

Minutes for the Rutland County Democratic Executive Committee
November 13, 2024

Present: Diane Alberts, Carol Wright, Barbara Noyes-Pulling, Carol Wright, Eugenia Cooke, Tom Fagan

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Agenda. Eugenia moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Barbara. The motion passed

Minutes. Diane moved to accept second (final) draft of October minutes, seconded by Eugenia. Motion passed. Barbara explained that we'd never approved the September minutes, so Eugenia moved, seconded by Barbara to accept September minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report. Eugenia presented the report. There was no change since October report. Current balance was \$3,807.83, including \$737 for lawn signs and donations. There was \$681.41 in expenses. Security deposit will be returned. The "Web guy" is not going to charge us to maintain the site until next election cycle. Eugenia moved to accept the treasurer's report, Barbara seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion on general election. Diane started with reference to her call to a Pawlet Democrat who was very upset with state Democrats. The Clean Heat Standard, property taxes, etc. Eugenia was nervous about the last couple months. Carol thought that there was disinformation on the part of Scott. Eugenia agreed. Scott did a lot a lot of state-wide stumping. Barbara asked if Rich Clark, a Castleton political scientist, moderator for PEG-TV, could perhaps give us the data to indicate any trends he might have seen in the election. Suggestions: do more research on opponents, don't be so nice. Carol suggested we call legislators more about things we care about and maybe work with groups we might identify with. Such groups have to be careful not to be identified as partisan.

Executive committee addition. The next agenda item was adding to the executive committee, though it strayed to reviving the city committee. Tom seems to think the city Democrats are doing okay, though he referred to the Democrats on the Board of Aldermen. The city committee is virtually defunct. Tom said we need to build excitement. While it would be desirable to work with Rutland Forward, Rutland Forward needs to appear to be apolitical. Young Democrats and the city committee ought to be priorities. Barbara and Mary will approach Will Notte about how to get city more organized. Meanwhile Julian Fenn was suggested as an addition to the exec committee.

Thanks for Duncan. He will be available in November to help us move out and pick up items belonging to the VDP. Eugenia suggested Saturday, November 23, noon. Eugenia, Mary, Diane, and Barbara will clear out headquarters on the 23rd, noon-3. Someone needs to contact for candidates to pick up their signs, etc. Harris signs must go back with Duncan as they were state signs. Eugenia will ask Mary Mellow if we can store chairs, table, and some boxes in her shed; we will be happy to pay for space. Mary and Eugenia will assess the work needed Sunday, November 16. Barbara will get in touch with Duncan to pick up some VDP stuff.

The next meeting for exec and county will be in January for the next meeting. It may change to the third Wednesday so Scott can attend. Diane moved to adjourn, Barbara and Eugenia both seconded, Meeting adjourned at 7:51

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Respectfully submitted.
Diane Alberts, Secretary