

# Rupert Village 2024 Year-End Planning Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 10, 5 - 8 pm

## Agenda

### Budget

- Review 2024
- Plan 2025

### Programming

- [Calendar for 2025](#)

### Communication, Education - for example

- Revitalize "Did You Know?"
- Grants & funding spreadsheet
- Project Plan
- Facilities Use Agreement
- Other
- Board Orientation Form

## Minutes

- Meeting opened at 5:20 PM, hosted by Mary Dickson at the Rupert Depot. Jane Davies, Deb Fuller, Janet Hentschel, Jed Rubin, Mary Dickson, Nancy Poletti, John La Vecchia, Bronson (the dog) present.
- Deb has an appointment with Heritage Family Credit Union next Tuesday to open the CD we discussed at yesterday's meeting. Those funds are separate from that currently in the checking account.
- Discussion about merchandise income. Hats are very popular, tote bags and aprons have become less so. Mary and Nancy will look to create a more dedicated merchandise space, possibly on the shelves above the childrens' area.

- Discussion about taking some coffee hour time off in the summer of 2025, possibly in part of July and/or August. We would certainly be open on Old Home Days.
- We need to develop parameters concerning the use of the space by outside people or groups. We continue to skirt around the specifics. This becomes more important as we receive more requests to use the building. The facilities use agreement that Mary created will be a good place to start. We need to have a cost structure and the ability to offer complementary use subsidies or “scholarships” on a case-by-case basis. We could have half- and full-day rates.
- Deb will develop a 2025 budget based on the 2024 budget and actuals for review at an upcoming meeting.
- Brief conversation about a possible tax-exempt status request and the offer of a payment in lieu of taxes should we receive tax-exempt designation.
- Deb suggested starting our meetings earlier, say at 5:00 or 5:30, since that seemed to work well at yesterday’s meeting. Going forward we’ll have our regular meetings at 5:30 PM on the second Thursday of the month.
- Fiber Friday’s will continue as is in 2025. People seemed to like not having to RSVP for potluck supper or sign up for food at the December event. We think Renee Kitts would like to continue hosting them in 2025 and should confirm that with her. The Kittay Library (Jenna Waters and Kristin Finch) would like to host board game night going forward. We can coordinate with them starting with the event on January 17th.
- The Music Jam will continue as is in 2025. Ukulele Clare’s event is on January 18th. The next ukulele event will be in May. Sherrill Blodget and Charles Madsen would like to have a chorale event in the spring or summer of 2025, with details to follow. Vermont Public Theater will also be doing an event this summer. We may also be able to host a bookmaking/bookbinding workshop. Some of these are supported by a grant from the Vermont Community Foundation.
- People are feeling at capacity providing food for the increasing number of potluck suppers associated with our various events.

Going forward we can purchase food from Sherman's Store or elsewhere for potlucks such as the ukulele classes.

- We expect to host a root beer float event again this year. Jane will consider having another studio sale, possibly in coordination with a holiday market.
- Can we look into adding a handrail and guardrail to the front curved stair and improving the entry porch door hardware so that we use the stair and have two means of egress from the second floor including the existing interior stair. John will reach out to the fire marshal for his input. Deb noted that we'll need approval from Preservation Trust of Vermont for any interior stair area work and will reach out to Meg Campbell about it. Nancy can talk to Brian Beavin about doing the work once we are ready to proceed.
- The Congregational Church will be administering the Play Every Town piano concert event, to take place in early February. We can help publicize the event but are not hosting or providing food for it.
- We will all read through and review Mary's draft facilities use agreement.
- Might we consider a 9/13/25 date for the basket raffle? The Peru Fair is on 9/27. We should consult with the library about their schedule for their mum and pie sale. Our sense is that the Congregational Church will develop its own schedule for its fall rummage sale that may or may not coincide with our basket raffle planning.
- We will table the remaining agenda items until the February board meeting
- Meeting ended at 8:10 PM.