

**Approved Meeting Minutes of the
Resilient Hartford Meeting
July 26, 2023**

Resilient Hartford Members Present: Earl Hatley (4/4/25) Carolyn Hooper (10/17/25), Laura Simon (11/30/23) and vice-chair Dylan Kreis (11/30/23).

Resilient Hartford Liaison Members Present: Lynn Bohi (Energy Commission).

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

Others Present: None.

A hybrid Resilient Hartford Meeting was held on Wednesday, July 26th. Vice-chair Dylan Kreis called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m. He read the script for hybrid meetings followed by a roll call and introductions.

1. **Meeting Notes of June 28th:** Dylan asked if there were any comments regarding the meeting notes of the June 28th meeting. There were no corrections. Dylan stated that the minutes of 6/28 were approved as written by unanimous consent.
2. **Public Comments:** Dylan asked if there are any public comments. There were none.
3. **Food Forest Update:** Matt reported that the July 18th workday went well. He noted that Clifford Park and the Food Forest was flooded during the 7/10 flood, but it did not create much damage and the barn was not flooded. He stated that several soil samples were collected. They will be tested for possible contaminants from the flood. Matt read the following from Cat Buxton's report of the workday:
 - Talked about the Food Forest and Abenaki Garden future. There is more to talk about. The plan is to wait for the soil tests and then convene food foresters to attend the August 30th Resilient Hartford meeting where we can make decisions in a meeting format.
 - Collected soil samples which were sent to the UVM Extension.
 - Incorporated the weeds in the new (to be) nursery tree bed and sowed a cover crop there
 - Clipped a lot of flea bane and other tall weedy plants. Chop and drop.
 - Noticed a new species at the park: Blue vervain is popping up all over the field area that is no longer being mowed.
 - In our usual experimenting way, we cut down one side of the path of the large island of cover crop around the plum guilds. Chop and drop. We left the other half because there are many insects eating and pooping and pollinating there.

Matt noted that the next workday is scheduled for Tuesday, 8/15, 4-7 p.m. He also reported that Dartmouth sustainability students are coming out on 8/4, 4-6 p.n. and there will be a library friends event at the Park on 8/15, 4-7 p.m. Matt said he ordered the garden cart which should arrive in the next week or two. He also noted that a request was made to carry over fiscal year 2023 funds to purchase the water pump.

Matt reported the following items that Cat stated that still need to be undertaken at the Food Forest and Abenaki Garden:

- More cover crop clipping

- More tally weedy clipping (not vervain!)
- Weed whack the mulch plot behind the Abenaki Garden. Rake into a pile for composting.
- Remove two dead plums, replace with nut trees? We have chestnut, black walnut, burr oak on-hand.
- More clean (of snakeworm) perennials to plant. Does anyone have comfrey? Let's get a big patch going.
- Take elderberry cuttings and root them in a bucket in the barn (for riparian area)
- Get willow cutting and root those too (for riparian area)

Laura will contact Cat about watering requirements.

- 4. Quechee Abenaki Garden Update:** Earl reported that the Quechee Lakes Landowners Association (QLLA) and the QLLA Diversity Equity and Inclusion Council completed an agreement on the Quechee Abenaki Garden. They are currently working on an agreement between the QLLA Diversity Equity and the Quechee Water Association. Earl noted that the delays could result in the loss in grant funding for the project. He reported that the site wasn't flooded during the 7/10 flood.
- 5. Wilder School Food Forest Project:** Carolyn reported that there was nothing new to report on. The School Board is wary of any changes to any school grounds that might change maintenance routines. Carolyn will continue to work with Principal Heavisides on a revised proposal.
- 6. Resilient Hartford Opening:** Dylan reported that RH has one opening. He asked members to spread the word that we are looking for a member.
- 7. Announcements:** There were no announcements.
- 8. Next RH Meeting:** Dylan noted that the next RH meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30th. Since there will be discussion about the future of the Food Forest and Abenaki Garden, Dylan stated that the meeting will likely be longer than our normal meetings.
- 9. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.
- 10. Date RH Member Terms Expire:** Laura Simon (11/30/23). Carolyn Hooper (10/17/25) Earl Hatley (4/4/25), Michaela Lavelle (6/27/26), chair Kye Cochran (11/30/23) vice-chair Dylan Kreis (11/30/23),