

Rhinebeck Democrats Club
Steering Committee Meeting
November 25, 2024

Called to order: 5:37

Attendees: John Rossi, Shirley Stone, Susan Ragusa, Mel Donaldson, Bob Donaldson
Absent: Sandy Zito

Treasurer's Report

In Sandy's absence, John reported that after an expenditure of \$23.17 to cover the cost of the domain with GoDaddy, the club now holds a balance of \$259.42.

Village elections

Acknowledging that Gary Bassett, Lydia Slaby and Ric Lewit are seeking reelection as village mayor and trustees, the committee discussed the possibility of having the club sponsor a candidates forum.

After an exchange of ideas and opinions, it was agreed that we would wait to see if anyone steps up to challenge these incumbents and make our decision then.

Civic Awareness Committee

The regular reports on town board meetings continue to draw increased traffic on the club's website.

The committee is disappointed that no one from the village has shown an interest in reporting on business conducted during village board meetings.

Speaker Series

In light of the massive influence social media played in the recent national elections, John mentioned the important information Michael Slaby presents in his book, For ALL the People. In this work, Slaby highlights the "how and why" of social media dysfunction and its negative influence in all areas of our lives. Additionally, he offers suggestions for improving this problem.

Because of this timely topic, it was agreed that Susan would contact Michael and ask if he would be interested in sharing his work at a club gathering. It was decided that the steering committee would meet with Michael before final arrangements would be made.

Adjourned: 7:56

Respectfully submitted,

Mel Donaldson, Recording Secretary