

**Approved Minutes of
Resilient Hartford: A Community Resilience Organization
April 28, 2021**

Members Present: Marsha Autilio, Marcia Gauvin, Frederica Graham, Dylan Kreis, Leah Mosenthal, Laura Simon and Chair Kye Cochran.

Liaison Members Present: Lynn Bohi, Energy Commission, Jon Bouton, Conservation Commission and Ally Tufenkjian, Selectboard.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

Others Present: Cat Buxton.

A remote meeting of Resilient Hartford in compliance with the Vermont Open Meeting Law was held on Wednesday, April 28, 2021. Chair Kye Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the “Act 92 remote public meeting script”.

1. **Changes to the Agenda:** Kye Cochran asked if there are any changes to the agenda. There were none.
2. **Minutes of the March 24, 2021 Resilient Hartford Meeting:** Kye Cochran asked if there are any changes to the draft minutes of March 24th. There were none. The minutes were accepted as written by unanimous consent.
3. **Alternative Uses to Town Parks (Clifford Park Food Forest):** Kye Cochran noted that the Town will contract with two consultants, Cat Buxton of Food Systems Consulting and Karen Ganey of Permaculture Solutions for the project. Kye stated that she has known Cat and Karen for many years and has worked with them on several projects. Kye stated that Cat is a compost and soil health expert and is an excellent speaker. Kye said that she is delighted to have the opportunity to work with Cat and Karen again. She introduced Cat to Resilient Hartford. Cat noted that the insurance forms have been submitted to the Town and we are near completion of a contract that will include planning and design for the Clifford Park Food Forest with an anticipated fall planting.

Cat noted that the community meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 12th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. She has a Zoom account and offered to host the meeting. Matt Osborn responded that Zoom can be used as long as the meeting is noticed 48 hours in advance and the public can access the meeting. Ally Tufenkjian recommends using Zoom over MS Teams since there seems to be fewer difficulties for users.

Cat noted that the community meeting will be followed by three workshops on soil health, planting design and the planting process to be held in May and June. Cat also wants to work with a Steering Committee to help shape the project and generate interest and enthusiasm for the project.

It was agreed to schedule a Food Production Committee meeting to prepare for the 5/12 community and develop an agenda. Cat agreed to attend. Kye noted that a draft agenda was developed by the Food Production Committee. She agreed to e-mail it to Cat and Karen. It was agreed to meet on Thursday, May 6th at 5:00 p.m.

Marsh Autilio noted that to implement the plan for the food forest, Resilient Hartford will need more funding. Cat responded that she has a list of funders that she will share with us. Marsha offered to help with writing grant applications.

Frederica Graham noted that there is a lot of work to do in the coming months for this project and the three-person Food Production Committee needs help. Dylan Kreis suggested that the Committee develop a task list to share with Resilient Hartford members and liaisons. Resilient Hartford agreed.

Matt Osborn agreed to send out an e-mail to the park survey respondents list, a mailing to neighbors of Clifford Park, postings on the Town website, Valley News Calendar and the Hartford List Serve. Dylan Kreis suggested using the Parks and Recreation Department Constant Contact weekly Thursday postings.

Dylan stated that this has been a pet project of his for a long time. He is pleased it is coming together and appreciates the effort to make it happen. Kye thanked Dylan for developing the idea of alternative uses for park lawns. Resilient Hartford agreed.

4. **Climate Action Plan (CAP):** Laura Simon reported that the Climate Action Team (CAT) has been participating in three-hour workshops to develop strategies and actions for the CAP. The CAT is presently prioritizing strategies and actions and identifying partners. She noted that CAP Steering Committee members pick three working group topics from a list of eight. Laura stated that several categories have crossover with work that Resilient Hartford is doing. The first draft of the CAP is expected in mid-May.
5. **Announcements:**
 - a. **Green-Up Day:** Matt Osborn reported that Saturday, May 1st is Green-Up Day. Green-Up Bags will be available at the Town Hall and Quechee Green from 8:30 a.m. to Noon. Bags are currently available outside the Town Hall and Quechee Library. Dumpsters are available at the Town Hall, Quechee Green and White River Subaru through Monday. He encouraged folks to sign up for a road section and help green-up Hartford.
6. **Next Meeting:** Kye Cochran noted that the next regular Resilient Hartford meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26th at 5:00 p.m.
7. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.