

**Approved Minutes of the
Community Resilience Organization Hartford
March 23, 2016**

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

Staff Present: Emergency Services Captain Shawn Hannux and Planner Matt Osborn.

Others Present: Simon Dennis.

A Community Resilience Organization Hartford (CROH) Meeting was held at the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, WRJ, Vermont, on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 in Meeting Room 2. Chair Dylan Kreis called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Shawn Hannux announced that he is filling in for Scott Cooney. Town Health Officer Brett Mayfair was present to introduce himself to the Committee. He stated that he wanted to inform the Committee of the Earth Day event scheduled from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 22nd at Lyman Point Park that will feature a band and a tree planting. Dylan suggested that Brett attend an upcoming meeting with the Committee to find out more about what Brett's work entails. He thanked Brett for stopping by.

- 1. Review of the February 24, 2016 CRO Meeting Minutes:** Dylan Kreis asked if there are any changes or additions to the Draft Meeting Minutes of February 24th. Since there are no corrections or additions, Dylan stated that the minutes are accepted as written.
- 2. CROH Mission Statement, Objectives & Actions:** Jon Bouton suggested noting the Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan in the mission statement. Dylan Kreis responded that he views the Hazard Mitigation Plan as the CROH's playbook, but it doesn't have to be included in the mission statement. He views the mission statement as bringing people together. Dylan expressed concern that we should be focusing CROH's energy on the Hazard Awareness Week preparations since there is much work to be done. Matt Osborn responded that it important to complete the mission statement and objectives to convey to the public what we are trying to accomplish. Simon Dennis agreed stating that it is a brief document that articulates what CROH will be working on in the next 6-12 months. Jon and Matt volunteered to fine-tune the language. Simon will e-mail Matt his thoughts on it. Shawn Hannux stated that the Emergency Services Department does a lot of work on strategic plans and that the task doesn't have to be elaborate. He recommends identifying some items and setting dates that you hope to accomplish it by. He also stated that it can be revised year-to-year. The Committee agreed.
- 3. Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Kye Cochran stated that most of the recommendations in the Hazard Mitigation Plan are beyond the capabilities of the CROH and require staff, the Planning Commission and/or the Selectboard. However, she noted that there are several items that address information and awareness. Dylan Kreis agreed. He stated that Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies conducting a Hazard Awareness Week and he thinks that is enough for the CROH to take on at this time. The Committee agreed.

4. Hazard Awareness Week: Dylan Kreis stated that the Committee has a lot of work to do planning the Hazard Awareness Week August 22-27. Simon Dennis agreed. Dylan noted that FEMA doesn't have funding for events and suggested seeking sponsors. Simon suggested seeking funding from foundations. Shawn Hannux volunteered to talk to the Firefighter's Union about possible funds for the event. Kye Cochran suggested daily workshops with a theme. Dylan stated that he talked to Rebecca Stone about the work of Bethel University, a grass roots population-up university that offers free courses. Matt Osborn distributed information from Bethel U. program. The Committee agreed that the course offerings are impressive and the materials look really nice. Laura Simon suggested focusing on a few really good workshops targeted for specific groups such as seniors or school children. Simon suggested a notice to the Hartford List Serv asking people what they might be interested in teaching. Shawn agreed and suggested community brainstorming and have CROH filter. Simon stated that re-skilling, a movement toward greater self-sufficiency utilizing pragmatic skills of the past, is popular today as a way to be more resilient in the future. Dylan agreed that several workshops should address hands-on skills. Shawn stated that the Emergency Services Department has the resources and is willing to teach courses.

Laura Simon suggested developing a timeline for Hazard Awareness Week. The Committee agreed. Dylan Kreis volunteered to develop a statement of purpose for the event. There was discussion about possible partners including the Red Cross, Transition Town, Upper Valley Strong and the Hartford Emergency Services Department. Kye Cochran suggested coming up with a name for the event. Matt Osborn agreed and noted that there seems to be confusion as to the meaning of the name Community Resilience Organization. He suggested something that is clearer. Dylan suggested that the Committee think about sponsorships. Laura volunteered to contact the Bugbee Senior Center and libraries about meeting space the week of 8/22. Matt volunteered to reserve meeting rooms in the Town Hall that week. Kye volunteered to work on a logo for the event. Simon stated that once we have a name for the event, a statement of purpose and a logo, we will be off and running. The Committee agreed.

- 5. Resilient Vermont Conference:** Matt Osborn reported that the Resilient Vermont Conference is scheduled for May 19th & 20th in Northfield. The second day will serve as the CRO retreat. Matt stated that if there is interest in spending the night, staff can look into lodging.
- 6. Next Meeting:** Dylan Kreis reported that the next regularly scheduled CROH meeting is Wednesday, April 27th. With so much planning needed for the Hazard Awareness Week events, he suggested meeting in two weeks. The Committee agreed to meet on Wednesday, April 6th at 4:30 p.m.
- 7. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.