

Just Transitions Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council August 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Date/Time:	August 26, 2021 4–6 PM: Meeting recorded and posted online .
Physical Location to Attend in Person:	Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602 in Catamount NL D215
Subcommittee Members Present:	Sarah Phillips, Sue Minter, Kelly Klein, Chris Company, Iris Hsiang, Jennifer Myka, Mona Tolba, Kashka Orlow
Staff Present:	Jane Lazorchak, Marian Wolz, Claire McIlvennie, Abbey Willard, Ross MacDonald, David Plumb

- 4:00 PM Welcome
- Review & Approval of Agenda and [8/12/21 Minutes](#) – Approved with a correction to Claire McIlvennie’s name
- 4:10 PM Reporting Back from Other Sub Committees, Steering Committee & Full Council
- Iris offered the Ag and Ecosystem Sub Committee update
 - Decision that group will produce metrics for strategies because pathways currently serve somewhat as goals
 - Claire offered the Science and Data update
 - Subcommittee has been working with the technical consultant on the review of the GHG inventory methodology and social cost of carbon (SCC) / discount rate to use in the economic analysis.
 - The subcommittee has reviewed both reports put forward by the technical consultants
 - No other report backs were shared from other subcommittee meetings
 - Report from full Climate Council meeting
 - JT Sub Committee delivered final presentation to the principles and rubric
 - Asked Council to adopt document as final (not draft) document – received support
 - Questions arose around why rubric doesn’t encompass negative impacts
 - Reactions around understanding that frontline communities and marginalized populations cant be negatively impacted by recommendations
 - Discussion and concerns around how principles and rubric will be used by sub committees
 - Iris offered recommendation for JT Sub Committee draft a response to the full Climate Council concerns

- 4:20 PM Report back on Legislative Hearing
- Chris shared key updates from legislative hearing
 - Main questions were around the public involvement process
 - Appreciative of the engagement thus far
 - General concern as well as understanding about not getting out to public before first draft is produced
 - Discussion of the December 1, 2021 deadline and receipt of draft plan by that date
 - Expressed appreciation of JT principles and rubric
 - Desire to have presentation from JT Subcommittee at another meeting in September
- 4:30 PM Additional Updates from Director Lazorchak
- Jane offered Facilitation RFP update
 - Released originally to 4 consultants, reached out to 2 additional today
 - 1 consultant is interested but concerns exist around timeline and capacity
 - May need to think about alternative model for how principles and rubric can be worked on with other sub committees
- 4:40 PM Public Engagement - *Rise and Climate Access*
- Cara and Meredith consultants from RiSE/Climate Access shared a presentation on public events plan and outreach materials
 - Plan to host 6 peer-to-peer events
 - Dates and locations have been confirmed
 - Shared outreach resources that have been drafted to date
 - Website banner, survey and event worksheet still to come
 - Materials will be translated into commonly spoken non-English languages
 - Areas looking for input
 - How best to engage audiences virtually?
 - Do documents strike balance of informative and accessible? Or is anything missing?
 - Chris offered feedback on messaging and imagery to accurately speak to what is at stake and community risks
 - Mona offered reminder about need for meetings to be hosted in non-English languages and to focus meetings in various marginalized communities so they feel comfortable to attend and able to participate
 - Sue suggested JT sub committee members can reach out to communities in their networks and asked if RiSE/Climate Access materials could be used for these individualized efforts
 - Jane shared how this process could be managed and materials rolled out

- JT sub committee hadn't seen the documents prior to meeting; materials will be emailed and posted later today; sub committee members should feel free to offer individual feedback to Meredith and Cara directly
 - A few draft documents were shared via links during the meeting
 - Jared from Climate Council offered suggestion on how to make real and timely
 - Chris offered feedback on self reliable message resonating with Vermonters
 - Kashka offered suggestion for simple and impactful materials with some benefit and impact directly to people, as marginalized communities are focused elsewhere
- Cara offered that materials will be shared with 40 members on the outreach list and will offer per diem incentives for participation
- Sarah also offered to reflect on documents with others in a small group
- Chris shared NHPR Outside In podcast that includes Just Transition topic around the offshore wind project in New England

5:20 PM

Public Comment

- Chase Whiting affirmed value of the JT rubric. Full comments can be viewed in the meeting recording.
 - He also asked the Burlington location (if switched to Winooski) include promotion in Burlington's old north end.
 - Shared that language accessibility could be enhanced in the public participation plan
 - Consider translating critical information and documents
 - Offer interpretation support at public events
 - Consider training for interpreters on the nuanced concepts presented and discussed
- Pat Sagui - Full comments can be viewed in the meeting recording.
 - Question about whether public can comment on the outreach materials
 - Now that all materials are online, public can offer comments in the public portal and will be shared with sub committee members

5:30 PM

Adjourn – Adjourned at 5:30