



Hartford NEXT Minutes 9/21/2023

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86092621536?pwd=k7IPvqCXZ11wv1KKGBNgTrVJJtmzil.1>

Meeting ID: 860 9262 1536 Passcode: 752360

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm Board Meeting

Mission: A collective voice of Hartford residents and stakeholders working to strengthen and grow our community

Board Members Attending:

Marion Griffin, Chair	Bernadine Silvers, Chair Emeritus	Violette Haldane, Treasurer
Elizabeth Davis, Secretary	Bea Powell, Chair, Clay Arsenal	Mary Falvey, HPA, At-Large
Frank Sentner, SoDo NRZ	Randal Davis, City of Hartford	Jack Antonich, Associate Member
Lindsay Ewing, , WECA, NRZ	Mary Pelletier, WECA, NRZ	Janice Castle, City of Hartford
Emely Lugo, South End NRZ	Cindy Fenton, MARG NRZ	David MacDonald, ED, AHNA
Cheryl Zeiner, CSSCON NRZ	Sibongile Magubane, At-Large Member	Charles Teale, Northeast NRZ
Jean Holloway, Clay Arsenal NRZ	Henry Hester, Associate Member	Jackie McKinney, At-Large Member
Larry Williams , Upper Albany NRZ		

Board Members Not Attending:

Chris McArdle, President, CSSCON	Jeffrey Stewart, At-Large Member	Darlene Childs, Northeast NRZ
David Morin, President, Parkville	Eileen Noonan, SW&BTR NRZ	Keisha Dickenson, Chair, Upper Albany NRZ
Nikki Wright Blue Hills NRZ,		

Stakeholders:

Kyra Brown, Program Coordinator, Hartford Next	Aleena Durant, GOTV Coordinator, Hartford Next	Kim Gauthier, Administrative Assistant, Hartford Next

Time (est.)	Agenda Item	Facilitator Presenter	Purpose/Action	Activity/Essential Questions
6:00 pm	Welcome	Board Chair	Call to Order	
The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm. Chair Marion Griffin welcomed attendees and requested that Mary Falvey read the protocol for the meeting.				
6:00–6:05 pm	Meeting Protocol & Introductions	Mary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HNXT Board Meeting Protocol What should we know HNXT Purpose Review of Agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Practices for meeting participation Add Your Organization to your Zoom name HNXT Purpose
The meeting protocol was read by Mary Falvey.				

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6:05 – 6:15 pm	Board Business	Marion Marion Violette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of March, April and May Board Minutes • Election of Officers • Financial Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote on Board Minutes • HNXT & Fiscal Sponsorship
<p>Approval of the Minutes</p> <p>Marion called for a motion to approve the March Board meeting minutes. David MacDonald moved to accept the March meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Cheryl Zeiner. There were no questions or abstentions and the minutes were approved.</p> <p>Marion called for a motion to approve the April Board meeting minutes. Janice Castle moved to approve the April meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Bea Powell. Elizabeth Davis abstained from the vote because she was not at the April meeting. There were no questions and the minutes were approved.</p> <p>Marion called for a motion to approve the May Board meeting minutes. David MacDonald moved to approve the March meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Cheryl Zeiner. There were no questions or abstentions and the minutes were approved.</p> <p>Election of New Officers</p> <p>New officers to be elected to the board were Marion Griffin as Chair and Elizabeth Davis as Secretary. Marion called for a motion to elect the officers. Cheryl Zeiner made a motion to elect the officers and Randal Davis seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or nay votes. Officers were elected. The role of co-chair will be filled.</p> <p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>Violette Haldane gave the Treasurer’s Report. Funds are held in three accounts: TD Bank holds funds from the State of Connecticut, the Webster Bank Trust Account holds funds from the City of Hartford designated for the NRZs for Administrative support and Community Engagement (Balance of \$123,414), and Webster Bank holds funds for Hartford Next.. Violette explained that funds in the Webster Bank account are restricted and designated for specific uses, such as the Neighborhood Training Institute. Net income as of August 31, 2023 was \$21,655.30 Violette asked for volunteers to join the Finance Committee..</p>				
6:15 – 6:25 pm	Board Announcements	Marion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRZ Leader’s meeting – Tues Sept. 26, 2023 6:00 pm • Job and Volunteer Opportunities • HNXT Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If NRZ Chair is unable to attend, NRZ Exec Comm member or HNXT Rep should attend in their place • GOTV Opportunities • Need 1 - 2 volunteers to hang pictures
<p>Marion announced the upcoming NRZ Leader’s Meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2023. She reminded attendees to have at least one representative attend.</p> <p>Marion introduced the newest independent contractors to Hartford Next , Aleena Durant (Get Out the Vote) and Kyra Brown (Neighborhood Training Institute. Marion also asked attendees to pass along the opportunity for a paid intern for the Get Out The Vote initiative.</p> <p>Marion asked for volunteers to help decorate the Hartford Next office and hang pictures.</p> <p>Marion also shared information about upcoming lunchtime lectures given by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. October 27 – Creating a Business Model; October 18 – Grant Writing; November 8 – Being a Board Member; December 6 – Technology Fundamentals</p>				

