4:00 PM Welcome & Check In - Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes from 3/16/23
Attendance:

- Abbey Willard
- Kelly Klein
- Sarah Phillips
- Danielle Bombardier
- Beverly Little Thunder
- Virginie Diambou
- Jenna Hirschman
- Sebbi Wu
- Mona Tolba
- Sue Minter
- Carey Henstenberg
- David Plumb
- Jane Lazorchak
- Alex Lintner (invited guest)
- Phoebs Potter (invited guest)
- Karla Raimundi (invited guest)
- Indra Acharya (invited guest)

Note that Indra has officially resigned from JTSC due to his conflict of interest working as a contractor for the Climate Action Office

4:10 PM Report back on JTSC engagement memo

- Shared memo with steering committee during 4/24 meeting
- VCC plans to incorporate these roles into the process road map document
- VCC meeting on 4/24 has discussion on this memo on their agenda from 12:10-12:20 pm and any JTSC members can attend and offer input
- The other conversation with steering committee was around policy for engaging additional subcommittee meeting members

4:20 PM Update on VT Renews BIPOC Council letter response from JTSC

- We are not aware of a public response to VT Renews BIPOC Council letter from September 2022
- The letter was shared with JTSC members earlier in the day on 4/20/23
- JTSC tasked a subgroup to draft a letter with the intent to addresses solidarity of the focus, concern for the ignoring the letter and for the delay in responding
- This response is still draft and next step is for JTSC members to review and comments
    - JTSC are invited to share their comments and suggestions with Kelly and Abbey by email for incorporation into the 2nd draft
- 2nd draft will be shared in advance of May JTSC meeting
- Also curious who JTSC's response should be directed to – just VCC or other members that received the Renews BIPOC Council letter?
- Immediate feedback is in support of the tone and content of the letter response, and includes some of the recommendations:
    - Any actionable items that could be provided to the VCC for forward progress around legislative engagement
    - A recommendation to hold VCC responsible for an actionable response was provided
    - How is JTSC going to hold over selves accountable for representing all voices given that we don't have ideal diversity on our subcommittee

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    - Action item added to be more inclusive as JTSC
    - Consider making the letter shorter to be digestable, more readable
    - Feels appropriate to send this letter to the VCC since that is who we want to take action and then CC other members
    - Our timeline for responding also doesn't feel very timely since it will take us 60+ days to send a response
- Wonder if there is value in reaching out to any of the authors of the VT Renews BIPOC Council?
- Expressed interest in meeting with authors in a way that ensures their comfort level
- We need to post the draft response letter to be available for public

4:30 PM Discussion around public engagement and public input

- David shared update on the public engagement plan of the VCC
    - Plan is to start doing action with the Climate Action Office (CAO) under the contract with CBI, Indra, and Kashka
    - 3 objectives: enhance awareness around climate efforts, lift up voices that havent been heard, and build relationships and communication to increase fluid interaction
    - Components: 6-8 public meetings each year (some in person, some virtual); mostly focus on partner engagment – develop partnerships, conduct focus groups, meet frontline communities, convene climate action coalitions
    - Activities beginning in May
        - Focus groups are looking at language barrier communities
        - Bridge state of VT action with frontline communities
    - In response to frustration, plan will establish a feedback loop to communicate actions, comments, and concerns
    - Goal is to build trust and compensate people for their time and particpation
- How will the public engagment work connect with JTSC
    - JTSC can help tap into community groups
    - Engage in the feedback loop – discuss what is being shared & heard
    - CBI will also be working with state coordinating group to share what is happening acorss state agencies/departments
    - JTSC can hold CBI team and plan accountable
    - Ensure capture mobile home parks and homelessness coalitions working in the same space
    - Ask that CBI team bring distilled ideas to JTSC and VCC
- ANR's CAO is currently interviewing for the community engagement and communication coordinator position
- VT Office of Economic Opportunity just started planning for weatherization and training center and how to do this outreach and engagement more comprehensively
- How are we responding to public comments?
    - Indra is working on a policy for how to take in and synthesize public comment
    - They are talking about this system as soon as this week

5:10 PM Public comment

- Introduction from Phoebs Potter about Act 154 EJ bill partnership opportunities
- Alex Lintner shared looking forward to coordinate accordingly with EJ team

5:20 PM Public engagement updates from other subcommittees or task groups

- Community Ambassadors program at CVOEO – Virginie
    - Community members of color who are multi-lingual provide to hotline calls and share resources navigation assistance

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    - Moving program and adding capacity and expanded scope of work
        - Will do translation and interpretation services
        - Hiring additional staff with more hours
        - Will launch new model July 1 with online form to request services
        - Starting to provide services in Chittenden County and hope to expand across the state
- Wonder if there are some shared metrics of success that be collected across state of Vermont and other partner efforts to show public engagement accomplishments
    - Virginie will connect with Indra
- Also see an opportunity for shared resources between public engagement team and the Community Ambassadors Program
- Lifecycle Analysis and Municipal Vulnerability Index task groups
    - Municipal Vulnerability Index (MVI) task group update from Carey
        - An indexing map that looks at factors and will show vulnerability level of communities in each municipality
            - Economic, jobs, built environment, natural environment lens
            - Tool is built for municipalities and planners to determine where to make investments
        - Will need to coordiante this mapping tool with EJ mapping tool
    - MVI Task Group is required to do public engagement
        - Wonder if connection with JTSC could be helpful around frontline communities
        - They are planning to do stakeholder interviews of users of the tool – RPCs, planners; and some users – around hazard mitigation
        - Do plan to have resources to provide to towns to use the mapping tool
    - Lifecycle Analysis Task Group
        - Looking at GHG emissions from energy choices (not other impacts like health)
        - Looking for plan of lifecycle changes along energy pathways that can be made now or in the future
        - Working on contract now
        - Wonder if could include public engagement around distilling information and impact of all the technical information that comes out of this task group
            - CAO has some Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding to hopefully help with this translation

5:40 PM Biomass Task Group recommendations check in

- Recognize that the review of the recommendations rubric was draft, rushed, and difficult based on schedules and attendance
- Next Steps for our subcommittee with these recommendations
    - VCC is reviewing biomass Task Group recommendations on 4/24
    - At JTSC May meeting, we would like to explore how to do this and share the guiding principles and rubric with other groups

5:50 PM What's Next

- Next meeting
    - Hear from EJ team and DEC community outreach plan results
- Results from scheduling poll
    - Thursday late afternoon is the overwhelming best time
    - May be more availability to start around 4:30 pm
- Other business

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