

Rutland County Democrats Committee Meeting

October 11, 2023, 6:37 p.m. – 7:40 p.m.

Fox Room, Rutland Free Library/Zoom

Welcome: Mary introduced herself and welcomed all.

Quorum count: Quorum met. 33 delegates present.

Secretary's Report: The draft minutes from the RCDC July 10 meeting were sent out for review prior to the meeting. Terry Biasuzzi made a motion to accept the minutes. Motion seconded by Brad Myerson. Minutes accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Income from 8/11 to present was \$209.07. Expenses were \$323.76 and included the website, email service, and Friday Night Live. Closing balance is \$5,807.48. There is also \$198.50 available in cash. As we go into the 2024 election season, our expenses could include renting office space in the fall, working on bringing our website up-to-date, and contributions to candidates. Please help with donations, these elections will be critical; statewide, countywide, and nationwide. We have a PayPal account on our website. Brad Myerson encouraged those attending to donate during meeting.

Elections: RCDC Officers, VDP delegates and alternates: Members of the outgoing Executive Committee and candidates for offices were introduced.

Cochairs: Mary Droege and Barbara Noyes-Pulling - Mary Mellow has checked with the VDP. Cochairs are permitted. She nominated Mary and Barbara as Cochairs. Norm Cohen seconded the nomination. All in favor; none opposed. Mary Droege and Barbara Noyes-Pulling elected as Cochairs.

Mary Droege and Barbara thanked everyone for their support and encouraged us to work together and keep the momentum going. Andy Tanger thanked Mary Mellow for her service.

Vice Chair: Mary Mellow explained that Barbara had originally agreed to run as Vice Chair. Since Barbara is Cochair with Mary Droege, we need another candidate. She asked for any volunteers.

Scott Garren offered to run as Vice Chair, in addition to serving as Treasurer. Discussion of whether this is possible. Kiana McClure made a motion for clarification, which she withdrew. Andy Tanger made a motion that the Vice Chair position be considered at next county meeting. Brad Myerson seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Secretary – Diane Alberts – Mary introduced Diane (unable to attend meeting). Andy Tanger nominated Diane Alberts to serve as Secretary. Motion seconded by Cheryl Hooker. All in favor; none opposed. Diane Alberts elected as Secretary.

Treasurer – Scott Garren – Anna Tadio nominated Scott as Treasurer. Motion seconded by Erin Robbason. All in favor; none opposed. Scott Garren elected as Treasurer.

Assistant Treasurer – Eugenia Cooke – Anna nominated Eugenia for Assistant Treasurer. Motion seconded by Anita Pomerance. All in favor; none opposed. Eugenia Cooke elected as Assistant Treasurer.

VDP Delegate #1, (Chair) - Mary Droege

VDP Delegate #2 – Josh Ferguson – Anna Tadio nominated Josh Ferguson as VDP Delegate #2. Motion seconded by Mary Droege. All in favor; none opposed. Josh Ferguson elected VDP Delegate #2.

VDP Delegate #3 – Barbara Noyes-Pulling - Anna Tadio nominated Barbara as VDP Delegate #3. Motion seconded by Josh Ferguson. All in favor; none opposed. Barbara elected VDP Delegate #3.

VDP Alternate #1 – Carol Wright – Anna Tadio nominated Carol as VDP Alternate #1. Norm Cohen seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed. Carol elected VDP Alternate #1.

VDP Alternate #2 – open

VDP Alternate #3 – open

Mary Mellow asked if anyone present would like to be an alternate. Annie Stratton offered. Anna Tadio nominated Annie Stratton as VDP Alternate Delegate #2. Motion seconded by Wyatt Waterman. All in favor, none opposed. Annie elected VDP Alternate #2.

Josh Ferguson nominated Tom Fagan as VDP Alternate #3. Tom agreed. Erin Robbason seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed. Tom elected VDP Alternate #3.

Meeting turned over to new chairs at 7:25 to talk about dates and format of next meetings.

Those attending introduced themselves.

Next meeting: Wed., 12/13/23, 6:30 p.m. Will try to reserve the Fox Room.

Announcements:

VDP State Reorg: Nov. 18, location to be announced. All 6 delegates from the county committee should attend, only 3 vote. There will also be a County Chairs meeting at 10:00 a.m. (possibly by Zoom)

Castleton Democrats Social: 10/19, 5:30 p.m., Pizza Party at 3rd Place Pizza, Castleton

Halloween Parade: Kiana explained that there will be no political participation this year. She will be in touch with the Rec. Committee regarding any volunteer opportunities

Writing postcards – Marcy Tanger has ongoing “get out the vote” post card writing opportunities. Many different towns are involved. People can contact her for information. She has postcards coming in tomorrow for Virginia. Contact: tanger@vermontel.net

Brandon Democrats Social – Pot Luck, details to be announced. Contact Annie Stratton.

Moderated Discussion of Senator Pat Leahy’s Legacy: Bennington College, Thursday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. Moderated by Senator Brian Campion

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Anna Tadio; seconded by Josh Ferguson. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wright for Diane Alberts, Recording Secretary