

Minutes of the Rutland County Democratic Committee
September 11, 2024

Present: Diane Alberts, Scott Garren, Barbara Noyes-Pulling, Eugenia Cooke, Carol Wright, Mary Droege, Elizabeth Reddy, Bill Wiles, Emma Weatherhogg, Melissa Reichert, Christopher Hardaway, Sherry Johnson, Charlotte Gerstein, Peter Stephans, Marsha Cassell, Wyatt Waterman, Brad Myerson

Meeting was called to order at 6 6:35PM. First order of business was approval of the **agenda**. Agenda was passed on a motion by Eugenia and seconded by Melissa.

Eugenia moved, seconded by Carol to accept the **minutes** of the last meeting as presented online. Motion passed.

The **treasurer's report**: \$11,403 for the month of August with an expected balance of \$12,400. The September 6 fundraiser was very successful with \$1427 accounted for and another \$1830 due from Act Blue and a couple other sources. A total from the event is expected to reach \$6,000 . Expenses included \$1200 deposit for headquarters and donations to candidates. The VDP is expected to pay the \$1200/month rent. Barbara announced that the executive committee approved doubling the next donation to candidates and brought it to full committee. Diane moved, seconded by Eugenia to double the candidate donation in accordance with the intent of the 9/6 event which was to fund local candidates. Motion passed

Headquarters Duncan McGrade and others are working at decorating headquarters and to sign up other volunteers. Open House is 9/20, 5-6:30PM. The office should be open 8 to 1PM daily and all day Fridays. Scott brought the idea of purchasing Harris/Walz signs and distribute for a donation to the committee. This idea was received positively and the committee authorized Scott to investigate buying the signs with a cap of \$500 in expense.

September 6 Event at the home of Karla Ross. The event raised over \$6,000 for local candidates. Thanks go to Karla Ross for her home and professional expertise, and the planning committee for their efforts.

Barbara gave updates on events since last meeting and to come.

- First, there was someone manning the RCDC table at the state fair every day, if not for the entire day.
- RCDC members participated in Friday Night Live
- Volunteers are being sought to march in the Halloween Parade on October 26. Barbara outlined the rules set forth by the city committee which limit political activity to identifying the committee and candidates can identify themselves, as long as there is no mention of voting or electing.
- There will be a "Play Basketball with Bernie" event 9/14 for kids 5-18 at the Rutland Middle School at 4PM
- The new website can be found at rutland-democrats.org. There was discussion about improving the visibility and updating information on the VDP website. Contact Barbara with new information. Duncan would like to use the website to try to get volunteers.
- Mary announced a VDP meeting on Monday, the 15th, to formally name Bernie Sanders as a Democrat on the ballot.
- A pizza Party with the Castleton Town Committee the next evening at Third Place Pizza in Castleton.

- Raw will be a Play Basketball with Bernie event at the Rutland Middle School Saturday for ages 5-18, and starting at 4PM
- Wyatt announced a fundraiser for Katie Clark of the Brandon Democrats , 4-6 at the Cafe Provence on September 29.
- Melissa asked about coordinating help for the candidate for the Rutland-Windsor candidate. Some names were suggested to help her.
- Concerns were raised about illegal signs on public property.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, but there will be no November meeting because of the general election.

The next meeting i