

## Just Transitions Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council April 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: April 21, 2022 4–6 PM: Meeting recorded to be posted online.

Subcommittee Members Present: Abbey Willard, Sue Minter, Iris Hsiang, Kashka Orlow, Kelly Klein, Chris Company, Mona Tolba, Danielle Bombardier, Virginie Diambou  
Staff Present: Jane Lazorchak, Amanda Carlson, Marian Wolz, Carey Hengstenberg, Cori Rockefeller

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4:00 PM Welcome & Check In

Approval of Agenda and Minutes from [3/17/22](#) – approved

4:07 PM Climate Council Updates

- Legislative initiatives – 12 key bills, wrapping up in the next week or two, point of discussion at next full climate council meeting
- Eight task groups working on specific areas– Jane acknowledged that major pitfall is the State’s inability to pay stipends at this moment
  - Transportation & Biomass task groups do not have JT representation
  - Most other task groups are focused on implementation or meeting statutory requirements
- Next full Climate Council meeting in May 16, then not again until the Fall

Updates from Various Task Groups & Work Groups

- Public Engagement update from Kashka
  - Met with Vt Council on Rural Development to share notes on ways to engage authentically and learn from each other
  - Working with partner organizations to connect with marginalized communities
  - Jane shared the council has \$60K for ongoing engagement work, in addition an RFP for ongoing engagement work and ongoing facilitation of Council work

4:35 PM Discussion of Implementing Just Transition Principles in 2022 – Marian led us through Jamboard exercise, where subcommittee members posed answers to the following questions

In the Council’s Work

- *How do we incorporate our voices in various Task Groups?*
- *What are our goals for engagement and outcomes?*

In State of VT Government Work

- *How do we apply the Guiding Principles?*

Priorities with the Legislature

- *What priorities might we propose?*

- Abbey proposed that moving forward our group act as the ‘translator’ to the Climate Council – working to make materials more understandable, plain language and translated into other languages as needed
- Group discussion on how the work of our subcommittee and the Guiding Principles moves forward

- 5:27 PM Public Comment
- No comment
- 5:28 PM Discussion of a statement on Ukraine – led by Chris Campany
- Noted equity implications of Ukraine war, and how it relates to climate initiatives: biofuel recommendations and food scarcity implications in light of the Ukraine war
  - Chris will draft statement on behalf of JT subcommittee
- 5:37 PM Sub Committee Nominations update
- Abbey updated group on new nominations – 10 nominations received
  - Sue and Abbey followed up with eight of the nominees – *about their interest, perspective and capacity to contribute*
  - Abbey gave a brief description of the five nominees that are at the top of the list, they brought a good mix of lived experience and expertise
  - Members mentioned prioritizing BIPOC community members, members with lived experience
  - Group decided to invite all five nominees
    - Kelly suggested if quorum is hard to meet we can ask subcommittee members who don’t attend regularly if they are still interested in membership
  - Virginie appreciated the different perspectives brought with a larger group
  - Carey brought up that managing a large group can be trickier administratively
  - Kashka mentioned that when we onboard these people, the training needs to be robust to catch them up
- 6:02 PM Next meeting 5/19, date conflicts with events co-chairs attending, meeting moved to 5/12
- 6:05 PM Adjourn