

Resilient Hartford Meeting
Approved Minutes of March 25, 2025

Resilient Hartford Members Present: Earl Hatley, Michaela Lavelle, Sally Mansur, Laura Simon and Chair Kyle Katz.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

Others Present: James Coleman, Selectboard Liaison Ashley Andreas and Cici Andreas.

A Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 25th in Room 312 of the Hartford Town Hall. Chair Kyle Katz called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and proceeded to read the hybrid meeting script followed by roll call. Kyle welcomed new Selectboard Liaison Ashley Andreas and James Coleman to the meeting.

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
2. **RH Minutes of February 25, 2025:** Kyle asked if there are any changes to the draft minutes of 2/25/25 RH meeting. There were no corrections. Earl made a motion to approve the minutes of 2/25/25 as written. The motion was seconded by Sally and unanimously approved.
3. **Potential Collaboration with Creating Habitats for Pollinators:** Matt reported that David Hammond of Creating Habitats for Pollinators contacted him seeking partners in the Upper Valley to transform public spaces into native wildflower gardens. Matt noted that he contacted David in the fall seeking advice on the pollinator garden at the Clifford Park Food Forest. Matt said David was very helpful. Partnering could provide planting expertise, equipment and seeds. Kyle made a motion for RH to partner with the Upper Valley Pollinator group. The motion was seconded by Laura Simon and approved. James Coleman commented that it is a great idea.
4. **Food Forest Workday:** Kyle stated that there is agreement to hold the tree planting on Sunday, April 27th from 2-5 p.m. Matt reported that Rachel Kent agreed to create a poster of multiple events around Earth Day including the Food Forest workday.
5. **Vermont Fruit & Nut Tree Grant:** Matt reported that he ordered trees and shrubs for the 4/27 planting. The order included two Elderberry and two Juneberry shrubs, three American Hazelnut seedlings, three Black Walnut seedlings, six Butternut seedlings, two American Plum seedlings and six American Chestnut seedlings. Matt thanked Sally, Earl and Rachel for working to develop the planting list. He added that the purchases totaled \$792 leaving a balance of \$7.14 which Matt said would be spent on an eligible item. Matt noted that all but the Butternut seedlings will need to be picked up. Earl volunteered. Matt will let Earl know when the items can be picked up at two locations north of Montpelier.
6. **Clifford Park Riparian Area Planning:** Earl noted that we need a plan and suggested an RH planning session. Sally volunteered to meet Earl at Clifford Park. Earl volunteered to create a map of the planting locations. He stated that he would like to extend plantings beyond the Maple Trees which would require Parks and Recreation Department approval. Earl suggested setting up a meeting with them once we have a plan in place.
7. **Food Forest Signage:** Kyle reported that he took measurements of the kiosk at the Maanawaka Conservation Area and thinks it would be the right size for the Food Forest. Earl noted that he needs a sign for the Quechee Abenaki Garden and would like to check it out. Matt agreed to send

Earl information on the kiosk. Ashley noted that the Vermont Works for Women might be interested in building the kiosk. Laura volunteered to contact them.

8. **Seed Library:** Michaela noted that last year, the Quechee Library had a seed library. It requires physical space for the seed display. People can donate or receive seeds. Kyle suggested working with the Upper Valley Seed Savers. RH agreed. Michaela suggested reaching out to the other Hartford libraries to see if they are interested in participating. RH agreed. Michaela agreed to contact the other librarians.
9. **Quechee Abenaki Garden:** Earl reported that there is an upcoming Board meeting to finalize plans for the Saturday, April 26th workday scheduled for 10:00 a.m. He noted that the QLLA Board approved having a Food Forest at the Abenaki Garden site, approved a water catchment system and allowed children to participate in workdays. He stated that they are looking for a summer intern to take care of the Abenaki Garden.
10. **Community Resilience Building in Hartford:** Matt reported that the Community Resilience Building report for Hartford is undergoing final editing. Once completed, Matt will email RH a pdf file of the Report.
11. **Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Matt reported that the Town is still waiting to hear back from the Vermont Emergency Services Department if the grant to update the HM Plan was awarded. Kyle volunteered to look into it.
12. **RH Openings:** Kyle noted that there are two openings on RH. He stated that he hopes that James Coleman will apply. Ashley Andreas offered to promote the openings on social media. Matt agreed to send Ashley information about RH.
13. **Environmental Stewardship Mix & Mingle:** Kyle reported that there was a good turnout at the Conservation Commission sponsored Mix & Mingle event. He noted that Earl did an excellent job presenting about RH, the Food Forest and Quechee Abenaki Garden. Matt noted that the Conservation Commission is likely to make this an annual event.
14. **Announcements/Events:** Kyle reported on the following upcoming events:
 - a. Apple Corps Hazlewood Food Forest Event: Saturday, April 19th, Apple Corps is sponsoring an event at the Hazlewood Food Forest on Latham Works Lane.
 - b. Quechee Abenaki Garden Workday: Saturday, April 26th at 10:00 a.m.
 - c. Clifford Park Food Forest Workday: Sunday, April 27th 2-5 p.m.
 - d. Green-Up Day: Saturday, May 3rd. 8:30-Noon Town Hall and Quechee Green.
15. **Next RH Meeting:** Kyle noted that the next RH meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22nd.
16. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.
17. **Date RH Member Terms Expire:** Earl Hatley (4/4/25), Michaela Lavelle (6/27/26), Sally Mansur (9/16/27) Laura Simon (1/8/27) and chair Kyle Katz (10/30/26).