

Hartford Ad-Hoc Committee on Emergency Shelter

8/05/21 Meeting Minutes - 5:00 PM

Committee Attendance: Becca White (Chair), Ally Tufenkjian (Vice Chair), Simon Dennis (Secretary), Michael Redmond, Tom Peltier

Community Attendance: Martha Hafner, Brett Mayfield

Becca called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM and called for amendments to the minutes of 7/22/21. There were none.

Becca White moved the passage of the 7/22/21 Minutes. Ally Tufenkjian seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Report out on Select Board and Town Manager updates

Ally Tufenkjian shared that she had recounted the holding pattern that HADCES was experiencing with changing RV regulations and submitting a proposal to the Planning Commission during Commission reports at the last Selectboard meeting. Selectboard members and the Town Manager did not ask many follow-up questions after her Selectboard report.

RV policy update

Becca White reported that with Tom Peltier's help and his provision of the national standards of RV regulations, she and Simon would be moving forward with an informal feedback meeting with the Planning Department on proposed language to change the RV regulations. This meeting should happen next week. After this meeting and receiving the Planning Department's feedback, Becca and Simon would formally put forward a proposal to the Planning Commission to change the regulations.

Simon Dennis offered more information on the "Telling My Story" performance happening Friday, August 6th, a collaboration between housed and unhoused community members, and encouraged Committee members, town officials and town staff to attend. He also mentioned that there may be some more advocacy efforts to support unhoused people coming up in August.

Subcommittee Updates

No updates from Subcommittees.

Brett Mayfield shared information about health inspections, emergency health orders and challenges with unsafe rental units in Hartford.

Tom Peltier shared that there are rental violations from both landlords and tenants in town. He expressed the importance of the RV camper vehicles being well-supervised and maintained to make sure they remain safe to live in over time. He also expressed the importance of giving campers the right education in regards to fire safety.

Michael Redmond reported that The Haven's staff members visit unhoused community members once every couple of weeks to check in on their safety and offer them supplies if needed.

Next Steps

Becca White and Simon Dennis will meet with the Planning Department for an informal feedback meeting on the RV policy.

Becca White and Ally Tufenkjian will consider whether or not to have an additional meeting with the Town Manager.

Ally Tufenkjian moved to adjourn the meeting. Michael Redmond Seconded. All were in favor and the Meeting adjourned at 5:48 PM.

Please note the new attendance link that will be in effect through September:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84153154638?pwd=a0hRS3hpd1dhbXAveDNqOU9hZ0lDZz09>

Taken by Ally Tufenkjian (Committee Vice-Chair), reviewed and submitted by Simon Dennis (Committee Secretary)