

Meeting of the Executive Committee  
Rutland County Democrats  
January 10, 2024

Meeting commenced at 6:33 PM.

Present: Mary Droege, Barbara Pulling, Scott Garren, Diane Alberts, Carol Wright, Eugenia Cooke, Josh Ferguson, and Tom Fagan.  
abs. Annie Stratton

First item agenda: Barbara moved and Eugenia seconded to accept the amended agenda to include discussion on VDP workshops on national delegate selection. Passed.

Treasurer's report. Scott said the committee had received donations of \$150, including \$100 from a Poultney resident. Eugenia volunteered to send a thank you to her. Committee had \$12 in expenses. Current balance: \$6,193.01. There was no motion to accept the treasurer's report.

Next, Barbara moved to approve minutes from the 12/13/23 Executive meeting. Eugenia seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion on the meeting with the VDP ensued. Recap of the meeting with Liam O'Sullivan, House Caucus Director; Rep. Will Notte couldn't make it. O'Sullivan will focus on Franklin County, the Northeast Kingdom and Rutland County House races. The executive committee decided to target the four Rutland districts that either are most vulnerable or have open seats.

Discussion of possible efforts for Senate candidates followed but there is no caucus director in the Senate to help coordinate efforts.

Barbara and Mary agreed to begin recruiting candidates by sending emails to the town chairs of the targeted districts.

Next discussion involved Young Democrats. Mary asked if there was a young legislator who might speak and inspire younger people to run.

Several names were suggested. There was a suggestion of a forum to encourage younger Democrats to run for office.

State committee meeting 1/20/24 @ 9AM on a Saturday. Barbara wanted to know who was planning to attend. Barbara, Mary, Josh, and Tom (as an alternate) plan to attend; Carole may attend. Alternates can come too. It will be a Zoom meeting.

Next was the discussion of the VDP training for grassroots work. A2W training is for candidates and campaign staff to prepare to campaign. It will start at the end of January and pend in October. Deadline to register can be found on VDP website. A2W(Activate to Win) is a free 10-part course on grass routs campaigning which will take place on the third Tuesday of each month, 7-8.

Josh reported that the state will send 11 delegates to the national convention in Chicago this year. He suggested strongly that Giovanni Falco should at least be one of the 11 candidates. There apparently is a goal for diversifying delegates: 7 have to be 18-36, one Asian, one Latinx, and one Black.

There was a brief discussion about the fund-raiser proposed in December. Eugenia will follow up by contacting Megan Smith about the Inn at the Long Trail, but some other venues were also

discussed, including the Godnick Center and perhaps the Brandon Town Hall. Whether or not to have alcohol available was left an open question.

Next meeting will precede the full county meeting on February 7, 2024 at 6:00 PM, County at 6:30.

Barbara moved, seconded by Mary to adjourn at 7:55. Meeting adjourned.