include a fall or winter vendor event, and a Halloween costume party in collaboration with the Parent Club’s Trunk or Treat, and a New Neighbor event.
7. Sherry recommended we reach out to the sheriff for traffic control during the Tinmouth Day parade.
8. Gail recommended we make sure information about Tinmouth Day makes it into June and July’s editions of Tales.

The next Events Working Group meeting will be Tuesday June 7th, at 7 pm.

State Webinar Series

 Vermont League of Towns and Cities has produced multiple equity and inclusion webinars. Meadow will email out a link.

Statement of Inclusion and Welcome Sign

 Meadow shared that she saw a welcome sign in another town’s office, and proposed to the committee that we pursue a sign as well. Michael thought that should be up to the town for a vote, Meadow will look into protocol. The research and Development Working Group will look into what other towns have.

Zoom links

 When meetings conflict unavoidably, the working groups who meet virtually will provide new zoom links for their meetings. To avoid confusion, we can write “contact (working group member) for the link” when posting to FPF and town website.

Next Committee Meeting

 Next committee meeting date was set for July 19h, at 7pm.

Adjournment

 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Logan Birdsall, Secretary

**Attached 1**

Tinmouth Equity and Inclusion Committee

Tuesday, May17th, 2022

7:00 PM

Town Office

Draft Agenda

 This meeting will be in person at the Town Office, and available virtually. Masks are optional.

 To participate via teleconferencing please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone at Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/97744928600?pwd=Y1dYcmxNS0dPKzV5NnBzZ2JZMXh0UT09

 Meeting ID: 977 4492 8600 Passcode: 218462

 If this link doesn’t work, please contact the town office by email tinmouthtown@vermontel.net and you will be forwarded the link.

 You can also dial in using your telephone. This is NOT a toll free number.

 +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) Meeting ID: 977 4492 8600 Passcode: 218462

Welcome

Call to Order

Review Minutes

Review Agenda

 Working Group Reports

· Events Working Group

· Mutual Aid Working Group

· Research and Development Working Group

State Webinar Series

Statement of Inclusion and Welcome Sign

Zoom Links - Town Zoom Link vs. Private Links

Others

Set next meeting date