

**Approved Minutes of the
Community Resilience Organization Hartford
March 28, 2018**

Members Present: Kye Cochran, Simon Dennis, John Reid, Laura Simon and chair Dylan Kreis.

Staff Present: Assistant Fire Chief Alan Beebe and Planner Matt Osborn.

Others Present: None.

A Community Resilience Organization Hartford (CROH) Meeting was held at the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction, Vermont on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 in Room 2. The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m.

1. **Minutes of the March 15, 2018 CROH Meeting:** Matt Osborn asked if there were any changes to the draft minutes of March 15th. There were no changes. The minutes were accepted.
2. **Monthly Workshops:** Simon Dennis went over the results of the survey to CROH members ranking the list of eighteen workshops. The following are the workshops that CROH agreed to work on in the coming months. Also included are the CROH members who have an interest in working on the workshop including inquiring about speakers:

<u>Workshop</u>	<u>CROH Member(s)</u>
• Neighborhood Resilient Groups	Dylan, Simon & Kye
• Disaster Preparedness	Alan
• How to developing a more secure food system	Kye & Laura
• Resilient Homesteads & Permaculture (Ben Falk)	Simon
• Community Storm Preparedness	Dylan
• Diversity & Inclusivity	John
• Hartford Resilient Seniors	Matt

There was discussion about the workshops. Laura Simon suggested showing the film “Tomorrow” which is an uplifting film about ways to make your community more resilient. Matt Osborn noted that the Hartford Energy Commission is interested in showing the film and suggested a joint effort. CROH agreed. Kye Cochran noted that Hartland resident Carol Stedman has had leadership training in solutions for climate change and would be a good speaker.

Simon Dennis noted that he is developing a resilient circles effort in his neighborhood. He suggested using CROH educational funds for resilience circles training for CROH. CROH agreed. Simon suggested Chuck Collins, a resilience writer from western Massachusetts and volunteered to contact him.

Dylan Kreis noted that we will continue the workshop discussion at the next CROH Meeting. He reminded CROH to do their homework for the meeting.

3. **Resilient Seniors Project:** Matt Osborn distributed agendas for the first two Resilient Senior meetings scheduled for the Bugbee Senior Center on April 23rd and May 17th. Antioch University New England Professor Jason Rhoades asked CROH to review the agendas. CROH did not have any comments. Jason also invited CROH members to the meetings, but emphasized that it is more important to him to have CROH participate later in the project when recommendations are being developed.

4. **CROH Budget Update:** Matt Osborn distributed a spreadsheet of the CROH budget for the first few fiscal years since CROH was formed. He noted that the CROH funds fall under the Department of Planning and Development Services budget. Each department head develops a budget for their department which then goes to the Town Manager who then presents a consolidated budget to the Selectboard. The budget is approved by the Selectboard then presented to the Town voters in March. Matt noted that CROH funds are part of the general fund and must be spent by the end of the fiscal year or be returned to the general fund. The fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. Matt reported that CROH funds were increased from \$460 in FY 17/18 to \$1,810 for FY 18/19 budget. Matt noted that presently, CROH needs to spend \$260 on continuing education and \$200 on educational materials before June 30th. He noted the annual spring CROH conference is scheduled for May and will likely have registration fees. Matt suggested thinking of ways to spend \$200 on educational materials. Simon Dennis suggested establishing a resilience library and talking to publisher Chelsea Green.

Matt also distributed a spreadsheet on CROH grant funds. These are kept in a reserve account in the Town Finance Department and can be carried over from one fiscal year to the next unlike the general fund.

5. **Hartford Town Plan Update:** Matt Osborn reported that the Hartford Town Plan is set to expire in May, 2019. Staff will be working with the Planning Commission and a Town Plan Steering Committee over the next year on the update. Matt noted that representatives from Hartford Commissions and Boards have been invited to participate on the Steering Committee. He stated that resilience covers a variety of topics in the Town Plan and it would be good to have representation from CROH on the Steering Committee. He asked for a volunteer. Dylan Kreis volunteered to serve on the Town Plan Steering Committee.
6. **Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** Matt Osborn reported that the Hartford Hazard Mitigation Plan is set to expire in June, 2019. Matt noted that the Plan developed by consultants Peg Elmer Hough and Sharon Murray was well done. He doesn't envision many changes except for revisions and updates to the strategies. He stated that staff will work with CROH on the update. Simon Dennis suggested that the Plan needs to address the increasing frequency and severity of storm events and the impact on infrastructure. Dylan Kreis and John Reid requested hard copies of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
7. **Next Meeting:** Dylan Kreis asked if an additional CROH meeting should be scheduled in April. There was consensus to try to stick to monthly meetings and be more efficient getting work done between meetings. Dylan noted that the next CROH meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25th at 4:30 p.m.
8. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.