

Resilient Hartford Meeting
Approved Minutes of June 25, 2024

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

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

Others Present: None.

A Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Tuesday, June 25th in Room 312 of the Hartford Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
2. **Fiscal Year Closeout:** Matt reported that the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year ends June 30th. To spend out the RH funds, he ordered a several tools for the Food Forest from Gardener's Supply utilizing our 25% discount. Last week, he went to Tractor Supply with Earl to look at water pumps but concluded they weren't appropriate for our needs. Matt met with Dylan Kreis to talk about water pumps. Dylan recommends a Honda water pump. Matt watched a video of the pump and thinks it will meet our needs. Dylan is putting together a list of the necessary accessories to go with the pump. Matt will then order the pump. He mentioned that he is looking into purchasing a commercial grade 10' x 10' canopy that RH and the Conservation Commission could share for events. RH liked the idea. Laura suggested purchasing a water dispenser to have at workdays. RH agreed.
3. **Food Forest Workdays:** Matt noted that back in April, the Food Forest subcommittee agreed to scheduling one weekday workday and one weekend workday a month. The weekend workday is scheduled for the third Sunday of the month from 2-5 p.m. Matt noted that at the last RH meeting, we couldn't agree on a regular weekday workday. Kyle suggested that we combine the RH Meeting and workday for Tuesday, July 23rd like we did in May. Others agreed. Laura noted that the 7/23 date is close to the regularly scheduled weekend workday on July 21st. It was agreed to hold the workday on 7/23 and cancel the 7/21 workday.
4. **Clifford Park Riparian Area Planning:** Matt reported that the April 29th site visit to Clifford Park with Earl, Emily Boles, John Moody, Karen Ganey and Rudi Rundell to look at the state of the riparian area came up with a list of recommended trees and shrubs to enhance the riparian area from future flood damage. Matt noted that the Parks and Recreation Department and the Parks and Recreation Commission have jurisdiction over the Park. He also thought that the Tree Board should be invited to the table as well. He suggested developing a subcommittee with representatives from each group as a way to move forward on the subject.
5. **Quechee Abenaki Garden:** Laura reported that 30-40% of the fencing has been installed and several items have been planted.
6. **Community Resilience Building in Hartford:** Kyle reported that the plan is to gather in September and host a community-based workshop in November.
7. **Resilience Hubs:** Michaela reported that the Upper Valley Resilience Network is working on generating interest in the recently established Hartford hub. Matt noted that the UVRN is focused on community food security. The project is managed by Vital Communities with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

8. RH Openings: Matt noted that RH now has three openings. He reported that he hasn't heard if the Hartford Community Coalition Block Party will be rescheduled. Michaela reported that she created a trifold for RH that could be used at the Block Party or other event. Laura noted that there was discussion at the Climate Action Steering Team about combining CAST and RH since they have similar interests. Matt suggested trying to recruit for RH in the coming months and see if we can find new members. RH agreed. Kye volunteered to have a RH information booth at the West Hartford Farmers Market in August. Michaela volunteered to make a flyer for RH and prepare a posting on the Hartford List Serv advertising the openings.

9. Announcements:

- a. Commission Stipends: Matt reported that the Selectboard appropriated funds in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget to pay volunteers for their service on Hartford boards and commission. Matt noted that the current RH Bylaws prohibit compensation. Matt stated that to receive compensation, RH would have to amend their bylaws. Laura noted that each member can choose to accept compensation or not and that it will be confidential. Matt agreed. Matt suggested presenting the bylaw amendment at the 7/23 meeting. RH agreed. Laura asked Matt to send out the bylaw language ahead of the meeting. Matt agreed.
- b. RH Website: Matt noted that changes have been made to the Town website. Since it has been a while since the RH webpage has been reviewed, we should look at it this fall and figure out we RH wants to post. RH agreed.

10. Next RH Meeting: Matt noted that the next RH meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 25th at 5:00 p.m. at Clifford Park and will be combined with a workday from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

12. 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).