

**Draft Meeting Notes of the  
Resilient Hartford Meeting  
January 31, 2024**

**Resilient Hartford Members Present:** Kyle Katz (10/30/26).

**Resilient Hartford Liaison Members Present:** Selectboard Liaison Ally Tufenkjian.

**Staff Present:** Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

**Others Present:** Rachel Kent of Apple Corps.

A hybrid Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. Matt Osborn announced that Dylan Kreis and Earl Hatley contacted him to say they are unable to attend the meeting. He noted that there is not a quorum but suggested discussing a few items. Everyone agreed.

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
2. **Food Forest Update:** Rachel Kent reported that she took the powerpoint presentation that Matt put together for the December 5<sup>th</sup> community discussion on the Food Forest and made a video that could be posted on the Food Forest website, Facebook and the libraries. Others liked the idea. Rachel will work on editing the video and then distribute it to RH members and the Food Forest planning subcommittee. Matt suggested sending it out blind copy so RH members don't reply all and then it would become a discussion outside a warned meeting that is in violation of the Vermont Open Meeting Law.
3. **Lack of a RH Quorum:** Matt noted that in recent months, RH has struggled to have a quorum. There was discussion. Matt noted that some members email him when they are unable to attend while others do not let him know. Ally suggested asking members to email Matt when they are unable to attend. It was suggested to see if the regular meeting time still works for folks. It was agreed that Matt send out an email to RH members with a poll of meeting times. Matt agreed.
4. **Fruit and Nut Tree Grant:** Rachel Kent reported that the Vermont Garden Network and the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry are sponsoring a fruit and nut tree grant program. The grant program's goal is to increase public access to fruit and nut trees and to develop and share success stories and best practices. Rachel thinks the grant is a good fit for the Food Forest project. The maximum grant award is \$1,200 and the grant application deadline is Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Rachel volunteered to write the grant application. Matt noted that commission members and volunteers can contribute to a grant application but a Town staff member must be the one to submit the grant application and oversee the grant if awarded. He added that that historically, small grant applications require approval of the Finance Director and Town Manager but have not required Selectboard approval. Ally will talk to Town Manager John Haverstock to see if he agrees with that approach.
5. **Next RH Meeting:** Matt noted that the next RH meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.
6. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.
7. **Date RH Member Terms Expire:** Laura Simon (1/8/27). Carolyn Hooper (10/17/25) Earl Hatley (4/4/25), Michaela Lavelle (6/27/26), Kyle Katz (10/30/26) and chair Dylan Kreis (1/8/27).