

Vermont Climate Council Steering Committee and Subcommittee Co-Chairs Meeting  
July 12, 2021 – Minutes

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**Virtual Option to Attend via Zoom: Meeting was recorded and [Posted Online](https://zoom.us/j/94123473737?pwd=Q256SUQ0MUh4M0lWcnRwalA4d0tMUT09)**  
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Meeting ID: 941 2347 3737

Passcode: 475683

**Physical Location:** Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602 in Catamount Room NL D215

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- 1:00 PM Welcome/Overview of Agenda  
*Secretary Susanne Young, Agency of Administration*  
*David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute*
- 7/12/21 draft agenda approved.
- 1:05 PM Subcommittee Coordination and Updates  
*Jane Lazorchak, Director Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA),*  
*Subcommittee co-chairs and David Plumb*
- Preparing for Subcommittee presentations to the Vermont Climate Council on July 26– Jane Lazorchak and David Plumb
    - [Presentation template](#)
    - Reviewed the draft presentation template for subcommittees to use for presentation to the Vermont Climate Council on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Six presentations will be packaged and presented to the Council.
    - Request to add slide during introduction presentation on the public engagement process.
    - Request to consider a slide that reviews the process to develop equity and guiding principles, and the process to evaluate equity and guiding principles in the work of the Climate Council.
    - Discussion centered on whether to consider equity on each pathway slide, or to include a statement and slide that highlights equity across all the pathways and strategies.
  - Review of the [Draft Vermont Climate Council agenda for July 26](#)
    - Recommendation to reconsider grouping of Cross-Sector Mitigation (CSM) presentations on the agenda because energy is in service to buildings and transportation sectors. Request to not group energy with non-energy in the agenda.
    - Recognition that CSM has been working in separate groups, and that perhaps CSM should attempt to bring recommendations together into one presentation. Acknowledgement that Agriculture and Ecosystems

has found the exercise of reaching across tasks very helpful in combining and sharing ideas on pathways and strategies.

- Feedback that subcommittees were uncomfortable with a voting option at the Climate Council meeting as it seemed premature in the pathway and strategy development process.
- David Plumb clarified that it would not be formal voting process, rather a way to identify initial areas of overlap for pathways, areas where gaps have been identified, and areas where there may be conflict.
- Request that the presentations to the Climate Council on July 26 acknowledge that it is not a full presentation of strategies, as some subcommittees have a long list of strategies, all of which will not be presented.
- Subcommittee co-chairs: Brief updates on progress.
  - Just Transitions noted they are reviewing feedback received on the equity screen and will compile and share results at a later date.
  - Science and Data noted that much of the work they are doing will be ready for review and presentation at the August Climate Council meeting.

1:45 PM

#### [Public Engagement Plan](#)

*Cara Pike & Meredith Herr, Climate Access; Sarika Tandon, Rise Consulting*

- Cara Pike with Climate Access provided an [overview of engagement activities](#) to date and a review of the draft Public Engagement Plan that will be shared next week.
- Discussion centered around the public engagement timeline as laid out and that it may need some additional consideration regarding the public engagement timeline and the rule making process during the next legislative session.
- Request to make proposed public engagement meetings open to all subcommittee members and council members, it would be helpful if Council members can hear all public input.
- Question around when public engagement report will be shared with the Climate Council and the subcommittees.
- Climate Access will have a meeting with each subcommittee in October to present public input that has been gathered thus far. Climate Access emphasized that the stakeholders they have already engaged with are very interested and excited about engaging in the process.
- Acknowledgement that the work the subcommittees have put into pathways, strategies, and actions thus far has been conducted largely without engagement from the public.

- Conversation held around the possibility that after the Plan is shared with the public, there may be significant feedback on recommendations presented in the plan.
- Members of the Steering Committee expressed concern that the public engagement will only be presented in October, two months before the Climate Action Plan is due to be adopted.
- Request for a redrafted July 26 Climate Council agenda to be shared at the next Steering Committee that considers the comments on timeline for subcommittees and task leads to present at the July 26 Climate Council meeting, and the public engagement timeline for the Climate Action Plan development.

2:20 PM Misc. Steering Committee Business  
*David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute*

- Review /Approval of [6/24/2021 minutes](#)
- Minutes were approved by the Steering Committee.

2:25 PM Public Comment

- Public comments were received from Ian Hitchcock and can be viewed in the meeting recording.

2:30 PM Adjourn

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