

**Draft Minutes of
Resilient Hartford: A Community Resilience Organization
September 25, 2019**

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

Liaison Members Present: Jon Bouton, Conservation Commission and Niki Thran, Energy Commission.

Staff Present: Matt Osborn, Town Planner.

Others Present: Jim Armbruster.

A meeting of Resilient Hartford was held at the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction, Vermont on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 in Room 312. Chair Paige Heverly called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Introductions were made.

- 1. Additions/Changes to the Agenda:** Paige Heverly asked if there are any additions/changes to the agenda. There were no changes or additions.
- 2. Minutes of the August 28, 2019 Resilient Hartford Meeting:** Paige Heverly suggested a change to the minutes. CROH agreed. She asked if there are any other changes to the draft minutes of August 28th. Being no other changes, Paige stated that the minutes are accepted with the noted change.
- 3. Potato Festival:** Paige Heverly reported that Potato Fest was a success. Ninety-seven Hartford households signed up to grow potatoes and about 75 people attended Potato Fest even though it wasn't the best weather. Potato Fest was a zero-waste event thanks to the efforts of volunteer Tim McCosker. There was discussion about making Potato Fest an annual event and ways to draw in more people. Ideas included inviting other towns to participate, involving Willing Hands and having a sharing table. Paige noted that there is a need for such a refreshing event. CROH agreed.
- 4. CROH Budget:** Matt Osborn went through the budget process and presented the current CROH budget from the Town General Fund:

Fiscal Year 2019/2020

• Travel & Meetings	\$360
• Advertising	\$400
• Contracted Services/Speaker Stipend	\$500
• <u>Materials & Supplies</u>	<u>\$500</u>
Total	\$1,760

Matt noted that the CROH budget has been supplemented by grants. Currently, Community Resilience Organization has funded Potato Fest and Community Day. There was discussion. Kye Cochran made a motion to go forward with the same budget as last year. The motion was seconded by Jack Spicer and approved by a 5 to 0 vote.

- 5. Climate Emergency Declaration:** Matt Osborn reported that yesterday he attended a meeting to discuss the Climate Emergency Declaration with Simon Dennis, Erik Kraus, Jack Spicer and Geoff Martin. He noted that the Selectboard and School Board agreed to pursue a joint Declaration. Matt also noted that the issue will likely go before the voters at the March ballot. An ad hoc committee will be formed to work on the specific language. The Committee will have representatives from the

Planning Department, Resilient Hartford, Energy Commission, the Energy Coordinator as well as two School Board and two Selectboard members. Matt indicated that Jack Spicer will represent CROH on the Committee. CROH agreed.

6. **Extreme Event Game:** Paige Heverly reported that consultant Rebecca Sanborn Stone is available in November to bring the extreme event game to Hartford. There was a discussion about possible dates and venues in November. Matt Osborn agreed to follow-up with Rebecca Sanborn Stone about confirming a date and venue.
7. **Winter Workshops:** Paige Heverly reported that CROH needs to think about winter workshops. Kye Cochran noted that the Upper Valley Food Co-op is sponsoring a series of soil workshops. It was agreed that CROH will offer to be a joint sponsor for the soil workshops. CROH agreed to continue discussion about winter workshops at the October 23rd CROH meeting.
8. **5G Wireless Technology:** Frederica Graham reported that she has a great deal of concern about 5G wireless technology and that it is being developed without sufficient research to determine that it is safe. She stated that children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of wireless technology, but noted that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 prohibits state and local governments from regulating wireless technology based on the health effects. Frederica noted that she has been showing the film “Generation Zapped”. She stated that there are too many questions and not enough science. She also noted that the wireless technology can result in surveillance and an invasion of privacy. Frederica reported that 5G requires a great deal of infrastructure and some communities like Burlington, Massachusetts are regulating the wireless industry based on aesthetics.

Frederica noted that 5G technology is very expensive and that it may not be coming to the Upper Valley for several years since we are in a rural area. She noted that Selectboard chair Simon Dennis has expressed an interest in the topic.

9. **Resilient Hartford Openings:** Paige Heverly noted that there is still one Resilient Hartford opening.
10. **Next Meeting:** Paige Heverly noted that the next CROH meeting will be for Wednesday, October 23rd at 5:00 p.m.
11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.