

Rupert Village Trust Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 13, 6 - 8 pm

Agenda

- 6:00 Approve minutes from previous meeting
- 6:05 Treasurer's Report
- 6:10 RD Grant:
 - Easement for well - status
 - Engineering contract
- 6:20 Annual Appeal Letter: **please make your pledge or donation at this time** so that we know how much we are starting with.
- 6:35 Painting the building - quotes and timing
- 6:45 Status of Windows: which ones are we replacing? Quote on labor
- 6:55 Decorating Upgrade Status
- 7:00 Dinner Break
- 7:15 Website Updates
- 7:20 Benefit music concert July 27
- 7:30 Vermont Community Foundation Arts Funding
- 7:40 Basket Raffle jobs
- 7:45 Gardens
- 7:50 Signage - outdoor sign for the building
- 7:55 PTV Conference Brain Dump
- 7:59 Historical Society meeting/archaeologist

Minutes

- Deb Fuller, Jane Davies, Jed Rubin, Janet Hentschel, Nancy Poletti, Katha Washburn and John La Vecchia present. Mary Dickson attended remotely. Meeting opened at 6:05 PM.
- 5/9/24 meeting minutes approved with minor spelling and other corrections. Janet made a motion and Deb seconded the motion to approve them.
- We will need two copies of the well easement, once finalized and signed, for Merrill Bent to review on behalf of RVT. This will then get filed with RD. The easement should be ready for the Selectboard's signature shortly after May 22.

- Jane (and Deb) have a meeting regarding the engineering contract and are making progress in separating out the contracts with Frank Parent and Chris Cole.
- Nancy has drafted, some others have had input, and Katha spoke about communications around fundraising. Katha suggested a suite of materials beyond just a direct mailing. She can review the annual appeal letter and meet to discuss the campaign with Deb and Nancy in more detail. She can also help fine-tune the approach once we know more about the costs of the building painting and window replacement work. Jed will review the town's grand list with respect to potential donors.
- We have two quotes to paint the building, one from Kyle Crofut and one from Oscar Loomis. Their estimates are similar but we still need to check references, liability insurance, etc. We need to apply for and receive the tax credits before work starts on the building.
- Jane will send the wood window specifications to Meg at PTV once we have them and confirm when and where wood windows are required. Jed spoke to Chris Johnson who said the wood windows have a 10-week order lead time. Brian Beavin met with Jane and Nancy to discuss the window installation labor work.
- Janet will talk to Mary about the items on display. Nancy will work on labels and information once Mary is back and/or she and Janet have a conversation about the goals and priorities once Mary is back in Vermont.
- Nancy has talked with Danielle Zimmerman about website updates. Nancy would like to develop the web pages in Google Docs rather than Wix. The board members will edit their bios and update their photos. We will also look at things from a graphic design perspective as time allows.
- Mark D'Antonio's band will be playing a benefit concert on July 27 at a time still to be determined. Jane would like to have a second band. We could serve root beer floats on the same day, set up the outdoor games. Weather permitting, Jed can bring his flatbed trailer for a stage. We will also seek town green/Selectboard approval for use of the town green for the event.
- John will reach out to the Krauss's regarding accessing the rear of their property across the town green parking lot and Sheldon store properties.

- Jane has submitted an initial proposal to VCF regarding arts funding. Jed may have a source for a PA system from a retiring auctioneer. It's unclear if we will have VCF funding in place in time to make an offer on this particular system.
- We should schedule a basket raffle planning meeting soon, perhaps with Renee Kitts. Nancy will reach out to her about her schedule and then contact other board members to see when they are available.
- Nancy Seidman planted dahlias in the barrel(s). Ralph has planted more tomatoes and others, cut down the roses, and is very attentive to watering in all of the gardens and raised beds. The willow structure is also growing vigorously.
- Deb made the preservation easement available on the shared drive. She will contact Meg at PTV regarding signage, building-mounted vs. freestanding signs, etc.
- Nancy, Janet, Jed and Janet all spoke highly about the PTV conference. Jed asked about available seating at the Sheldon Store as compared to what he learned regarding the Miss Bellows Falls diner and their seeking increased seating capacity. We may be able to reduce our kitchen size in order to increase or add some counter seating or other additional seating options.
- Janet spoke at the conference with the Vermont state archeologist about a program on September 26 in conjunction with the Hebron and Rupert historical societies. RVT will assist with publicity and event coordination.
- Several of us are available for board game night on September 21 for outdoor games and cooking on the fire pits. We will meet briefly in the meantime to coordinate food and resources. John will look for grilling sticks for the fire pits.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.