

**Draft Minutes of the
Resilient Hartford Meeting
September 28, 2022**

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

Resilient Hartford Liaisons Members Present: Planning Commission Liaison John Reid and Selectboard Liaison Ally Tufenkjian.

Others Present: Carolyn Hooper.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

A hybrid Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Wednesday, June 22nd. Chair Kye Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Kye read the script for hybrid meetings followed by a roll call and introductions.

1. **Resilient Hartford Minutes of August 24, 2022:** Kye asked if there are any changes to the draft minutes of August 24th. There were none. Kye stated that the minutes of August 24th are approved as written by unanimous consent. were made.
2. **Resilient Hartford Mission Statement:** Matt reported that at the 8/24 RH meeting, the Climate Action Plan (CAP) was added to the mission statement under actions in addition to the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). He noted that he suggested continuing the discussion. Kye asked if RH has looked at the recommendations of either plan. Matt responded that Earl and Laura reviewed the HMP actions. Earl stated that he also reviewed the CAP actions and the Food Forest fits it under the category of food sovereignty. Dylan agreed to review the CAP implementation actions to see what other actions/projects may fit RH. John stated that there are many practical applications for residents in the CAP. Carolyn agreed and stated that RH can play a role in promoting climate awareness. She noted that the Wilder School in Wilder Village was recently renovated and there is a sizable lawn on the property that could be converted to a Food Forest. She suggested collaborating with the Conservation Commission. RH agreed. Dylan suggested setting up a meeting and inviting partners such as the Energy Commission, Hartford Committee on Racial Equity and Inclusion, School Board, Tree Board Apple Corps and Vital Communities. Matt agreed to discuss with the Conservation Commission at their 10/3 meeting.
3. **Resilient Hartford Budget:** Matt went through the current RH budget from the Town General Fund noting that the fiscal year runs from July 1st to June 30th.

Resilient Hartford Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Approved Budget (July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023)

• Travel & Meetings	\$360
• Advertising	\$400
• Contracted Services/Speaker Stipend	\$500
• <u>Materials & Supplies</u>	<u>\$500</u>
Total	\$1,760

Matt noted that during the past fiscal year, RH spent all but \$400 of the budget on the Food Forest. The Department of Planning and Development requested an encumbrance for the \$400 to be carried over into the current fiscal year and it was approved. Matt noted that the \$400 would be used to purchase a garden cart. He stated that in the current fiscal year, \$129 has been spent to

date, all on the Food Forest. Currently, RH has \$2,031 remaining. Matt reported that the Department of Public Works agreed to provide RH two water tanks for the Food Forest. He noted that RH suggested purchasing a pump which Dylan priced out to be around \$400. Dylan noted that there might be additional costs for accessory materials.

Matt suggested keeping the same budget as the FY2022/2023 budget. Laura Simon made a motion to stick with the same budget as last year:

Next Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Recommended RH Budget

• Travel & Meetings	\$150
• Advertising	\$200
• Contracted Services/Speaker Stipend	\$800
• <u>Materials & Supplies</u>	<u>\$610</u>
Total	\$1,760

The motion was seconded by Earl Hatley and approved by a 4 to 0 vote.

3. **Food Forest Update:** Earl reported that there was a good turnout for the work outing and potluck on Friday, September 16th. The unhealthy/dying pear tree was replaced and work was done on the guilds. Matt noted that as things wind down, planning for the next phases will take place in the coming months. He suggested that the Food Forest Steering Committee set up a meeting in the coming weeks.
4. **Resilient Hartford Opening:** Matt reported that Leah Mosenthal has stepped down from RH creating two openings. Matt asked Carolyn if she plans to apply to serve on RH. She responded yes. She requested a commission application. Matt agreed to e-mail it to Carolyn. Laura Simon asked Kye if she would reach out to the Ratcliffe Park garden group since they had expressed an interest in the Food Forest.
5. **Announcements:**
 - a. Quechee Abenaki Garden: Earl reported that there were 40 volunteers for the Quechee Abenaki Garden inaugural planting at the far end of the polo field on Deweys Mills Road. He noted that the soil is in excellent condition, but the site does not have a water source. He did note that a neighbor has offered water from her property nearby.
 - b. Annual Chestnut Grower's Meeting: Kye reported that the annual Chestnut Grower's Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 16th in western Massachusetts. She plans to attend.
 - c. HEC Webinar on Carbon Footprint: Carolyn reported that the Energy Commission is sponsoring a webinar on carbon footprint on Wednesday, October 26th. Unfortunately, it is at the same time as the RH Meeting.
6. **Next Resilient Hartford Meeting:** Kye Cochran noted that the next regularly scheduled RH meeting is Wednesday, October 26th at 5:00 p.m.
7. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.