

Rutland County Democrats Executive Committee

Thursday, September 29, 2022, 7:05 – 8:05 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Present: Mary Mellow, Cheryl Hooker (guest), Carol Wright, Josh Ferguson, Anna Tadio, Scott Garren (later)

Not present: Eugenia Cooke, Barbara Pulling

Chair Mary Mellow called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Treasurer's Report – No report.

Secretary's Report – The draft minutes of the August 23, 2022 meeting were sent out to the committee prior to meeting. Anna made a motion to accept the minutes. Motion seconded by Josh. Minutes accepted.

Old Business:

Halloween Parade – October 29, 5:30 - Anna has signed us up to participate. We can have 3 vehicles. Anna will let them know about the vehicles. We need a theme, such as "I HEART Rutland". Anna has invited some candidates. We need to get commitments from certain candidates. Let's get a big turnout.

We can identify ourselves, but can't ask for votes. Will need a head count of participants. Anna can send the rules to the candidates. We could decorate vehicles with flags, and "I HEART Rutland" signs.

Josh will look for a trailer. Cheryl will contact Beth Pierce. Candidates have walked in the past. We could do a float. Candy has been given out. The cars could be used for signs, an added visual. Anna has 20 "I HEART Rutland" signs.

Headquarters: Steve Craffey, VDP Organizer will be on-site this coming week and here for open house.

Mary discussed headquarters staffing. Could we all call 10 people to work in the headquarters? Discussion of getting volunteers to canvass on weekends. Heather can help set up the groups. Steve would manage the routes. Heather could do follow-up and help organize.

Phone banking can be done in office or from home, usually Sunday or some weekday nights. VDP facilitates the phone lists. Steve will get things underway. Anna has been looking for volunteers for canvassing, phone banking, etc.

Discussion of headquarters hours. We need to set our hours and get volunteers. Mary suggests 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., with 2 hour shifts. The last shift is longer. Phone banking would last longer. Steve will be in Rutland on Monday and at the open house on Wed., 5-7:00 p.m. Also, in the office during some hours. The VDP determines the focus of the canvassing. Scott is working to get the Clarendon representatives elected.

Carol asked if the candidates have people out campaigning. The VDP is doing some mailings. Discussion of ballot mailings. Steve has been working with Mary Droege and Anna Tadio.

Calendar of Events Schedule – Scott sent out an October blast with events:

Wednesday, Oct. 5th, 5-7 p.m. Headquarters opening

Saturday, Oct. 1st, 5-7 p.m. - Steve Howard, VSEA Ex. Director and Rep. Mary Howard is hosting a gathering for Anna Tadio, Senate Candidate at the Chaffee

Sunday, October 2nd, 4-6 p.m. Rep. Stephanie Jerome hosts a meet and greet for Senate Candidates Bridgette Remington, Anna Tadio, and Josh Ferguson. Café Provence, Brandon

Sunday, October 9, 4-6 p.m. – Nora Rubenstein and Herb Childress host an event for House candidate Robin Chesnut Tangerman at their home in Middletown Springs

New Business:

Election to fill VDP Delegate #3/New Ex. Com. Member – We need a 3rd delegate to the VDP. Diane Alberts, Rutland City, has volunteered for that post. Scott made a motion to nominate Diane Alberts as a member of the Ex. Com. and VDP Delegate #3. Motion seconded by Anna. Motion approved.

Election Night Watch – November 8, 7:30 p.m. - ? Discussion of possible locations. Scott will check to see if Table 24 is available that night and will follow up on the election night watch.

Announcements:

Honk and Waves - Anna discussed having honk and waves in Rutland. Discussion of possibility of honk and wave on Monday for David Zuckerman. Discussion of effectiveness of honk and waves. There are two levels, Rutland's Main Street Park when candidates are in town, and in a broader way in smaller communities.

Discussion of ads and mailers. Discussion of having events in local communities to help candidates such as Ken and Dave. Scott will talk to Ken and Dave about honk and waves, if they are interested. Wallingford is having the 4 candidates in a debate.

Monday will be a honk and wave for Zuckerman from 5-6. Need to send out an email blast to Rutland County residents.

Eugenia has sorted our master list by towns. Mary will send the list out to us. Josh asked about the window on headquarters. The glass is on order.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wright,

Recording Secretary