

**Rutland County Democratic Executive Committee Minutes  
April 8, 2019, Small Conference Room  
Rutland Free Library**

Present: Heather Juliussen-Stevenson, Mary Mellow, Carol Wright, Liz Filskov

The Rutland County Democratic Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:38 by Heather.

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes: The previous meeting minutes were emailed prior to the meeting. Liz moved to approve minutes. Motion seconded by Mary. Minutes approved.
2. Rutland City Liaison Appointment: Mary Mellow has been elected Rutland City Liaison.
3. Fundraising update: The fundraising letter has raised approximately \$2,500. Discussion of a request from Rights & Democracy (RAD) to distribute their link and /or let them table at our Women's Brunch. Since this is a fundraising event, agreed to decline the request. The press release for the brunch can go out. Information will be in the newspaper and sent electronically. Mary M. will print 10 flyers to be posted. Members will be asked to put notices in their towns' Front Porch Forum. Brunch email will be resent.
4. Master List: Will need to discuss questions about how the updates are going with Kathy and Cedelle.
5. Women's Brunch: The co-ed event will be held on April 28 at noon, at the Holiday Inn in Rutland. The scheduled speakers are Barbara Carris, Tabitha Pohl-Moore, and Anny Lin. Discussion regarding what support the Executive Committee can provide in terms of next steps, including: 1) getting the word out and 2) Liz following-up with Kathy in a few days by phone. Questions about whether we need an MC, a sound system (Heather has one she will bring), agenda, centerpieces. How many tickets will the speakers receive? Are tables reserved for the speakers? Heather shared quarter sheets with details about the brunch for us to hand out.
6. Next Meeting RAD had agreed to discuss messaging at our May 13 meeting. This hasn't been confirmed and they may not be available. Heather will do something, regardless.
7. Hustle: The VDP was contacted and they don't have a current subscription.
8. Agenda for May County Meeting – Previous Meeting Minutes; Legislative updates; Messaging/Canvassing Training; New Business; Upcoming events:  
We will distribute the Draft Rutland County Democrats Organizing Booklet for approval prior to distribution at May meeting. Meeting this summer with House and Senate legislators to discuss messaging and campaigning, etc.  
  
There will be general training in canvassing. Specific candidates will have specific canvassing. Discussion about the VDP sharing information with RCDC.
9. Request to reschedule Rutland County Democrat Meetings: Apparently the select boards in the counties often meet on the second Mondays of every month. Gina Ottoboni has asked us to

reschedule our meetings to accommodate members. She put a chart together of meeting days/times (printed on agenda).

Few members of the public came to the last meeting. In general, Mondays work well for legislators to attend. We could switch to second Wednesdays during the summer (July). Discussion of meeting this summer with legislators to see what they think would be helpful.

10. County-wide Newsletter: Heather will send the draft tomorrow. Please send her revisions by Thursday so that Cedelle can distribute it on Friday/Saturday.

If Cedelle sends the newsletter this weekend, she can send the brunch reminder Wed, 4/17.

11. Reorganization: Heather has been calling the Town Committee Chairs (some phone tag).

12. Upcoming Events:

1. Tuesday, April 23, Rutland County Democrats Book Club—Reading George Lakoff’s “Don’t Speak of an Elephant”
2. Sunday, April 28 Women’s Brunch – The co-ed event will be held on April 28, at noon, Holiday Inn in Rutland. The scheduled speakers are Barbara Carris, Tabitha Pohl-Moore, and Anny Lin. Point people: Kathy and Liz.
3. Saturday, May 4, Green Up Day—Carol is running point on handing out bags in Rutland City. Heather is running point with Town Committees to get photos sent for posting on social media. Information on Green Up Day: <https://greenupvermont.org/>
4. Monday, May 13, Rutland County Democrats county-wise meeting—need to call and text people to try to get them to come to this.
5. Saturday, May 18, 10-11:30 a.m.—Screening of Dennis Mueller’s “From Ike to Trump”. Point person: Heather – Library –Dennis Mueller is a VT documentarian.
6. Canvassing for Cheryl Hooker and Mary Howard.
7. Monday, May 27, 8 a.m.—Wallingford Memorial Day Parade. Point person: Liz.
8. Late May – August—Summer Listening Campaign/Canvassing—Other than Rutland City, we need to identify good places to canvass. We also need to prepare quarter sheets 1) to leave when no one is home, and 2) to share if we are able to talk to someone. These should include social media handles, recruitment pitches, messaging on important campaigns, etc. The Rutland County Democrats Organizing Booklet should provide guidance to the volunteers who will be conducting this canvassing. All Town Chairs have a right to access the VDP’s VAN, so if you’re not already signed up we can help you get signed up.) Point-person: Heather.
9. June 1<sup>st</sup>, Coffeehouse Conversation at Kinder Way Café - According to the newspaper, Kinder Way Café will close. Discussion about possibly finding another site.
10. Summer—Meeting this summer with House and Senate legislators to discuss messaging and campaigning, etc.
11. Summer—Friday Night Live—Need materials for distribution, such as bumper stickers. Point-person: Cedelle?
12. July 4<sup>th</sup> parades in Poultney, Castleton and Brandon. Note: If some of these overlap, we’ll need more volunteers to go to multiple towns. Discussion of inventory of property. Point-person: Mary D.
13. Summer and early Fall –Reorganization
14. August Vermont State Fair –no discussion, cost prohibitive
15. Starting mid-late August -Issue Forums on legislation expected to be of interest in the fall legislative session. Point-person: Heather and Liz

16. Starting early October-Writing for Change –Meeting of area authors to discuss how politics and activism affect their work. Heather already has a list, but do you know area writers or writing groups that would be worth reaching out to? Point person: Heather
17. Fall-Harvest Tinmouth Dinner. Point-person: Tentatively Kathy – Need someone who's done it before to help. Marcy, the chair in Mount Holly is knowledgeable, may be able to offer some assistance.
18. Other –resistance art show, clothing drive, provide groceries for local food shelf, Volunteering for Boys & Girls Club, volunteering to read literature of diversity for local daycare centers or at the library as a child-centered event, etc. Short discussion regarding community involvement.

Next Executive Meeting: location TBA

Meeting adjourned: 7:30

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Wright, Secretary