

**Vermont Climate Council Steering Committee Meeting  
July 22, 2021 – Minutes**

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<b>Location:</b>	Zoom Virtual Meeting – Meeting was recorded and <a href="#">posted online</a> .
<b>Physical Location to Attend in Person:</b>	Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602 in Catamount Room NL D215
<b>Steering Committee Members Present:</b>	Susanne Young, Liz Miller, Lauren Oates, Jared Duval, Chris Company, Julie Moore
<b>Staff Members Present:</b>	David Plumb, Jane Lazorchak, Marian Wolz
<b>Minutes By:</b>	Marian Wolz

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- 2:00 PM Welcome
- Secretary Susanne Young, Agency of Administration & David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute*
- Overview of Steering Committee Agenda
    - Lauren Oates requested time at the end of the agenda to discuss an item.
  - Review/ Approval [July 12, 2021 Minutes](#)
- 2:05 PM Review of [Climate Council July 26, 2021, Agenda](#)
- David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute*
- Clarifying goals and logic of the meeting: presentations of subcommittees to the Climate Council is the first chance to show subcommittees work to the full Climate Council
  - Framing questions have been developed to set the context for the conversation at the meeting.
  - Framing questions will highlight where there are gaps in presented pathways, and places where pathways could potentially be consolidated or are cross purpose. Framing questions and subsequent conversation will also ensure everyone leaves the meeting clear on next steps for the Council and subcommittees.
  - Request to have a discussion on the process to get to actions as those will not be covered in the Climate Council meeting.
  - Question raised on how the Climate Council will provide feedback on the draft pathways and strategies; clarifying next steps for the Council and subcommittees should be the second item.
  - Request to add an intermediary step; what is the Council’s role in reviewing presentations on Monday?

- Recommendation to change the second bullet to, “which topics are specific to the subcommittees, and which are overarching to all the subcommittees”
- Request to add a fourth bullet to framing questions in the agenda; what issues keep coming up across subcommittees, and what is missing?
  - What are key emerging issues (some of which are broadscale and/or overlapping and require consolidation)?
  - What might be missing (think broad scale)?
  - What might be at cross-purposes?
- Jane Lazorchak noted that as we talk about next steps, we will be thinking about how to approach elevation of strategies, pathways, and actions.
- Recommendation was made to consider pulling together a small group of councilors to aid in plan writing. This is intended to help identify cross cutting themes and improve consistency across subcommittees. Request for time on next Steering Committee agenda to propose the idea of a smaller cross cutting group (committee of councilors to provide feedback to staff and help keep councilors up on staff plan writing). This idea will be discussed at a future Steering Committee meeting.
- Analyzing if proposed agenda will meet those goals:
  - Reflection on the increasing number of members of the public engaging in this process; may be a need to have an overview of the GWSA at the beginning of the Climate Council presentation prior to subcommittee presentations. Overview should include GWSA reductions requirements, and criteria to set framework for members of the public to understand the context for pathway presentations.
  - Recommendation to frame up the areas of discussion outlined on the agenda.
    - Consensus Building Institute (CBI) will have a Google Document for councilors to drop their more detailed feedback into for further review.

2:30 PM

Review of public and stakeholder engagement timelines and actions:

- Jane Lazorchak provided an overview of the subcommittee [next steps slide](#) to be presented at the Climate Council meeting.
- Request to ensure the Climate Council agenda and first subcommittee next step is consistent.
- Reflection that four days seems like a short amount of time to process feedback from the Council for the subcommittees.
- Jane Lazorchak noted that pathways and strategies will not change significantly from the Climate Council meeting to public comment; Council meeting will be for high level reaction; public engagement will be the place

for more substantive feedback. September and October will be the time for Council vetting around these topics.

Public Engagement Timeline:

- PDF of public engagement plan and survey will be shared out to councilors by Wednesday of next week (7/28).
- Stakeholder events held by CBI, not Climate Access and Rise; will summarize review of them within a week of event; real time feedback for strategy and action development will be shared with subcommittees.
- Themes from roundtables and interview held in phase 1 are included in public engagement plan that will come out on Wednesday 7/28.

2:45 PM [Regular & Special meetings](#) - scheduling & notices

- Jane Lazorchak reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for the Climate Council and the Steering Committee starting at the end of August.
- Consensus reached to adopt and propose the revised meeting schedule to the full Climate Council.
- Request to ensure a regular meeting schedule is adopted and any changes in meeting schedule, or special meetings, are warned and posted well in advance.

2:50 PM Public Comment

- Public comment was received from Rob Lehmert and can be viewed in the meeting recording.

2:55 PM Next steps

- Discussion with co-chairs at the next Steering Committee meeting on how to engage the Climate Council on elevating strategies and actions moving forward; and how we are going to have that conversation with the Climate Council.
- Discussion at next meeting on in-person Steering Committee meetings and the expectation moving forward.

3:00 PM Adjourn

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