

**Vermont Climate Council Steering Committee Meeting
November 5, 2021 – Minutes**

Join Zoom Virtual Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88584312783?pwd=WnNnVUtuK0YrdHpZM2UvT1h0cFJhQT09>

Meeting ID: 885 8431 2783

Passcode: 129183

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kdMBIdCq9F>

Physical Location: Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Black Bear Room
NLD217, Montpelier, VT 05602

4:05 PM Welcome/Overview of Agenda

*Secretary Susanne Young, Agency of Administration &
Deputy Secretary Kristen Clouser*

- Introduction of Kirstin Clouser

4:08 PM Approval of Minutes from [10/29 Meeting](#)

David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute

- Due to technical issues, approval of 10/29 minutes moved to next SC agenda

4:09 PM Discussion of VCC Decision-Making Process

- Overview from Chris Campany about the request for a special meeting
- How much time do we need/ how much time do we have, to have the Council commit to endorsing actions before December 1st.
- CSM has agreed on a process to respond to all questions raised by the Council on CSM actions.
- Jared concerns on proposal (up /down votes)
 - How does this proposal relate to current decision-making process?
 - What the SC had agreed to (Jared's understanding): assumption that actions brought forward would be in the plan unless a concern was raised by a Councilor and a vote may be taken.
 - Recommendation to only do up/down vote for those items where concern has been raised.
 - If actions from CSM are not included, we would be in a deficit in terms of emission reductions requirements.
- Liz – request that subcommittees pay careful attention to what they are drafting and are asking the Council to adopt
 - Some actions will need additional work – council can adopt actions while still acknowledging more work needs to be done.

- Recognition of being clear about what we are asking to agree to and being clear about where more work is needed.
- Distinction between: recommendations that we should be asking the Council to back – those “provisional inclusion” seems tougher because people may be uncertain about policies in the first place.
- Try to get wide consensus and adoption on things that are concrete and actionable now, things Councilors can stand behind with a clear statement on what the Council is adopting and a clear statement that there are many ways to get to that policy that the Council is **not** endorsing.
 - There may be a group of policies that do not have clear consensus due to lack of details.
- Susanne - Recommendations need more specificity – impact of policies on Vermont
 - Concern around the concept of agreeing to include items in the plan if there is not enough detail around them.
 - We should be considering putting these on a list to be further reviewed and discussed after December 1st.
 - Are you going to be asking Council members to back something they do not have enough information to back?
- Chris – Understanding that all CSM pieces need to be taken together needs to be clearly conveyed to the Council – concern that not all understand that.
 - Need to ensure we know the answers on impacts when this plan is presented to the public. Need to understand the implications of policy proposals.
- Sec Moore – Need to adopt a plan by Dec 1st. otherwise agency will step in to meet all reductions through rule making.
- Lauren – supports Chris’s proposal with Liz’s framing
 - “provisional inclusion” – actions that need more clarity and will be noted as such in the CAP
 - general consensus policies
- Comment from Lauren in chat: As I'm hearing it: One category (Liz's) represents support for a general idea, acknowledging further detail and policy design is necessary; the other (Chris's) is a clear policy recommendation that requires more discourse than the next two weeks will allow. The latter will afford more "good ideas" to get into the plan, provisionally, instead of Councilors feeling uncertain given lack of time to discuss, and therefore potentially more likely to vote against.
 - Concern that leaving off items due to lack of detail will fall more to RRA and A&E due to time.
- Define clearly the ask that subcommittees are looking for approval on from the Council.
- In discussion of policy items at council meetings– ensure it is clear where wording changes that would allow councilors to support items; ensure councilors are clear if they are not able to support an item even if redrafted.
- Wednesday morning 10th from 9-11am
- 17th afternoon from 1:30-3:30pm

- Options for more time:
 - Extend existing meetings longer
 - Meeting time on Wednesday morning next week

Specific action needed by Steering Committee: Agree on process to get to December 1 and meeting schedule to get there.

4:55 PM Public Comment

No comment provided

5:19 PM Adjourn

###

DRAFT