


# Rupert Village Trust Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 19, 6 - 8 pm

## Agenda

- 6:00 Approve minutes from previous meeting
- 6:05 Treasurer's Report  12:1:2024 IncomeStatement.pdf
  - Coffee \$ to date: [Link here](#)
  - Update on credit card application
  - CD/savings account
  - Studio sale: \$6613.31
- 6:10 RD Grant:
  - Next steps
- 6:20 Funding/grants spreadsheet (segue to ...) [LINK HERE](#)
  - MTAP Status
  - VHIP Status
- 6:30 Events:
  - Solstice planning
  - Review of Luminary event
  - January events (we can schedule the rest of the year in our planning meeting)
  - PIANO CONCERT!!
- 6:40 Holiday schedule adjustments:
- 7:00 Dinner: butternut squash soup
- 7:20 Schedule Planning Meeting. 🗓️ Year End Retreat 2024
- 7:30 Update on property tax forgiveness application
- 7:40 Report on board development workshop, part 2

## Minutes

- Meeting opened at 6:12 PM. Jane Davies, Deb Fuller, Janet Hentschel, Jed Rubin and John La Vecchia in attendance. Mary Dickson joined via Zoom. Nancy Poletti joined partway through the meeting.
- November meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

- Net income from coffee hour for 2024 is already slightly ahead of the entire year for 2023. Given our local coffee hour purchases, we may develop some signage to acknowledge the items we get from Tall Cat Coffee and Flour Girl Bakeshop.
- Jane's studio sale was quite well-attended, successful, and resulted in a very generous donation to RVT.
- The credit card application is in progress but not completed yet.
- Deb suggested we revisit the CD vs. savings account options and asked if the board has a preference between the two. The 12-month+ CD rates are higher but there are penalties for early withdrawal. A savings account will give us more flexibility if we need the funds. The board leaned towards opening a CD.
- Jed asked about the 12/1/24 income statement with reference to typical expenses that will carry over to next year when considering budget planning for 2025.
- Deb will send forms to Chris regarding the septic system project. John will review recent correspondence with/from Chris and Frank to check on information sharing.
- Mary called and left voicemails for both Jess and Kaziah at VCRD and hopes to hear back from them. Jed said he expects it will be June 2025 before the legislature determines VHIP funding so we will table the topic until then.
- Cindy Pellis and her daughter enjoyed the luminary-making event, as did a new person from Manchester who expects to attend more events. We hoped for but didn't have any children here making luminaries. Jane, Janet and Nancy all said they would do it again next year.
- Several board members will gather the rest of the solstice supplies for this Sunday's event. Jane will roast chestnuts at home. Others will make hot chocolate and bring some kindling and firewood. We will have both battery light, tea light, and ice luminaries. The forecast is for cold temperatures.
- Jane and Sarah Sogorka will work on event ideas for next year.
- We will continue coffee hour through January. The next ukulele event is on January 18th. Janet will host the potluck supper on January 3rd and work with Renee Kitts on the details. The music jam is also back on the January schedule. Nancy will schedule the next email newsletter to go out on 12/24 with a thank you and

Happy Holidays theme. The next one will go out on 12/31 with more information about upcoming January events.

- David Feurzeig has been in contact with Jane about possible dates for a Play Every Town concert in Rupert. Kevin Bishop originally reached out to David about it with the idea of playing on a spinet piano at the Congregational Church. Nancy will contact Steve Berry to gauge his interest. We could collaborate on the event or simply help promote it and have the Church take the lead.
- Jed said his brother is planning a kitchen renovation and has offered several kitchen appliances to RVT. We will defer and continue that discussion at our upcoming planning meeting.
- Jed suggested renovating the barn for safe and suitable storage once more of the Store and Harrington House projects get underway. This is also a planning meeting topic.
- 2025 planning meeting topics include goals, budget, KPI's, main bummers and achievements of 2024. We will meet at Mary's house on January 9th and 10th from 5:00 PM-8:00 PM. Jane and Deb will create a folder on the shared drive where we can all review planning documents for the meetings.
- Jane is working on the property tax forgiveness application to submit to the listers. Given potential conflicts of interest, Carl Yackel can look at this but Jed Rubin and Dan Fuller likely should not.
- Janet will work on a new board member template which will help any and all new board members to be better informed. Jed said he occasionally feels in the dark about what's happening with certain aspects of the project. While this isn't intentional, we should all do a better job at sharing information and how best to share it.
- Nancy will print out some of our blank stationery pages and envelopes to have on hand at the Store.
- Several people have commented about being asked for donations too frequently. For some this may be coming from what they read in the newsletter. For others it has to do with donation jars being too prominent at coffee hour. As a board, it would help to ask and gain a better understanding of why people feel that way. We should look at the newsletter content, modify it and simply include a donate button at the end. This is another good topic for the planning meetings and how to find the right balance.

- Meeting ended at 8:27 PM.