

Rutland County Democrats Executive Committee Meeting

June 12, 2023, 6:40 p.m. – 8:35

Zoom Meeting

Present: Mary Mellow, Diane Alberts, Carol Wright, Eugenia Cooke, Anna Tadio, Scott Garren, Barbara Noyes-Pulling, Josh Ferguson

Call to Order: 6:40 p.m., meeting called to order by Anna Tadio. Mary joined by speaker phone.

Quorum Count: 8 (quorum)

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the RCDC Executive Com. meeting of April 19, 2023 were sent out prior to the meeting. Mary had some adjustments to dates. Minutes accepted with Mary's date changes.

Treasurer's Report: Report emailed prior to meeting. Received contributions of \$490 from email blast. There were expenses of \$392.80 from mailing the fundraising letter. No checks yet from Act Blue. Balance of \$2,953.31; not reflecting Act Blue contributions.

Old Business

RCDC Website – new vendor information: Barbara posted on the Castleton breakfast and Curtis Hoff dinner. She spoke with VT Web Marketing in Stowe and received a 37-page menu. Pricing is ala carte for different menu items. Barbara can add information to the site. Adding a logo is a problem. Needs help with working with Go Daddy. We need to figure out the process of changing things on the site. The site may be Word Press. We might be able to pay for support. Scott would be willing to try to put the logo in. Heather helped Barbara to get in so that she could make changes. Barbara could try to fix the bad links and give Word Press a call to see how to make minor changes. Discussion of age of site photos.

Discussion of Josh's tech person. Barbara did speak with him, but didn't get an answer to questions. Discussed possibility of asking him for a few hours of time.

Discussion of having a way to consolidate old photos. Anna recommended using Google Drive for holding photos, with space for uploading new photos. We have a Google account. Anna will send a link.

July 4th Parades – Brandon 6/1, Castleton 6/1, Poultney 6/4 – All at 10 a.m. Brandon will have the most delegates. All are encouraged to march and bring a friend. M.J. Teeter in Poultney is signing up the Dems.

Unable to locate the small banner. Mary has the large banner. We need to have another small banner made at the Party Store. Discussion of process of ordering a banner. Anna made a motion to spend up to \$100 on a new banner. Motion seconded by Barbara. Motion approved by all.

Rutland Friday Night Live Events: July 21, August 11, September 16 – Anna will be unable to attend the July event. Need someone to be a point person. We will have a table with stickers, sign-up sheets, etc. The point person needs to arrange the event for July. Diane volunteered. Mary will fill out the online application. Anna will invite the Young Democrats. Mary will invite Rutland City Dems. Ex. Com. members encouraged to attend. Mary will send out an invitation blast.

New Business

RCDC General Meeting – July 10, 6:30, Zoom or in-person: Discussion of next general meeting. Eugenia will check availability of library meeting space. Anna discussed looking for a chair at that meeting. Discussion of checking in with the town chairs to see if they are running again.

Anna, Carol, Diane, and Josh will contact town chairs and vice chairs to invite them to Friday Night Live (FNL) and in preparation of re-organization. Josh will coordinate.

September Town Reorg Meetings - Every town does not need to organize on the same date, we can have a block of time. Town Chairs need to run the reorg meeting, even if they are not running again. Proctor and Mendon need to be organized. This will help our local candidates.

Josh offered to help make a reorg map for a visual representation of each town. This information is currently on a spreadsheet.

October County Reorg Date - Discussion of importance of finding a Chair to step into Mary's role. Other committee members will run for their current seats. Carol discussed not having time to keep up with technology. Maybe someone more tech savvy could be found. If not, she can continue.

Representatives to VDP Bylaws Conference - VDP State Committee Meeting, July 15, Saturday – location tbd – Delegates will be Josh, Carol, and Barbara.

Social Event: What, When, Where – Discussion of having an event in Oct./Nov. Diane talked to Marcie about the Harvest Dinner. It was a lot of work. Do we need a subcommittee for the advance planning. Maybe the town chairs? We could ask the town chairs to work on the event.

Will discuss this in July's general committee. Diane and Josh will work on this over the phone.

Vermont State Fair – August 15-19 (Tues. – Sat.) – We opted out last year. Discussion of finding people to man the booth and whether there would be much traffic.

Are there other organizations that support our values that might want to participate? Mary suggests discussing this in the July meeting. Friday Night Live might be a better place to put our energy.

VDP Bylaws – proposed changes - Mary discussed the revision of the bylaws. These include 15 pages with existing terms and recommended changes. They will be approved at the July 15th State Committee Meeting. Read the revisions and send any questions to Matt.

Barbara discussed the proportional delegate changes to the bylaws. Chittenden County could get a larger proportion.

Announcements:

June 17 - Castleton Breakfast Social, Rep. Mary Howard, Guest

June 25 – Southern Vermont Summer Celebration, Manchester

July 10 – RCDC General Meeting.

Sept. 11 – RCDC General Meeting. Discussion of changing date or having a moment of silence. Discussion of having a reorg week for the towns after our 9/11 meeting. Barbara made a motion to have

the 9/11 meeting and have town reorg from 9/11-9/15 (Friday). Motion seconded by Eugenia. Motion passed.

Oct 9 – County Reorg. - Should be in person. Since it is a holiday, will change the date to Tuesday, 10/10.

Nov 18 – Statewide Reorg.

Other - Carol received supplies from Heather, along with \$93 for Petty Cash/Sunshine Fund. Discussion of Sunshine Fund. Eugenia made a motion to deposit the cash in our bank account. Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting supplies will be given to the Chair.

Eugenia will talk with Mary about second batch of fundraising letters. Mary has about another 120 names.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wright

Recording Secretary