

**Draft Minutes of  
Resilient Hartford: A Community Resilience Organization  
January 27, 2021**

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

**Liaison Members Present:** Lynn Bohi, Energy Commission, Jon Bouton, Conservation Commission and John Reid, Planning Commission.

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

**Others Present:** None.

A remote meeting of Resilient Hartford in compliance with the Vermont Open Meeting Law was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. Chair Kye Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the “Act 92 remote public meeting script”.

1. **Additions/Changes to the Agenda:** Kye Cochran asked if there are any additions/changes to the agenda. There were none.
3. **Minutes of the December 30, 2020 Resilient Hartford Meeting:** Kye Cochran asked if there are any changes to the draft minutes of December 30<sup>th</sup>. There were none. The minutes were accepted as written.
4. **Alternative Uses to Town Parks (Food Production):** Frederica Graham reported that she prepared a brief history of Clifford Park based on a conversation with West Hartford author and local historian Cameron Clifford. Frederica noted that the property was donated to the Town by Erwin Clifford in 1976. She read the history. Frederica reported that Cameron is writing a book on the history of West Hartford.

Kye Cochran reported that the Food Production Committee (Kye, Frederica, Marsha and Matt) met with Karen Ganey and Cat Buxton on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The meeting went well. Karen and Cat have formulated a proposal which was sent to us this afternoon. Matt Osborn went through the proposal and scope of work. He noted that the proposed scope of work is very ambitious and that it may have to be separated between what can be accomplished this year and in future years. The proposed budget is broken down into consulting fees (for Karen & Cat’s time) and supplies. The consulting fees come in close to the planning and available budget that Resilient Hartford currently has available for the project. The supplies budget is considerably more and includes a water system, engineer fees as well as compost, topsoil, wood chips and trees and shrubs. It would require additional funding through grants. Kye commented that she thinks we would have a good chance for funding from foundations. Matt also noted that Karen and Cat indicated that a water source other than the White River is needed. Matt stated that he will have to confer with the Parks and Recreation Department. Lynn Bohi noted that Hartford Garden Friends had access to a truck with a water tank. Marsha Autilio suggested starting with one section of the park. Jon Bouton noted that the project is heavily dependent on volunteers to plant and maintain the plantings. The proposal includes a community meeting in February or March and a second meeting in April. It also includes the formation of a community group to spearhead labor for planting and maintenance. As for next steps, Matt stated that he will confer with the Parks and Recreation Department and for the Food Production Committee to meet. The consensus was that it is a very good scope of work.

5. **Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Matt Osborn reported that the Selectboard adopted the Hazard Mitigation Plan last night. He noted that Resilient Hartford participated in the Plan update. The next step is to focus on the implementation measures in the Plan noting that Resilient Hartford needs to incorporate that into their work program. He suggested including it in a future Resilient Hartford meeting. The Committee agreed.
6. **Climate Action Plan:** Matt Osborn noted that Laura Simon, Jon Bouton and John Reid are participating on the Climate Action Plan Steering Committee. Jon reported that Ted Redmond of Pale Blue Dot has developed assessment information for Hartford and is in the process of fine-tuning recommendation for Hartford. He noted that six working groups covering eight major topics have been formed and a series of workshops will be taking place over the next several months culminating in a Climate Action Plan this summer. Laura Simon noted that a food and agriculture group was formed that is similar to Resilient Hartford.
7. **Announcements:**
  - a. Climate Change Leadership Academy: Matt Osborn reported that Vital Communities is accepting applications for the Climate Change Leadership Academy, a multi-week program. Applications are due February 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Resignation of Selectboard Alicia Barrows: Marsha Autilio reported that she was very concerned by the Valley News article stating that Selectboard member Alicia Barrows resigned due to harassment and racism. She suggested that Resilient Hartford prepare a written response. Matt Osborn stated that he recommends Resilient Hartford members express themselves individually rather than as a Town Committee since the topic doesn't relate to the work of Resilient Hartford. Resilient Hartford members disagreed. Since building community is a critical part of the work of Resilient Hartford, the Committee agreed to prepare a letter. Marsha volunteered to draft a letter and distribute to the Committee.
8. **Next Meeting:** Kye Cochran noted that the next regular Resilient Hartford meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.