

**Approved Minutes of the
Resilient Hartford Meeting
March 27, 2024**

Resilient Hartford Members Present:, Earl Hatley (4/4/25), Kyle Katz (10/30/26), Michaela Lavelle (6/27/26) and Laura Simon (1/8/27)

Resilient Hartford Liaison Members Present: Selectboard Liaison Ida Griesemer.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

Others Present: None.

A hybrid Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 27th. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. Matt Osborn announced that Dylan Kreis contacted him to say he is unable to attend the meeting since he was called in to work to cover for another employee.

1. **Introductions:** Matt welcomed new Selectboard Liaison Ida Griesemer. He asked each RH member to introduce themselves and tell a little bit about themselves.
2. **Member Interests:** Matt suggested that each member talk about their interests in serving on RH. Matt started with an email that Dylan sent him.
 - Dylan would like to see RH focus on recruitment and seek fresh energy for the chair and vice-chair roles.
 - Kyle would like to work on the food forest and expand the riparian buffer as well as work on other resilience projects like the Hazard Mitigation Plan that needs to be updated in January, 2026. He also would like to work on public outreach.
 - Earl would like to work with John Moody and Emily Boles on their recommendations on trees and meadow seed mixes for the food forest.
 - Laura would like to continue working on the food forest and focus on common interests with other groups/organizations.
 - Michaela stated that with the food forest at the Wilder School falling through, she would like to investigate doing some type of garden at the Wilder Club and Library. She also offered to do a quarterly newsletter of information on RH and other groups with similar interests.
3. **RH Meeting Time:** Matt reported that Michaela started a new job and has to work until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. He asked if the meeting time could be pushed back to 6:30. Earl responded that that doesn't work for him since he has 6:30 p.m. meetings most weeknights. He prefers a 5:00 p.m. meeting time. Matt asked Michaela if she could make a 5:00 p.m. on another day of the week. She responded yes on Tuesdays. That would work for other RH members and RH considered meeting at 5:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Matt agreed to contact Dylan to see if it works for him.
4. **RH Meeting Minutes/Notes:** Matt noted that in the past six months, RH has had difficulty reaching a quorum for meetings. He stated that RH has continued to hold meetings and he takes notes without a quorum to keep everyone informed about updates. No actions can be taken without a quorum. Since we have a quorum this evening, he suggested that RH accept the meeting minutes of 8/30/23 and the meeting notes of 11/29/23, 1/3/24, 1/31/24 and 2/28/24. RH agreed. Kyle made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of 8/30/23 and the meeting notes of 11/29/23, 1/3/24, 1/31/24 and 2/28/24. The motion was seconded by Earl and approved 4 to 0.

5. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
6. **Fruit and Nut Tree Grant:** Matt reported that the Town was awarded \$990.00 from the Vermont Garden Network Fruit through the Vermont Fruit and Nut Tree Grant Program. Matt recognized Rachel Kent for preparing the application. Matt noted that all small grant applications require approval of the Town Manager and Finance Director. Matt reported that to apply for a small grant, he prepares a memo to the Town Manager and Finance Director requesting approval to apply. Both approved the submittal of the VF&NT grant application and the Town Manager signed the grant agreement. With the \$990 grant along with \$1,600 in RH funds, Matt stated that RH is in good shape to work on the next phase of the food forest.
7. **Food Forest Tree Species & Meadow Seed Mixes:** Earl Hatley reported that once the snow melts, he will be visiting Clifford Park with two experts John Moody and Emily Bowles to help with tree recommendations for Clifford Park including the riparian area. In the meantime, Matt asked if the working group could meet to discuss seed mixes for the meadow. Earl stated that he would like to get input for the seed mixes from his colleagues as well. RH agreed to hold off ordering the seed mixes until we hear back from Earl.
8. **Quechee Abenaki Garden:** Earl reported that they will continue installing fencing. The first workday will be in mid-April. They will lay the groundwork for the garden. Planting is expected by the end of May with sun chokes, ground cherries and tobacco. He stated that other workdays are being planned. A planting ceremony will be scheduled sometime around Memorial Day. Earl reported that QLLA hired a trapper to trap the beavers out of the marsh area. However, he was able to convince QLLA to try beaver management instead.
9. **RH Openings:** Matt reported that RH still has two openings.
10. **Announcements:**
 - a. Community Resilience Building: Matt reported that Hartford Sustainability Coordinator Dana Clawson is looking for a representative from RH to serve on the Community Resilience Building ad hoc Steering Committee that will be formed for the project. The Steering Committee will meet 5-6 times over the next 6-8 months. Kyle volunteered.
11. **Next RH Meeting:** Matt noted that the next RH meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 24th but he will confirm with Dylan Kreis if he is available the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.
12. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.
13. **Date RH Member Terms Expire:** Earl Hatley (4/4/25), Kyle Katz (10/30/26), Michaela Lavelle (6/27/26), Laura Simon (1/8/27) and chair Dylan Kreis (1/8/27).