

**Draft Minutes of the
Resilient Hartford Meeting
December 1, 2021**

Resilient Hartford Members Present: Marsha Autilio, Marcia Gauvin, Leah Mosenthal and chair Kye Cochran.

Resilient Hartford Liaisons Members Present: Energy Commission Liaison Lynn Bohi and Planning Commission Liaison John Reid.

Others Present: Earl Hatley.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

A Resilient Hartford Meeting was held in Room 2 of the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction, Vermont. Chair Kye Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting also was accessible remotely and several folks joined the meeting that way. Kye read the script for hybrid meetings followed by a roll call of members and liaisons.

- 1. Resilient Hartford Minutes of October 27, 2021:** Kye Cochran asked if there are any changes to the draft minutes of October 27th. Marsha Autilio noted a correction. Since there were no other corrections, Kye stated that the minutes are accepted with the noted correction by unanimous consent.
- 2. Climate Action Plan Steering Committee:** John Reid reported that the Climate Action Plan (CAP) Steering Committee held an organizational meeting before Thanksgiving and began work on the Committee's charter and mission. The committee has six members and the focus is on implementation of the CAP and will submit recommendations to the Selectboard in the coming months. Hartford Sustainability Coordinator Dana Clawson staff's the CAP Steering Committee.
- 3. 2022 Resilient Hartford Meeting Schedule:** Matt Osborn presented a meeting schedule for 2022. He noted that all meetings are scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. Matt noted that most of the meetings will be in Room 312 with some being in Room 2. The meeting schedule was accepted.
- 4. Food Forest November 30th Tree Fencing:** Kye Cochran reported that there were seven volunteers for yesterday's site visit to protect the nine nut trees planted this fall. The three plum trees and their guilds had already been fenced. Jesse Marksohn donated four Plantra tree tubes which were installed. The remaining trees were protected by installing fencing. Kye noted that it was a productive and pleasant outing and she is enjoying getting to know all of the volunteers. Kye noted that Sally Mansur donated fencing and Ruth Fleishman and Kye donated stakes.
- 5. Food Forest Working Group Meeting:** Kye Cochran reported that the Food Forest Working Group met on November 10th. Ruth Fleishman volunteered to serve as chair of the Working Group. It was agreed that the chair serve a few months and then pass it on to another member. The Group agreed to invite folks to join the Food Forest Google Group and to look at creating a fund for the Food Forest where folks can make donations. Matt Osborn agreed to send out an e-mail to the larger e-mail list and to work with the Finance Department to set up an account.

6. **Food Forest Fundraising Committee:** Marsha Autilio reported that the Fundraising Committee has developed a list of possible funders and a description of the project. The next step is for the Working Group to develop a list of items needed for the next phase of the Food Forest so we can seek funding.
7. **Flood Regulations & the Food Forest Update:** Matt Osborn noted that for Phase 1 of the Food Forest planting, we were required to remove as much material (soils/compost/mulch) as we added for the planting in order to comply with the Town's Flood Hazard Area Regulations. Initially, we were intending to do extensive soil building by bringing in compost, mulch, cardboard etc. since the soil has very little organic matter. Matt noted that to do so would require involving an engineer and navigating the Flood Regulations. It would also require working with the State Regional Floodplain Administrator. Matt stated that he is planning to spend some time in the coming weeks to reach out to folks to try to navigate the Flood Regulations since Resilient Hartford is interested in creating additional food forests in other Hartford parks, many of which are also located in the Flood Hazard zone. Marcia Gauvin suggested seeing if other communities have had to deal with Flood Regulations for similar projects. John Reid suggested contacting the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission.
8. **Announcements:**
 - a. VECAN Conference: Energy Commission Liaison Lynn Bohi reported that the Vermont Climate Action Network Annual Conference will be held remotely and is scheduled for Saturday, December 4th from 8:30 – Noon with mid-day workshops mid-week. She noted that there are sessions on resilience. Matt Osborn added that Hartford Sustainability Coordinator Dana Clawson offered to cover the registration fee for any RH members attending.
 - b. Visit to Jesse Marksohn's Tree Farm: Kye Cochran reported that she visited Jesse Marksohn's Tree Farm on Neal Road and was impressed with his knowledge of nut trees. Jesse has offered to advise RH on tree selection and care.
9. **Next Resilient Hartford Meeting:** Kye Cochran noted that the next regularly scheduled RH meeting is Wednesday, December 22nd at 5:00 p.m.
10. **Adjournment:** Kye Cochran thanked everyone for attending. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.