

**Vermont Climate Council Steering Committee Meeting**  
**August 15, 2022 – Minutes**

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Zoom Virtual Meeting – Meeting was recorded and [posted online](#)  
Steering Committee Members Present: Kristin Clouser, Jared Duval, Chris Campany, Julie Moore, Liz Miller, Lauren Oates  
Staff members present: Jane Lazorchak, Marian Wolz, David Plumb  
Minutes by: Marian Wolz

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3:03 PM     [August 15, 2022 minutes](#) approved as drafted.

- Steering Committee members approved the proposed [subcommittee membership](#) changes. Changes include appointment of Stella Fox to the Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee, appointment of Marian Wolz to the Rural Resilience & Adaptation Subcommittee, and replacement of Megan O’Toole with Collin Smythe as member and co-chair of the Science & Data Subcommittee.

3:05 AM     Staff reviewed the draft Council agenda for [October 17, 2022](#).

- Recommendation for the Just Transitions reflection agenda item to have AOT review its [Transportation Equity Framework project](#). Members agreed to keep this recommendation for a future Council meeting, perhaps at the December Council meeting.
- Question raised on the process of reviewing Biomass Task Group recommendations at the Council meeting prior to subcommittees being able to review. It was clarified that the agenda item at the Council meeting will be for the Council to provide feedback on process and content of draft conclusions. The final recommendations will be brought back for full Council consideration at the December Council meeting.
- Recommendation to revise **Specific action need by the Council** description to include a reference to providing comment on process:  
*“Provide feedback, captured in a shared set of notes, on the draft conclusions of the Biomass Task Group and the process to finalize those recommendations. The Council Vermont Climate Council will decide on how and whether to adopt these conclusions in a subsequent meeting.”*
- Members voiced support for keeping the draft JT Reflection item around reviewing the Justice 40 Initiative.
- Question raised from staff as to what outcome the Steering Committee hopes to see from the Council discussion of budget.
  - Steering Committee members agree there was a need to review subcommittee recommendations, find areas for cross-coherence across subcommittees, and establish a process to create one document with all recommendations to then forward to the Administration and Legislature.
  - Members of the Administration noted they will need to recuse themselves from the conversation around developing the budget memo, but clarified they will be able

to chime in where work is already happening in State Government regarding certain budget items, and will be able to be more involved in the conversation once the memo is finalized.

3:45 PM Staff provided a brief overview of the [Agency memo on Administrative Capacity for the Council](#)

- Steering Committee members expressed concern over the lack of structure and support provided to the Council, and how the Council and subcommittees should be directed to continue its work.
- Steering Committee members agreed more time is needed for that conversation, and a special meeting should be scheduled for that purpose.

3:59 PM Public Comment

- Annette Smith provided public comment:
  - Expressed concern about the lack of structure and process for task groups, subcommittees, and the Council to make recommendations.

4:00 PM Adjourn

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