

**Vermont Climate Council Steering Committee Meeting
Oct 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 Meetings Present:	Chris Company, Jared Duval, Julie Moore, Lauren Oates, Liz Miller, Susanne Young,
Staff Present:	David Plumb (CBI), Jane Lazorchak, Marian Wolz
Minutes by:	Marian Wolz

3:04 PM Welcome/Overview of Agenda

David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

- [October 14 Minutes](#) approved as drafted

3:08 PM Confirm Climate Council Meetings and Process Through Dec. 1

Jane Lazorchak, Director - Global Warming Solutions Act

- Review of [November 2nd Climate Council meeting agenda](#) and the framework for review of Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee work at the November 2nd meeting.
- Meeting will include shortened presentations from subcommittees; a survey will be used to gather concerns from Council members prior to the meeting to get a sense of where Councilors think priority conversation needs to happen at the meeting.
- Steering Committee members provided feedback on the CSM survey for the November 2nd Climate Council meeting:
 - Include reminder there are specific actions under the strategies detailed under the items on the list. Ensure complimentary document of actions is linked in the survey.
 - Clarify in email header and survey that this survey is for the November 2nd Climate Council meeting.
- Discussion on what to do if agreement is not reached at the Climate Council on certain actions. Suggestion that the November 2nd meeting will be an opportunity to focus on those policies where the Council is on a path towards consensus.

3:30 PM Update on CAP outline, cross-cutting pathways conversations, implementation section of the CAP and description of funding in the CAP

Jane Lazorchak, Director - Global Warming Solutions Act

- Letter from Council for the Climate Action Plan to be written by Steering Committee. The draft letter should be posted for Council review on November 10th.
 - Steering Committee members Lauren Oates, Liz Miller, and Julie Moore volunteered to draft the letter on behalf of the Climate Council.
- Suggestion that an appendix on funding and financing options and use of the ARPA funds allocated to climate change initiatives will be developed and discussed during the month of December, to be shared with the Governor and the General Assembly prior to the Governor's budget address in January. Acknowledgement that this work will happen after the December 1st Climate Council meeting.
- Request to add an agenda item to a future Steering Committee meeting on how to determine funding amounts and priorities for the work of the Climate Council for FY23.
 - Clarification provided that per the GWSA, the Climate Council does not have a specific budget, rather the funding for Council operations is part of the Agency of Natural Resources' budget.
 - The Council should work on a budget request to the legislature that includes future work priorities for the Council in FY23, consistent with the Initial Climate Action Plan.

3:50 PM

Communication with the legislature around the Initial CAP

Julie Moore, Secretary ANR

- Discussion around how to approach requests from the legislature for testimony on the Initial Climate Action Plan.
- Agreement was reached on the following approach:
 - The starting place for testimony should be with Climate Councilors.
 - Any issues regarding general Council business should be referred to the Steering Committee.
 - For any testimony requests that are on specific or technical issues, co-chairs of the subcommittee that cover the issue in question will be the primary contacts.
 - Generally, all members, either of the Climate Council or subcommittees should ensure clarity and consistency regarding their role and involvement with the Vermont Climate Council when testifying.

4:00 PM

Other Business

- Congratulations was offered to Secretary Young on her pending retirement.
- Question was posed on Secretary Young's role as Chair of the Vermont Climate Council will be filled after her retirement.
- There is no update yet on the filling of the role of Chair; an update will be provided when a decision has been made.

4:04 PM Public Comment

- No public comment provided.

4:04 PM Adjourn

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