

Just Transitions Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council

January 18, 2024 4:00 PM Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Kelly Klein, Abbey Willard, Paula Melton, Mona Tolba, Danielle Bombardier, Sophi Veltrop

Updates

4:00 PM

Welcome & Check In

- Reviewed agenda and accepted minutes from 11/16/23
- Additionally reviewed and accepted minutes from 9/7/23 hybrid meeting

4:10 PM

VCC, Climate Action Office and other subcommittee/task group updates

- Sophi offered updated on nomination process and JTSC membership status
 - o Current JTSC standing members (8): Kelly Klein, Abbey Willard, Paula Melton, Mona Tolba, Danielle Bombardier, Beverly Little Thunder, Denise Bailey, Anna Guenther
 - This subcommittee can have more members to encourage more diverse and underserved voices and perspectives
 - Setting maximum membership around 15 members
 - o JTSC co-chairs offered gap assessment for recruiting additional members: we should be looking for youth members, people who do not identify as female, a greater diversity of BIPOC community members, perhaps some additional geographic diversity, diversity of work experience (manufacturing, trades, retail, education, arts, homemaking, entrepreneurship, agriculture, non-profits, etc.), and people who have lived experience as a member of a marginalized community but also have a level of comfort and experience working as an advocate for their communities
 - We should look at current members geographic spread to determine gaps
 - o Nomination process aims to open on Monday 1/22/24
 - Please share locations and promotion ideas
 - JTSC members can share the nomination link
 - JTSC members can also nominate individuals
 - Mona has a suggested member
 - o VCC Steering Committee will make the final selection of new subcommittee members
 - We are unsure if eligibility requirements posted somewhere
 - SC members do have to be a VT resident
 - Need to be clear about compensation provided for various meeting attendance
- Updates from VCC and other meetings
 - o VCC met a few times last week
 - Biomass Task Group recommendations approved in December
 - Rural Resilience and Adaptation subcommittee prepared and shared a response letter to Speaker Krowinski,
 - CAO legislative update was approved
- Review subcommittee and task group liaison assignments and expectations

- Paula - Rural Resilience Adaptation SC
- Kelly - Steering Committee
- Abbey - Agriculture & Ecosystem SC
- Mona used to work with Community Engagement group
- Subcommittees without JT Liaisons: Cross-Sector Mitigation; Science & Data
- JTSC members are struggling with capacity to also attend other meetings
 - One option is to reduce # of JTSC meetings to create capacity to attend other SC or Task Group meetings
 - Question around what compensation is available if attending as liaison vs being an identified SC member

- 4:50 PM Plan for 1/29 in-person VT Climate Council meeting
- Want to hold SC accountable to the guiding principles and help them center equity
 - Hoping to share guiding principles
 - Ask VCC members what they need from us
 - Offer reminders and tools to achieve this
 - JTSC offer draft guiding principles user guide
 - Develop questions for VCC on how to make resource most useful
 - Lotus blossom exercise
 - Abbey can type up notes from exercise into document to share with JTSC and VCC

- 5:40 PM Public comment
- No members of the public present

- 5:50 PM What's Next
- 1/29 9:30-4:30 pm VCC meeting in Waterbury (with zoom option available)
 - JTSC meeting schedule
 - Other business

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