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Time (est.)	Agenda Item	Facilitator Presenter	Purpose/Action	Activity/Essential Questions
6:25-6:35 pm	Introductions	Marion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HNXT GOTV Outreach Coordinator – Aleena Durant HNXT Program Coordinator – Kyra Brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the role? What has been accomplished? What is planned? What can Board members do? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the role? What is being planned? What can Board members do?
<p>Aleena Davis spoke about her background and gave an overview of her role in the Get Out the Vote initiative. She shared insights from her conversations about why people don't vote and the challenges of changing their minds and helping them feel more engaged. Charles Teale shared that voter turnout in Hartford for the Primary election was 18%. Frank Sentner also commented on the low voter turnout and talked briefly about Hartford Decides direction and goals.</p> <p>Kyra Brown shared the programs she worked on during her 20-years serving in the nonprofit space. Her goal is to build partnerships and develop programs that the residents want and need to make changes in their neighborhoods. Charles Teale remarked that often agencies listen but don't follow through.</p>				
6:35 – 7:00 pm	HNXT Board	Bernadine Marion	Overview of HNXT for New Board Members and Refresher for existing Board Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of HNXT Board Manual Review Board Committees
<p>Marion and Bernadine Silvers spoke about the purpose for Hartford Next. Bernadine gave some historical background about the organization's foundation and development. Hartford Next brings people to the decision-making table and helps individuals from different neighborhoods work together to improve their lives. There must be a partnership between residents and the city but the residents are key. The residents know what is happening in their neighborhoods. Bernadine stated, "we have part of the city we're responsible for and when we come together collectively we have all the city together." Hartford Next areas of focus are advocacy, community economic development, communication and education and helped build strategic partnerships across the city.</p>				
7:00 – 7:20 pm	NRZ Roundtable HNXT Updates	NRZ Reps Committee Report Chairs/Reps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform all of NRZs activities Encourage cross NRZ engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance Committee Communications & Marketing Committee Development Committee Development Committee Program Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is happening in your NRZ? What support does your NRZ need? How can we partner? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What has been accomplished? What needs to be done & by Whom? What are the next steps? What can you do?
<p>Marion led a roundtable discussion and asked NRZs to provide updates about activities and initiatives. Lindsay Ewing, WECA: NRZ officers will be elected in October. Kyle Bergquist is stepping down as president and they need to fill that position as well as Vice President. They are considering a return to in-person meetings.</p> <p>Bea Powell, Clay Arsenal: They continued to build their community by attending events and consistently holding their monthly meetings.</p>				

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David MacDonald, Asylum Hill: There is a Job Fair at St Francis on Sept. 28th; 16+ employers will attend. The 20th Annual Gala is on Oct 18th and is a fundraising event.

Charles Teal, Northeast: Northeast Neighborhood Development is focusing on Barbour Street. There has been no development since the 1968 riots. Park Street School is being demolished. Work is also underway on the path from Riverside Park to Windsor. The Big Mo will take place October 12th at the Old Fuller Brush Building. The Northeast NRZs Strategic Plan was approved. Ascend Pipeline received a grant from the US DOE.

Larry Williams: Members were signed up during the National Night Out event. The first meeting is Monday.

Frank Sentner, SoDo: The Progressive Dinner is on October 14th and is the first in-person activity since 2021. They are working on the strategic plan.

Cheryl Zeiner-Bernadine Silvers, CSSCON: The CSSCON NRZ and Frog Hollow do not want a dog park at South Green.

Elizabeth Davis, Hartford Public Library: Reminded attendees that a library card is a way to civically engage communities

7:20 - 7:28 pm	Follow up and Assessment	All	Continuous Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did we miss discussing today? • Does anything need to be documented and voted on? • How am I doing as a Board Member? • What went well? What did not go well? What needs to change?
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7:30 pm	Close			
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After the discussions, Marion Griffin thanked everyone for attending and called for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Frank Sentner and seconded by Janice Castle.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.



Objectives, Actions, & Decisions:			
Objectives	Action Steps	Accountability	Timeline
Outstanding Items			
Quality of Life Committee	Establishment of Committee, schedule meeting, determine objective	SW/BTR	???
Property Taxes/PILOT/.....	Establishment of Committee, schedule meeting, determine objective	SW/BTR – Chair Amilcar Hernandez	In Process???

VIRTUAL MEETING PROTOCOL

**Mute your audio until you are ready to speak
Add your NRZ or organization’s name after your name in
your Zoom window**

HARTFORD NEXT GROUND RULES

- 1. We come prepared.**
- 2. We think before we speak.**
- 3. We listen to each other.**
- 4. We share and respect diverse points of view.**
- 5. We don’t attack each other personally.**
- 6. We don’t shout.**
- 7. We stay for the whole meeting.**
- 8. We avoid side conversations in and outside of the meeting room.**
- 9. We are guided by the meeting chair or facilitator.**
- 10. We turn off our cell phones during the meeting.**
- 11. We keep our microphone on mute unless called upon to speak.**
- 12. We raise our virtual hand to be recognized to speak.**
- 13. We speak briefly and to the point.**
- 14. We do not make inflammatory statements or accusations.**
- 15. We work together to adhere to times noted on the agenda.**
- 16. We help each other to stay on topic and on agenda.**
- 17. We enjoy ourselves.**