

**Vermont Climate Council Steering Committee Meeting
Sept. 29, 2021 – Minutes**

Location:	Zoom Virtual Meeting – Meeting was recorded and posted online .
Physical Location:	Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602 in Catamount Room NL D215
Steering Committee Members Present:	Chris Campany, Jared Duval, Julie Moore, Lauren Oates, Liz Miller, Susanne Young
Councilors and Co-Chairs Present:	Abbie Corse, Billy Coster, Erica Bornemann, Peter Walke, Johanna Miller
Staff Present:	David Plumb (CBI), Jane Lazorchak, Marian Wolz
Minutes by:	Marian Wolz

- 8:02 AM Welcome/Overview of Agenda/Approval of Minutes from [Sept 21, 2021](#)
Secretary Susanne Young, Agency of Administration & David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute
- September 21, 2021 minutes approved.
 - Request to add review of Oct 5th Vermont Climate Council agenda to the agenda for this Steering Committee meeting.
- 8:07 AM Climate Council meeting agenda for Oct 5, 2021
- Add agenda item on review of foundational criteria definitions for action prioritization process.
 - Move the agenda item on GHG Accounting from the Oct 5th agenda to the Oct 12th agenda and combine with carbon budget and recommendations from Agriculture and Ecosystems subcommittee.
 - For the foundational criteria definitions, Science & Data Subcommittee will work to refine definition for cost-effectiveness to align with prioritization needs of high, medium and low. All the definitions for foundational criteria and the accompanying prioritization process will be shared and posted along with the VCC Oct 5th agenda. This will also include links to the actions spreadsheet from the Cross-Sector Mitigation subcommittee.
 - Recommendation to have Cadmus present new information only and synthesis at the beginning of their presentation on the mitigation pathway technical analysis.
 - Recommendation to give the CSM transportation and buildings/thermal presentations more time on the Oct 5th agenda than the non-energy and electric presentations as those are the sectors that have more substantive emissions cuts to make.

- Recommendation to extend meeting time to 5:00 PM; meeting will now run from 1:30 PM-5:00 PM.

8:15 AM Climate Council meeting agenda for Oct 12, 2021
David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

Specific action needed by Steering Committee: Review and approve (with any needed revisions) [the agenda](#) for the Oct. 12, 2021 Council meeting:

- Recommendation to find a new Just Transitions Reflection for this meeting based on feedback from Councilors at the Sept 28th Council meeting. Due to the timeline, subcommittees will not be ready to reflect on their work with Kiah Morris on the equity screen at the Oct 12th meeting.
- Agenda will be clearer on which sections of the CAP will be available for review and comment for the full Council.
- Meeting will also include a review of the public engagement events, and broad takeaways from the past couple weeks of events.
- Group agreed by consensus to add GHG Inventory and Accounting to the Oct 12th agenda. This item also includes a review of the Carbon Budget and Agriculture and Ecosystems recommendations.

8:37 AM Decision-making protocol
David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

- Discussion of the process outlined in the [Vermont Climate Council Process Roadmap](#) that states, when consensus cannot be reached at the subcommittee, Councilors on the subcommittee will vote to bring issues up to the Council.
- Question raised around why any subcommittee members would not be able to vote to move items to the council, not just Council members.
- Question to clarify the role of Councilor designees that sit on subcommittees, and how their votes are counted.
- Consensus to update process roadmap to deal with two proceeding questions by reflecting that all subcommittee members will have an equal vote to elevate items to the full Council for review if consensus cannot be reached.
- Consensus was reached among Steering Committee members that the item that refers to tabling in the [decision-making document](#) should be removed. Agreement that it is always an option for Councilors to propose tabling an option, and that it does not need to be explicitly called out in the document.
- Agreement to approve that document for review by the Council, pending the changes noted.

- 8:40 AM Cross-cutting thematic group
Jane Lazorchak, Global Warming Solutions Act Director
- Due to timing, recommendation to move this update to the Oct 19th Steering Committing meeting agenda.
- 8:50 AM Special Meetings of the Climate Council 11/2 and 11/16
Jane Lazorchak, Global Warming Solutions Act Director
- Discussion on need for additional meetings in November.
 - Consensus to move to weekly meetings in November; new meeting calendar invites will be circulated to Councilors.
 - Recommendation to take the just transitions reflection time on future Council agendas to reflect on the work of Kiah Morris with the subcommittees on the equity scoring rubric for actions.
- 9:05 AM Public comment
- No public comment.
- 9:05 AM Adjourn

###