

**Rutland County Democrats Executive Committee Meeting**  
**March 12, 2025, 6:35 - 7:35 p.m.**  
**Zoom**

Present: Barbara Noyes-Pulling, Mary Droege, Carol Wright, Eugenia Cooke, Tom Fagan, Pat Schroeder (guest)

Welcome: 6:35 p.m. - Barbara called the meeting to order and welcomed all. Pat Schroeder will be sitting in with us.

Approval of the Agenda - The Agenda was sent out in advance. Eugenia moved to approve the agenda. Mary seconded the motion. Agenda approved.

Secretary's Report/Approval of the Minutes (February 12, 2025) - The minutes were sent out in advance. It was noted that "Rutland First" under the April/May Section should be "Rutland Forward". Eugenia moved to approve the Minutes as corrected. Tom seconded the motion. Minutes approved as corrected. Mary abstained; as she wasn't at the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Eugenia discussed Scott's report. The balance is \$4,684.87. No income. Only expense was \$23.31 for GoDaddy email service. This is a good balance for starting a new calendar year. Carol motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mary seconded the motion. Treasurer's Report approved.

Town Meeting Wrap-ups: Discussion of town meeting results. In Rutland City. Mayor Doenges and Kiana McClure were reelected. Some incumbents lost to well known candidates. The School Board had some retention.

Re-Energizing Rutland City Committee and Outreach to Rutland Forward and Young Democrats

Discussion of our modest support to Rutland Forward candidates and ways we could work together in the future, including reorganizing the Rutland City Committee. Should we reach out to Jennie Gartner for ideas on working together? We discussed doing this at our April meeting.

Mary had to leave at 6:55 p.m. She briefly discussed the March Castleton Indivisible meeting, which had 85 people. She hopes the energy will spill over into our Democrats meetings. Mary plans to continue her work with Indivisible and offered to serve as grassroots liaison, which she has done in the past. She would like to step down as Co-Chair in Oct. Mary thanked Barbara for all her work as Co-Chair.

Discussion about Indivisible and their work. Indivisible has been in the media recently regarding their work pushing back against the Trump agenda. They started after his first election. At the March meeting, people brought up the need for civic education and other ideas.

Discussion of ways to get some Democratic energy going in Rutland City. Possibly invite Kiana, Jennie, Cheryl, or Giovanni with Young Democrats to our next Executive meeting. We may need to check with Cheryl Hooker to find out how much work to expect for Rutland City Reorg. Possibly invited some people who weren't elected for their ideas. Would some of the Rutland Forward candidates run in the future? Discussion of working on Rutland City reorg at

our Ex. Com. meeting instead of county meeting. Barbara will reach out to Cheryl about attending the next meeting and giving us her feedback.

Discuss Indivisible at the next county meeting and try to make connections.

Set Timeline for Annual Appeal letter - One letter is normal. Last year it was mailed around the first week of April. Will work on it during April and May. Eugenia offered to work on draft. Around 100-150 letters were mailed last year. Mailed to previous donors and some people who hadn't donated recently. Content should include national politics. We should try to make a connection with our work and what's going on nationally. Scott has also helped out with past letters. Tom suggested having something upbeat in the letter. He offered to review the draft letter and provide feedback. We'll look at May for getting the letter out.

Other - Eugenia suggested we follow Scott Dworkin on Substack. Helpful for behind the scenes information. Also, Jessica Craven (Chop Wood, Carry Water). She also recommends the Blue Sky platform. The Meidas Touch News is also good.

Karla Ross has offered to help us with social media. We'll invite her to a future meeting. The man from Wallingford who was at our last county meeting is still setting up his chat room.

#### Announcements:

3/15/25 - Postcards to the White House - National Action, Ides of March

4/9/25 - RCD Ex. Com. Meeting, 6:00 p.m. & County Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

6/21/25 - Rutland Pride Festival— Barbara will fill out vendor form

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Eugenia. Motion seconded by Tom. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Carol Wright  
Interim Recording Secretary