

## **Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness**

### **November 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes Approved**

Members Present: John Haffner (Chair) Nancy Trottier, Maggie Burnett, Ashley Andreas (remote), Lori Hirshfield (staff), Lexi Webster (staff), Tad Montgomery (guest)

#### **1. Call Meeting to Order**

John Haffner called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

#### **2. Review Order of Agenda**

There were no changes to the order of the agenda.

#### **3. Public Comment**

Tad Montgomery informed the committee of his interest to purchase large houses in Hartford with the intent of creating energy-efficient homes sold to groups of low/moderate income owners – similar to a co-op or condo setup. VHIP (Vermont Housing Improvement Program) and Hartford's Big Little Build Pilot Program were suggested as potential funding resources. Tad will keep the committee updated on his progress.

#### **4. Approve September Meeting Minutes**

There were no changes to the minutes. Nancy Trottier made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes as presented and Maggie Burnett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **5. Hartford's Big Little Build: Small-scale Housing Pilot Project Update**

Lori Hirshfield and John Haffner will present specifics of the HCHH budget, including a funding request for HCHH's Big Little Build Pilot Program for the FY27 Hartford Town Planning and Development Department budget to the Selectboard on Tuesday, 11/18. Committee members are asked to attend for support.

#### **6. 802 Homes Update**

The 802 Homes program kicks-off on 11/14 with initial information gathering from the three participating Vermont communities: Hartford, Manchester and Essex Junction. The year-long program will develop pre-approved, permit-ready building plans, which aligns well with Hartford's Big Little Build Pilot Program.

#### **7. Continue to Discuss Solutions for the Unhoused Community**

Jen Kravitz and Nancy Trottier are working on outreach to vulnerable seniors with Mark Bradley, Executive Director of the Bugbee Center and Katie Williams, Hartford Community Nurse.

The committee voiced interest in future collaboration with the Public Safety Coalition whose safety concerns include The Haven and the unhoused community. HCHH acknowledged the importance of community members being heard and disseminating facts on available services for those in need.

It was noted that outreach with the unhoused community is and will continue to be a priority of the committee.

Ashley acknowledged a present distrust of local officials and the need to make more of a connection with community members. She is reaching out to Braver Angels for citizen-led solutions and inquiring about HCHH hosting a monthly community dinner at Listen Community Services.

### **8. News from Committee Members**

Ashley announced that she is the new Executive Director of the Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity and is looking to partner with relevant housing programs throughout the area.

Nancy Trottier and Jen Kravitz are working at The Upper Valley Haven, which will help inform HCHH of needs and programming.

John Haffner and Jen Kravitz are new Bugbee Senior Center Board members and John is also hoping to be a new board member of The Upper Valley Haven.

### **9. Adjourn Meeting**

Nancy Trottier made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Maggie Burnett seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting ended at 7:15PM.

### **Committee Members**

John Haffner, Chair (through 1/6/2027)

Jennifer Kravitz, Vice Chair (through 4/28/2027)

Dan Nott (through 11/25/2026)

Nancy Trottier (through 9/1/2027)

Maggie Burnett (through 12/11/2025)

Rob Hebert II (through 7/13/2027)

Ashley Andreas, Selectboard Liaison (through 3/3/2026)

Lori Hirshfield, Staff Liaison

Lexi Webster, Staff Liaison