

Resilient Hartford Meeting
Approved Meeting Notes of April 22, 2025

Resilient Hartford Members Present: Michaela Lavelle, Sally Mansur and Chair Kyle Katz.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

Others Present: None.

A Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 22nd in Room 312 of the Hartford Town Hall. Chair Kyle Katz called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
2. **Vermont Fruit & Nut Tree Grant:** Matt reported that he ordered trees and shrubs for the 4/27 planting. He stated that he will spend the remainder of the grant on compost.
3. **Food Forest Workday:** Kyle stated that the workday/tree planting is scheduled for Sunday, April 27th from 2-5 p.m. Kyle reported that on Friday, April 25th, he will drive to East Hill Tree Farm in Plainfield, Vermont and the Elmore Roots Nursery in Wolcott to pick up the trees and shrubs for the workday. Sally reported that she developed the list of plantings and the planting requirements. Matt distributed the handout. Sally noted that Butternut trees grow to be very large and need plenty of space between other trees. They also need to be kept away from the Black Walnuts due to toxicity. Kyle suggested bringing a long tape measure to measure the space before planting. Matt agreed to bring a tape measure.
4. **Clifford Park Riparian Area Planning:** Sally reported that she met with Earl at Clifford Park to look at planting locations. Earl agreed to develop a map. Matt noted that we need to meet with Parks and Recreation Department Director Scott Hausler to get his approval of the proposed tree locations. Sally noted that she is available to meet Friday morning. Matt agreed to contact Scott Hausler to set up the meeting.
5. **Food Forest Signage:** Matt reported that Laura Simon contacted the Vermont Works for Women about constructing the kiosk and they agreed to take on the project but RH will have to pay for materials. Matt noted that the Oak Hill Outdoor Center has a kiosk design that is smaller than the Maanawaka Conservation Area kiosk that might be easier to construct and maintain. He offered to take measurements of it. He said that once design is agreed on, a materials list will be developed and submitted to Foggs for a quote for materials.
6. **Seed Library:** Michaela reported that she contacted the other Hartford librarians about participating in a seed library. All agreed to participate. She noted that the Hartford Village Library already has one but would be happy to collaborate with RH. Kyle stated that the next step is to talk with Ruth Fleishman and Earl Hatley.
7. **Quechee Abenaki Garden:** Kyle noted that the workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
8. **Community Resilience Building in Hartford:** Matt reported that an executive summary was prepared for the Community Resilience Building Report. It is currently undergoing editing. Also, there is a review of recommended strategies. Matt hopes that the Report will be ready for distribution in May.

- 9. Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Matt reported that the Town received word that the grant program was eliminated by the new administration. Kyle reported that Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) is looking for another source of funding. In the meantime, we can update the Plan as best as we can while waiting for VEM guidance. Matt noted that the current Plan expires February 1, 2026. Kyle thinks that we can use some of the strategies in the Community Resilience Building Report. Kyle suggested that RH begin work on the update this fall given the current workload at the Food Forest over the next few months. RH agreed.
- 10. RH Openings:** Kyle noted that there are two openings on RH. Michaela suggested talking to an Upper Valley Food Co-op Board member about people who might be interested in RH given that their mission aligns with RH's mission. RH agreed.
- 11. Grow & Save Event at Cedar Circle Farm:** Kyle reported that there was a good turnout at the Grow and Save event with a great presentation. He said it was nice to collaborate with them.
- 12. Announcements/Events:** Kyle reported on the following upcoming events:
- a. Quechee Abenaki Garden Workday: Saturday, April 26th at 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 - b. Apple Corps Hazlewood Food Forest Event: Saturday, April 26th, 2-5 p.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.
 - e. Resilient Vermont Conference at Norwich University: Friday, September 12th
- 13. Next RH Meeting:** Kyle noted that the next RH meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 27th.
- 14. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.
- 15. 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).