

CAST Minutes November 2, 2022

Present: Dana Clawson, staff; John Reid (Planning Commission 2024), Laura Simon (Resilient Hartford 2023), Carolyn Hooper (Resilient Hartford 2025), Lee Michaelides (Conservation Commission 2025), JessePollard (Hartford Energy Commission 2024).

Minutes from October 22: Accepted

Public comments by Remington Nevin: Nevin had concerns about a possible Open Meeting Law violation regarding the status of CAST as a standing committee. John Reid responded that he believed that CAST is not in violation because CAST is not an official committee. It is a working group. Even so, CAST voluntarily follows the Open Meeting protocols. Dana reiterated that CAST is not a standing committee and is a working group of volunteers. None of the CAST volunteers have been formally appointed by the Selectboard. Nevin did not agree with this explanation. He stated he will file a formal complaint that CAST is violation of the Open Meeting Law with Dana and the Selectboard.

Window Dressing Program: The Wilder build begins November 2. There will be enough wood for 195 windows.

Volunteer Grant Writing: The departed town manager said that volunteers could write grants but the town would administer them. Dana said that until a new manager is appointed, we won't know if this approval will continue.

Neighborhood Bulk Purchasing: Idea is to go out and find preferred solar vendors. This could be part of a Solarize Hartford program. Laura proposed setting up meeting of stakeholders to move this ahead. Laura envisions a working group to assemble PR plan that contains a clear message about the promoting solar in town. Jesse said there won't be clarity about how the new law about solar incentives will apply until January.

Trail Blazers: The cost of Trail Blazer Training, which had been pegged at \$30K, is now free. The group asked for help with marketing and finding space to hold the training in Hartford. Training would begin in July or August. Hartford's monetary contribution would be about \$2,200. Dana will present to the SB on Nov 29.