

**Executive Committee Meeting  
Rutland County Democratic Committee  
March 13, 2024**

Present: Diane Alberts, Mary Droege, Carol Wright, Barbara Pulling, Josh Ferguson, Eugenia Cook, and Scott Garren

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. There was a brief discussion about how many committee members were needed to meet the quorum. It was determined that five were required and there was a quorum.

Eugenia moved and Barbara seconded to accept the minutes, approved unanimously by voice vote. Scott suggested Diane try using Google AI to get minutes typed.

Scott reported that there was a \$12 expense for email services and that he had sent his Treasurer's Report out prior to the meeting. No vote was taken on his report.

During a brief discussion about the agenda, it was amended by voice vote to include discussion of the offer by Karla Ross to use her house for a fund-raiser.

Mary gave an update on Becca Balint fundraiser. She is still waiting to hear back from Balint's office on whether she is available to do an event with us in Rutland May 3 or 4. Eugenia said that the Chafee Center was willing to give us until the end of March to let them know if we were going to use its space or not. Mary will continue to reach out to Balint's office.

Barbara and Mary led a discussion on the draft appeal letter. Some edits were suggested. The group discussed who would be getting a mailed version of the letter. Scott reported that the list includes those who have donated at least once in the last four years and that the list needs to be periodically cleaned up and potentially include Democrats who'd be likely to donate. He said the current list has about 120 recipients. He also indicated that in the past an email version of the letter has gone out to our Mad Mimi list up to three times after the letter is mailed out.

The group then discussed how to distribute this year's letter and agreed that a stamped return envelope, donation slip and return envelope will be included with the letter. Quick Print will do the printing (which may include more donation slips) and Scott will look for the return address label with our logo. Eugenia who is coordinating the printing and collecting postage and other materials, said she would get a quote for 200 or 300 letters, etc. and thought Quick Print would need 10 business days (at least). It was decided not to personalize recipients in introduction to letter, but Barbara and Mary should be named as senders. The group then discussed how to hand write personal messages and stuff envelopes. It was decided that the group would get together on April 13 for a few hours to do that, most likely at the Rutland Free Library. The letters would be mailed out shortly after that work meeting.

Barbara reported that Web site maintenance has begun with Andy Jones of Soju. He's already cleaned up the site to make it faster, our Facebook link is more visible, links to resources are all fixed, and the site is now being backed up which it wasn't before. He has also made the Events Calendar is up and running and Barbara said we should start thinking about populating the calendar.

It was announced that the next VDP meeting is this coming Saturday morning, March 16 and will be a Zoom meeting only. Mary, Josh and Barbara indicated they would attend.

The group discussed the offer by Karla Ross (Diane's friend) to use her house in Chittenden for a fundraiser. Mary and Barbara asked Diane to find out if she could host the event in the summer after the appeal letter goes out and the potential Balint fundraiser. Barbara asked Diane to get an idea of what Karla would charge us and what kind of event she would suggest. It was decided that Mary, Barbara and Diane should meet with Karla in April or early May.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35.