

**Approved Minutes of the
Resilient Hartford Meeting
April 27, 2022**

Resilient Hartford Members Present: Earl Hatley, Dylan Kreis, Leah Mosenthal, Laura Simon and chair Kye Cochran.

Resilient Hartford Liaisons Members Present: Energy Commission Liaison Lynn Bohi and Selectboard Liaison Ally Tufenkjian.

Others Present: None.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

A hybrid Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 27th. Chair Kye Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Kye read the script for hybrid meetings followed by a roll call.

- 1. Resilient Hartford Minutes of March 23, 2022:** Kye Cochran asked if there are any changes to the draft minutes of March 23rd. There were none. Kye stated that the minutes are accepted as written by unanimous consent.
- 2. Welcome New RH Member Earl Hatley:** Kye Cochran welcomed new member Earl Hatley to Resilient Hartford. She stated that we are delighted to have Earl serve on RH. Kye noted that Earl has already done a lot for Resilient Hartford already as a Food Forest volunteer.
- 3. Food Forest Update:** Kye Cochran reported that the Phase 2 spring planting at Clifford Park is scheduled for this Saturday, April 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Kye noted that the trees and shrubs have been ordered. Kye stated that there are about 20 trees are planned to be planted including 8 chestnuts and hazelnut bushes. Kye reported that her son Duncan has agreed to loan a 300-gallon water tank that will be stored in the barn at Clifford Park. Matt Osborn reported that he has reserved a truck and storage tank from the Department of Public Works to deliver water to the Park on Saturday. Matt noted that he will bring cinder blocks to mount the water tank on. He plans to refill the tank in the barn periodically throughout the summer and fall as needed. Kye reported that there are several volunteers who signed up to water the trees and plants during the summer and fall. Laura Simon reported that she is working with Ruth Fleishman on a watering schedule. Matt noted that he obtained combination locks from the Parks and Recreation Department so volunteers will have access to the gate and barn to water at their convenience.

Matt noted that the event has been promoted with regular postings on the Town website, Facebook and twitter, postings on the List Serve, flyers to the libraries and other locations and a mailing to the neighborhood surrounding Clifford Park.

Matt noted that he will bring compost for the planting. He will get enough bags for use later on as needed. Matt reminded RH that the Flood Regulations require that we take out as much material as we bring in. This will require tracking. The material will have to be taken to an area out of the floodplain on-site or removed off-site.

Kye noted that she received beverage donations from the Upper Valley Food Co-op for Saturday.

Matt noted that there are enough RH funds for the spring planting, but RH will eventually need to apply for grant funds for future improvements and plantings. He reported that the Finance Department has set up an account to accept donations for the food forest project.

4. **Quechee Abenaki Garden:** Earl Hatley reported that he has been working with the Quechee Lakes Landowners Association (QLLA) on an alternative location for an Abenaki Garden. He stated that they found a site but the QLLA groundskeeper had concerns. Earl is waiting to hear back from the QLLA property manager. As an alternative, Earl asked RH if he could plant a small garden consisting of corn, beans, squash and possibly sunflowers at the Clifford Park Food Forest. RH welcomed the idea. Dylan Kreis suggested the former horseshoe pit. It was agreed to look at the site at the Saturday Food Forest planting. Matt Osborn noted that the Parks and Recreation Department will have to give the OK. He will talk to Director Scott Hausler about it.

Kye reported that the Food Forest Steering Committee will be meeting at Clifford Park on Tuesday, May 10th to discuss next steps for the Food Forest.

5. **Fall Harvest Event:** Dylan Kreis noted that his life situation will not permit him to devote the time necessary to plan and organize the harvest event this year. He suggested postponing it until 2023 in order to focus energy on the Food Forest and give the fall harvest event enough time to organize. There was discussion and agreement to postpone the harvest event until 2023.
6. **Climate Action Steering Team:** Laura Simon reported that the Climate Action Steering Team (CAST) will be preparing letters to send to all of the Town commissions and committees on recommendations in the Climate Action Plan that relate to each committee or commission. She requested that the item be put on the May 25th RH meeting agenda. Kye Cochran agreed.
7. **Resilient Hartford Opening:** Kye Cochran reported that there is still one opening on Resilient Hartford. She asked Matt Osborn if we can advertise the opening. Matt agreed.

8. **Announcements:**

- a. Town Forest Timber Harvest Information Walk: Laura Simon reported that the Conservation Commission is hosting a public information walk in the Town Forest regarding the planned winter, 2023 timber harvest. She stated that she will be attending and encouraged RH members to attend. Matt provided some background information on forest management in the Town Forest.
9. **Next Resilient Hartford Meeting:** Kye Cochran noted that the next regularly scheduled RH meeting is Wednesday, May 25th at 5:00 p.m.
10. **Adjournment:** Kye Cochran thanked everyone for attending. The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.