

**Approved Minutes of  
Resilient Hartford: A Community Resilience Organization  
July 24, 2019**

**Members Present:** Kye Cochran, Frederica Graham, Dylan Kreis, Laura Simon, Jack Spicer and chair Paige Heverly.

**Liaison Members Present:** Jon Bouton, Conservation Commission, Niki Thran, Energy Commission, John Reid, Planning Commission and Simon Dennis, Selectboard.

**Staff Present:** None

**Others Present:**

A meeting of Resilient Hartford was held at the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction, Vermont on Wednesday, July 24, 2019 in Room 312. Chair Paige Heverly called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

- 1. Minutes of the June 26, 2019 Resilient Hartford Meeting:** Paige Heverly asked if there are any changes to the draft minutes of June 26<sup>th</sup>. Paige stated that the minutes have a misspelling of Niki Thran's name. Dylan Kreis added that a clarification, noting that he is also working with Prof. Richard Watts at UVM on alternative uses of the Town's parks. With those additions, Paige stated that the minutes are accepted.
- 2. Rain Garden Workshop:** Paige Heverly announced that the rain garden workshop has been postponed to either September 21<sup>st</sup> or October 5<sup>th</sup> due to ongoing issues with obtaining the necessary permits to build a rain garden near/behind the Town bandstand, and that Cat Buxton suggested an indoor presentation could be offered on a third date if neither of the alternative outdoor dates work. The consensus was that the event should be held outside because rain gardens are a "see it to believe it" kind of topic and that the event should take place on October 5 from 1-3 pm.
- 3. Hartford Community Day:** Dylan Kreis stated that he has been reaching out to folks in the community about hosting projects for Hartford Community Day, including Art Peale (who is likely too busy to host), Ken Parker (who may host a project at the Hartford Cemetery), and several others who he has not heard back from. All agreed that at least three projects should be undertaken. Dylan volunteered to host a project at Clifford Park, restoring the BBQ areas. Dylan noted that the Town has decided to go down a different route from hand pulling watermilfoil in Quechee. Paige suggested there should be an alternative project in Quechee, and Dylan stated that the gazebo on the Green should be repainted. Paige suggested that the community member spearheading the milfoil hand pulling, Ben Fletcher, be contacted to see if he is interested in leading the gazebo project. All agreed and Paige stated she would reach out to Ben to gauge his interest. John Reid volunteered to lead the gazebo project if Ben does not. Jon Bouton stated that he will lead a "trees" event at Maxfield. Dylan stated that he thinks he can get use of a town gator for Jon.

Paige asked for volunteers to lead a post-project luncheon. Kye Cochran stated that she was unable to help with that this year because she will be out of town up until the day of the event, though she suggested she may be able to offer the coop's freezer and will reach out to Strafford Creamery to see if they will provide ice cream. Dylan stated Lyman Park is reserved for another event that day and all agreed to reserve Frost Park instead. Dylan agreed to try to acquire the permits for Frost Park from noon to 2 pm. Paige stated that we have upwards of \$500 to spend on food. Jack Spicer agreed to organize the food for the event. Paige agreed to create a flier as well as listserv language. Kye and Laura Simon agreed to post in the Upper Valley Listserv. Paige will post on the Valley News

Calendar and stated that Matt Osborn has also agreed to post in the Valley News. Paige agreed to create volunteer lists. Dylan agreed to post with Constant Contact.

- 4. Potato Festival:** Kye Cochran and Paige Heverly reported that they focused last month on outreach to gain publicity and participants. Both also stated that the focus will shift in August towards promotion of the event for September 14<sup>th</sup>. Kye agreed to send the lists of participants she has drafted around to the group for additions, and noted the White River Junction has the lead in most participants. Kye stated that the village with the most participants will get a paper mache potato as well as books for the village library. Paige suggested additional prizes and categories of winners, such a golden (plastic) potato bug for the youngest and/or oldest participants. If White River Junction wins, all agreed that the Coop library or the Hartford Town Hall will be the host of the prizes. Laura Simon agreed to look for potato sacks and Niki Thran suggested there are many products online that reuse paper sacks that could be prizes. Kye agreed to continue tracking participants and, together with Paige, will create an “event guideline.” Paige stated that Matt Osborn has been acquiring the necessary permits. All agreed that additional leaders of the various tasks and projects for September 14<sup>th</sup> will be delegated at the August meeting.

Kye suggested that we bring a zero waste component to the festival and all agreed. Kye presented a worksheet created by Tim McCosker who is experienced in creating zero waste events and has volunteered to make Potato Festival such an event. All agreed to allow Tim to bring his ideas to the event. Kye agreed to reach out to Tim to see if he is on board and to reach out to Carol Langstaf to see if she has anything to contribute, such a plates or flat wear.

- 5. Extreme Event Game:** Paige Heverly noted that she has reached out to Rebecca Sanborn Stone to see if she is interested in bringing the extreme event game to Hartford. Rebecca has stated that she is interested in being a facilitator, but wants CROH to decide on event goals first (e.g. educational, town planning) as well as a structure, including follow-up. Paige suggested we keep it educational. All agreed that special invitations should go out to members of Town committee members, officers, and staff, but that the event should be all-inclusive. All agreed to have the event in early November and for the event to last 2 hours, with an additional 30-minute follow-up. Paige agreed to reach out to Rebecca about timing. Dylan Kreis suggested town staff could serve as resource advisors at the event.
- 6. Winter Projects:** Laura Simon suggested an event around sustainable gifts and products. Jon Bouton suggested not having an event in December but instead making a few media posts around Laura’s suggested topic/theme. Jon agreed to write some posts and to possibly promote Small Business Saturday for the Saturday following Thanksgiving. All agreed with Jon’s suggestion. For January, Laura noted that Edward Cameron has some availability and that she will reach out to him about his availability for the last week of January. John noted the Edward’s online videos are captivating and suggested that, if he is unable to speak in January, then we can have a video viewing party at a library followed by a discussion. Dylan Kreis suggested getting an idea list together.
- 7. Resilient Hartford Openings:** Paige Heverly noted that there is still one Resilient Hartford opening.
- 8. Next Meeting:** Paige Heverly noted that the next CROH meeting will be for Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
- 9. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.