

Rutland County Democrats Committee Meeting
February 12, 2025, 6:30 - 7:25
Zoom Meeting

Welcome & Quorum Count - Quorum Present

Approval of the Agenda - Agenda was sent prior to meeting. Pat Schroeder motioned to approve the agenda; motion seconded by Tom Fagan. Agenda approved.

Secretary's Report/Approval of the Minutes (October 9, 2024) - Minutes were sent prior to meeting. Pat Schroeder made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Eugenia Cooke. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report - Scott reported a healthy balance of \$4,731.49. There was income from the return of the headquarters deposit. The landlord claimed some damage and returned \$990.00 out of the \$1,200.00 total. The damages could be considered normal wear and a letter will be written requesting a full deposit. There were minimal expenses of \$21.42 for meeting expenses and a godaddy email blast. Tom motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Eugenia. Treasurer's Report approved.

RCDC Priorities for 2025 - Barbara and Mary have made a list of recommended priorities for this year:

Jan., Feb., and March - Offer assistance to Rutland Forward prior to Town Meeting. There was a session on Saturday (2/8) to work on mailings for Rutland Forward candidates. Other opportunities will probably come up, such as another mailing, canvassing, and honk & waves. Details will be forthcoming.

Fill some of the Executive Committee openings - We need 2 delegates and a Recording Secretary. Carol is filling in as Secretary for now.

March, April and May - Appeal letters (our main fundraiser). Reenergize Executive Com. and also Rutland City Committee. It's an important municipal committee and needs to be reestablished. Find other ways to connect with Rutland First and Young Dems.

June - August - Work on Reorg process. Town Democrats reorganize themselves. We need to get out the messaging.

Refocus on Social Media - We need to beef it up.

Focus on seed money for candidate training scholarships (also part of the appeal letter).

Sept., Oct., Nov. - Reorganization of town committees. Reorg lists to VDP. Research how to support, mentor and train candidates. Need to start early. Get the town committees strong and look ahead to 2026.

Discussion of priorities list. Questions about how we can respond to issues on a national level. Actions include reaching out to congressional delegation, writing letters to the editor, postcards, joining groups that are doing the work, such as Indivisible, Moveon, and Lean Left.

Importance of not becoming overwhelmed. Share lists of actions with friends, family, town chair, and the county committee. David Kiefner might be able to facilitate an online chat group. He will follow-up on this idea and the Ex. Committee will also have a future discussion.

Anne Awad reminded us to support our friends in other states.

Discussion of some upcoming activities; a possible protest in Montpelier for President's Day and a spending boycott on Feb. 28. Recommended that we keep open communications and share activities of interest.

Announcements

Curtis Hoff Dinner, Essex Junction, April 11

VDP - meeting to elect interim Chair (2 candidates), 9:00 a.m., Saturday 2/22, Zoom

Next County meeting: 4/9

Adjourn - Motion to adjourn made by Tom, seconded by Scott. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wright

Interim Recording Secretary