

**Vermont Climate Council Steering Committee Meeting  
August 19, 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
<b>Staff Members Present:</b>	David Plumb, Marian Wolz
<b>Minutes By:</b>	Marian Wolz

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2:02 PM Welcome/Overview of Agenda

*David Plumb, Consensus Building Institute (CBI)*

- Review of agenda
  - The Climate Action Plan drafting proposal will be postponed for discussion to the September 7<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting. The draft proposal has been updated and will be circulated for review prior to the next Steering Committee meeting.
  - A question was raised on the on process to determine the agenda for Steering Committee meetings.
    - Process for agenda development and delay of actions due to Steering Committee member absences will be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - Steering Committee members are requested to come prepared to decide on the process for developing and revising the agenda for Steering Committee meetings at the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Review and approval of [August 9 minutes](#)
  - Minutes approved with the addition of the following action item: Request from the Steering Committee that the CAP Drafting Proposal be further refined and brought back for presentation and discussion at the August 19<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting.

2:05 PM Updated Council Meeting Schedule

*Marian Wolz, Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) Coordinator*

- New biweekly Steering Committee and Vermont Climate Council schedules being on September 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, respectively.
  - Steering Committee will begin new schedule on September 7<sup>th</sup> from 3-4:40 PM. Meetings will occur every other week
  - Climate Council will begin new schedule on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-4:30PM. Meetings will occur every other week.

- The presentation of the mitigation pathway analysis originally planned for the September 14<sup>th</sup> Climate Council meeting will not be ready for that meeting.
  - Does the Steering Committee support moving the presentation of the mitigation pathway analysis to a special Climate Council meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>?
  - Steering Committee supports moving the presentation of the mitigation pathway analysis to a special Climate Council meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-4:30PM.
- Steering Committee supports keeping the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Vermont Climate Council to discuss the CAP Drafting Proposal, the Greenhouse Gas Inventory report and recommendations, and the equity contractor support.
- Steering Committee supports meeting as a Steering Committee on September 21<sup>st</sup> to develop the agendas for both the September 28<sup>th</sup> and October 5<sup>th</sup> Climate Council meetings.

2:10 PM      Agenda of the August 23 Climate Council Meeting  
                   *David Plumb, CBI*

- [Review of VCC Agenda draft](#)
- David noted that CBI is going to start asking the Climate Council to provide “thumbs up” to certain items using some consensus-based tools. For example, CBI may ask Councilors to note using the below responses in the chat their support for certain items that are being discussed. This allows everyone to see where there needs to be additional discussion as a group.
  - *Inspired!;*
  - *I like it;*
  - *Ok, but with a few concerns;*
  - *Big concerns, can't live with it*
- Recommendation to change the agenda item on Guiding Principles and Scoring Rubric to reflect that will be a review of the revised Guiding Principles and Scoring Rubric document.
- When agenda for the Climate Council meeting is shared, ensure the revised Guiding Principles and Scoring Rubric document is linked to ensure Councilors can review in advance of the meeting.
- Recommendation and agreement from members to have the presentation on the Social Cost of Carbon and Cost of Carbon reduction model at the August 23<sup>rd</sup> Climate Council meeting, and to save the GHG Inventory Report presentation for the meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Recommendation to have Jane Lazorchak present on the remaining data pieces and analysis that are still to come after the presentation from Jared Duval.
- Ask David Hill (EFG) to attend the Climate Council meeting to answer any technical questions received from councilors on the Social Cost of Carbon and Cost of Carbon report.

2:45 PM House Testimony Update

*Councilors Liz Miller, and Chris Company*

- Liz Miller provided a summary of the House Testimony that Councilors Liz Miller, Chris Company, GWSA Director Jane Lazorchak, and Secretary Moore participated in yesterday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Legislators acknowledged the tight timeline for CAP development, but emphasized the need for public engagement with a focus on equity.
- Legislators noted a concern on how to best engage constituents in rural communities. They expressed concern on the tight public engagement schedule, and noted that they have a role in advertising and sharing public engagement materials with their constituents. Legislators recommended utilizing the Climate Caucus and Rural Caucus networks to engage the public.
- Legislators noted an interest in understanding that the CAP shared on December 1<sup>st</sup> will be initial. They requested that the CAP include recommendations from the Climate Council on how to prioritize actions and expend funds allocated to climate change initiatives.
- Noted the need in the fall to educate themselves so legislators are ready to receive recommendations in December.
- Supported messaging that the December 1<sup>st</sup> Plan is an initial plan; will continue public outreach after initial plan is presented.
- Expressed interest in the opportunity to host a similar meeting in the Senate to present those same ideas, and to host a specific hearing on equity.

2:58 PM Public Comment

- Public comment was received from Sashe Annett and can be viewed in the meeting recording.
- Public comment was received from Judy Dow and can be viewed in the meeting recording.

3:10 PM Adjourn

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