

Rutland County Democrats Committee Meeting

Monday, May 8, 2023, 6:38 – 7:20 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Welcome – 6:38 p.m., Chair Mary Mellow welcomed those present. Ex. Com. members present: Mary Mellow, Anna Tadio, Carol Wright, Barbara Noyes-Pulling, and Scott Garren.

Quorum Count – no quorum, not voting. Brief introductions.

Secretary's Report – The March 13, 2023 draft minutes of the RCDC general meeting were sent out in advance of the meeting. Motion to accept minutes made by Barbara and seconded by Scott. No objections. Minutes accepted.

Treasurer's Report – Scott reported little change from last meeting. The report was sent out in advance of the meeting. Received \$200 contribution; expenses of \$361.88. The expenses included the annual post office box rental and GoDaddy website expenses. Current balance is: \$3,495.33. Kathy Hall motioned to accept the report. Barbara seconded the motion. Report accepted unanimously.

Legislative Reports – No legislators present.

Guest - Liam O'Sullivan, VDP house Campaign Manager – Liam discussed his background and the 2024 election cycle. He looks forward to working with town and county chairs. His main role is election support. We have momentum in Rutland County and had great candidates in the last election. Rutland is a priority for the party.

Candidate recruitment is a big lift. He wants our help with finding qualified candidates. We need to be prepared for any retirements.

Scott Garren discussed having a full-time organizer in the past. We need ground help in running campaigns. Liam has been talking with Will Notte about helping Rutland Co.

Liam's contact number is 631 905-6038.

Old Business:

Curtis-Hoff Dinner, May 12 at UVM – Cheryl Hooker is a nominee. She has served in both House, Senate and on the Rutland Board of Aldermen.

VDP Alternate Delegate Position Open – Please contact Mary with any recommendations.

Fundraising – Our letter is ready to go to the printer. Barbara, Eugenia Cooke, and Diane Alberts have worked hard on the letter. There will be an email letter first with an Act Blue link. The mail version may go out by 5/19. Personalized notes will be sent to a variety of people. Barbara thanked the team.

New Business:

July 4th Parades - Brandon, Castleton, Poultney – The committees in those towns will be asked to help organize a Democratic presence. The 4th is on a Tues. Parade dates may fluctuate. Brandon may be a little ahead.

VDP Meeting - May 20, via Zoom. Mary will send out a memo to the delegates.

Other

Young Democrats of America Group – Anna Tadio has been working with Giovanni Falco on a program to encourage young VT Democrats to become more involved. Anna and Giovanni discussed the goals of the group to support candidates, increase activism, and to prepare future candidates. This is VT’s first official Young Democrats group. Young democrats need to have a space at the national convention.

They will launch at the Curtis-Hoff dinner. They are recruiting college and high school students and looking for people under the age of 36. Will register as a PAC. They are working on a VT website. There is a national website. Gio has launched Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

They hope to table at Friday Night Live in Rutland. They will also send out emails and asked us to spread the word by forwarding emails.

Barbara asked about involvement in policy. They will advocate for legislation that is important to young people.

Next general meeting July 10.

Meeting Adjourned – Anna made a motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Andy Tanger. Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wright,

Recording Secretary