

Rupert Village Trust Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 6 - 8 pm

Agenda

- 6:00 Approve minutes from previous meeting
- 6:05 Treasurer's Report ■ 11:1:2024 IncomeStatement.pdf
 - M&T 6 month CD: 3.6%
 - Heritage Family Credit Union 1 year CD: 3.5%
 - Vanguard: Money Market fund (4.66%, variable), CD's (4.55% 1 year), Index funds
 - MailChimp Bill - shall we get a credit card or would someone else like to pay for it for a while?
- 6:10 RD Grant:
 - Next steps
- 6:20 Funding/grants spreadsheet (segue to ...) [LINK HERE](#)
 - MTAP Status
 - VHIP Status
 - VHCB meeting report
 - Meeting with Warren on Sunday
- 6:30 Events:
 - Solstice
 - Benefit Studio Sale (Jane's studio) Nov. 23 and 24, 3 - 6 pm all proceeds go directly to RVT.
 - Black Friday Swap
- 6:40 Holiday schedule adjustments:
 - No music jam on Dec 1.
 - Fiber Friday changes
 - Coffee changes?
- 7:00 Dinner
- 7:30 Property tax: is it time to ask the town to forgive property tax?
- 7:40 Report on board development workshop, part 1
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Minutes

- Meeting opened at 6:05 PM. Jane Davies, Janet Hentschel, Nancy Poletti, Mary Dickson, Jed Rubin and John La Vecchia in attendance. Deb Fuller joined via Zoom.
- The board discussed the Community Sharing Project Angel Tree program. The tree arrived today. We could already replenish the angels after today's yoga classes. Deb will check in with Karen Allen to see if we can get more of them. The instruction and timeline are included with the tree display.
- Minutes from the October meeting were approved as submitted.
- Deb reviewed the treasurer's report and income statement. She will prepare a summary of quarterly income from coffee hours for the December meeting.
- Deb also discussed several bank, credit union, and investment fund options for investing some of our available funds, primarily our grant account fund. Options include brick-and-mortar and online banks. Jed recommends only considering options that are guaranteed and insured. Deb will look further into the different CD options.
- Jane has been paying the MailChimp bill since we canceled our debit card. Deb noted other yearly fees that will be auto charged and can only be charged to a credit card. Jane will visit M&T Bank to apply for a card.
- Alex Gauthier requested some additional information for the RD documents. Chris Cole, Frank Parent and John will gather this information.
- Warren Irish will be on site on Sunday 11/17 at 11:00 AM to visit and measure the Harrington House. We will sign and deliver his contract to him then. At the moment he will focus on as-built documentation of the building. He may be able to expand his services beyond this work scope.
- Potential funding sources for the Harrington House project planning include VCRD, VHCB and PTV. The mechanics and processes vary for each of these, with more or less involvement necessary from the town.
- Jane will be having a studio sale on 11/23 and 11/24 from 3:00-6:00 PM each day with proceeds to benefit RVT. This coincides with a holiday craft market (on Saturday only) at Katrina Tyler's studio across the street from Jane's studio

- The Solstice event will be on 12/22 from 3:00-5:00 PM. Renee Kitts is not available to work on it this year. We typically do s'mores, luminaries and fire pits. Mary said Cindy offered to have a luminary making/decorating workshop on 12/8 from 2:00-4:00 PM. Mary will give Jane a list of materials for Jane to gather and have on hand then. Mary will not be here that weekend but will help plan the workshop. Nancy noted that we'll need to include this information in the 11/26 newsletter. Jane will coordinate chestnut roasting with BreadTree farm. S'mores, fire pits, chestnuts and luminaries may be as much as we need for the event this year. We should confirm whether or not a burn ban is still in effect before then and pivot to non-fire activities if that's the case.
- Sarah Weber and Elena Santos will be hosting a Black Friday Swap craft event on 11/29 from 3:00-5:00 PM. This should be a fairly self-sufficient event and has already been publicized in the newsletter.
- Jane brought up the idea of making embroidered denim potholders as a fun side project for the Store. Nancy said the Store logo embroidery costs would be \$8.00/piece of denim with specific size requirements.
- There won't be a music jam in December. Fiber Friday will be on the second Friday next month and back to the fourth Friday of the month in January. There will be potluck on 12/6 and in January 2025. Coffee hour will continue through December. Deb wondered about taking coffee hour off in January 2025 and possibly also in August when it has seemed to be slower in the past. Jed would like to carry coffee hours straight through the winter. Nancy recommended considering a set rotation so that board members don't get burned out. We all wonder about how to cultivate and better understand volunteer efforts. Some may want to be here the whole time and do everything. Some may only want to be here for an hour.
- Jed discussed the process and questions to answer for the listers to apply to them and qualify for tax-exempt status. He shared a paper form, which may also be available online. Should we decide to pursue it, the form is due to the listers by April 1st. If we are able to apply by petition to the voters at town meeting it would be due sometime in January to be voted on at town meeting in March.

Jed will share his contact's phone number so Jane can follow up with questions to them.

- The town grand list had incorrectly listed the acreage at the Sheldon Store in the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 lists after listing it correctly after our initial purchase and after purchasing acreage from the town and selling a portion of it to Krauss. Jed can't explain how or why this error happened in the system but the listers have corrected it.
- After attending the first part of the board development workshop, Jed noted that he thinks the three original board members don't delegate enough of their tasks to the newer members. Some aspects of the workshop were more relevant to organizations that have staff.
- Meeting ended at 8:30 PM.