CAST Meeting May 10, 2023

Present: John Reid (Planning Commission 2024), Carolyn Hooper (Resilient Hartford 2025), Laura Simon (Resilient Hartford 2024), Lee Michaelides (Conservation Commission 2025), Jesse Pollard (Hartford Energy Commission 2024); Dana Clawson, Staff

Approved the Minutes of the April 19, 2023 meeting. Passed a motion to approve amended minutes with attachments.

Dealing with Plastic Waste. John has been looking into what a group of NH towns and Norwich have been doing to reduce plastic waste which ends up in landfills or is not otherwise recycled. The committee suggested he find out what Casella does with plastic which is not recycled. Lee remembered a pamphlet Casella published which identifies what can be recycled. Laura has a contact in Norwich who is active in this area and offered to contact her. John plans to meet with Ben Kogan from Reusable Solutions in Woodstock. Increased recycling is one of the CAP strategies for waste management.

CAP Review: Need more information of goals that have been met or are in progress at the municipal level. Not much info for individual citizens yet) Lee will draft a pilot survey for use with citizens. Lee will also research payments to private owners for not cutting their forests. (This could be done in conjunction with the Conservation Commission.) Jesse raised the question about possible conflicts between the aspirations of the CAP and the limitations imposed by the Town Charter. As an example Jesse pointed out that Rutland can legally own a solar project itself. Hartford’s Charter doesn’t allow this. The Charter is coming up for review and this might be an opportunity to review climate-friendly changes. Discussion of this topic will continue at the June meeting

Notice of Meeting Change. CAST’s June Meeting will be held on June 7th at 5:00 PM.

Adjourned