

**Approved Minutes of the
Community Resilience Organization Hartford
October 26, 2016**

Members Present: Jon Bouton, Kye Cochran, Laura Simon and Chair Dylan Kreis.

Staff Present: Planner Matt Osborn.

Others Present: Kevin Leveret.

A Community Resilience Organization Hartford (CROH) Meeting was held at the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, WRJ, Vermont, on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 in Meeting Room 2. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. Kevin Leveret introduced himself and noted that he attended some of the Resilience Week workshops. Dylan Kreis gave an overview of the Committee's work.

1. **Review of the September 28th CROH Meeting Minutes:** Dylan Kreis asked if there were any changes or corrections regarding the Draft Minutes of the September 28th CROH Meeting. There were no corrections. Dylan stated that the minutes are accepted as written.
2. **CRO Vermont Quarterly Conference Call:** Matt Osborn reported that he participated in the CRO Vermont quarterly conference call yesterday. He stated that Hartford's Resilience Week was well-received and Peg Elmer Hough requested a written summary of the week's events. Matt distributed his response. He also reported on CRO Vermont projects that he thinks might be of interest to CROH. They include the following:
 - Plainfield hosted a Preparedness Party at the Fire Station.
 - Waterbury blended their CRO with the Floodplain Management Working Group.
 - Waterbury received approval of their Community Rating System (CRS) designation from FEMA with assistance from the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) that qualifies Waterbury for reduced flood insurance premiums. Matt noted that Waterbury Planner Steve Lotspeich offered to walk us through the process if we are interested in pursuing.
 - Waterbury is heading into Phase II of river corridor mapping with assistance from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the town.
 - Waterbury is working with the Vermont River Conservancy and the Nature Conservancy on a pilot project to conserve floodplain land.
 - Waterbury held an Anniversary Celebration of their Irene Recovery on August 28th. The *Waterbury Record* created a special issue on flood recovery, including a "Thank You for Floodplains" article written by the consultant firm Milone & MacBroom.
 - Royalton/Bethel hosted the White River Festival on the 5th anniversary of the Irene Flood. There were exhibits aimed at individual preparedness and the Royalton Fire Department demonstrated swift water rescue skills. Peg noted that it was not difficult to raise local funds for the event. Kye Cochran reported that she attended the event.
 - Jeffersonville blended their CRO with the Floodplain Advisory Group. Working with adjacent communities, they received a High Meadows Fund grant to do watershed research.
 - Greensboro, a new CRO, wants to be connected with the Vermont CRO group.

- Due to a lack of funding, CRO will piggy back with other events such as the Resilience Vermont conference at Norwich University in May.
- The Assessment Tool should be ready for Beta testing next week.

- 3. Access to Resilience Week Powerpoint Presentations & Videos:** Laura Simon reported that CATV is nearing completion of the video editing of the presentations which included incorporating the powerpoint presentations. She suggested that next year, we should tap volunteers early to complete editing sooner. Dylan Kreis asked about the powerpoint presentations. Laura responded that we should wait until CATV has completed the editing. Once the editing is finished, Jon Bouton suggested making it available to the public utilizing several different means. The Committee agreed. Kye Cochran suggested showcasing the videos at an event.
- 4. CROH Governance:** Dylan Kreis stated that originally, CRO was to have a rotating chair. The Committee agreed that Dylan is doing a fine job as chair and would like to see him continue. Dylan agreed to continue to serve as chair. Matt Osborn suggested consideration of expanding membership of CROH since it is a small committee. The Committee agreed to consider it. Dylan suggested thinking about residents who don't serve on other committees, such as a high school student. The Committee agreed. Laura Simon offered to prepare a write-up for the school describing CROH. Jon Bouton volunteered to meet with school officials and/or the student council.
- 5. CROH Next Steps:** Dylan Kreis noted that CROH has been working on developing partnerships. Matt Osborn noted that CROH has partnered with the Red Cross, Hartford Community Coalition and Transition Town. He also noted that Ann Goodwin of Upper Valley Strong will be attending the 11/30 CROH Meeting to discuss common interests. Dylan suggested continuing to work on partnerships. The Committee agreed. Laura Simon suggested sending CROH information to targeted groups. Dylan suggested going to the organizations. The Committee agreed.

Matt Osborn noted that Lori Hirshfield has requested meeting with CROH in November or December to talk about CROH and the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Dylan Kreis suggested that CROH take another look at the Plan, particularly the strategies/implementation measures at the end of the Plan.

Dylan Kreis expressed an interest in assembling a team of Hartford staff and CROH members to participate in the CRO Assessment Tool beta testing.

- 6. Adapting to Climate Change:** Laura Simon reported that she attended the public forum on climate change adaptation last night at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. The event was sponsored by the Upper Valley Adaptation Working Group. She stated that they showed an excellent video that she would like CROH to watch. Laura will find the link and share with CROH.
- 7. Next Meeting:** Matt Osborn noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 30th at 4:30 p.m.
- 8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.