

**Agenda and Meeting Notes (see below)**  
**CVILLE100 General Meeting - Aug 20, 2024, 6:30-8:30 pm**  
Bill Espinosa, Co-chair, moderating

Zoom Link for Cville100 Climate Alliance General Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8206407448?omn=89841471186>  
Meeting ID: 820 640 7448

**6:30 pm Welcome!**

All attendees [please sign in](#) and upload your reports below.

Next meeting will be August 20th (3rd Tuesday)

Introduce newcomers to the meeting (Moderator)

**General Announcements:**

I. Videos of past presentations are available on our [YouTube channel](#).

II. Here is a link to the [July meeting](#).

**6:45 pm Member Reports (3 minutes + up to 4 minutes for Q&A)**

\*\* See below for Reports and attendee sign -in \*\*

**7:15pm Other Updates**

At this meeting, attorney **Bill Espinosa** will discuss climate action implications of recent supreme court decisions.

**Tom Olivier** will report on recent changes proposed in the update of the Albemarle County comprehensive plan. Cville100's recently approved outreach program will be explained.

**Peter Gates** will talk about an initiative Cville100 is planning that will solicit and publish short articles on environmental topics by individuals and groups in the area.

**8:15 pm Other business and announcements**

**8:00 pm Adjourn meeting or earlier if complete**

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## CVILLE100 MEETING NOTES from July 16, 2024

### Participant sign-in and member updates (below)

#### **Participant Sign-in**

Please list your name, organization, email

Tom Olivier, Cville100 Board Member, [cruz.olivier@gmail.com](mailto:cruz.olivier@gmail.com)

Bill Espinosa CVILLE100 co-chair, [whe@espinosalaw.net](mailto:whe@espinosalaw.net)

Diane Szaflarski, CVILLE100, Secretary, [dmbds@gmail.com](mailto:dmbds@gmail.com)

Bob McAdams, Charlottesville Center for Peace and Justice, [rsm1539@earthlink.net](mailto:rsm1539@earthlink.net)

James Groves, CVILLE100 co-chair, [jgroves6e@gmail.com](mailto:jgroves6e@gmail.com)

Nan Halperin, CCL - Charlottesville, [nan\\_halperin@yahoo.com](mailto:nan_halperin@yahoo.com)

Lisa Maruca, CCL [lisam.home@gmail.com](mailto:lisam.home@gmail.com)

Frances Racette, [racettefrances@gmail.com](mailto:racettefrances@gmail.com)

Peter Gates, CVILLE100 Assistant Secretary, [ptg3va@gmail.com](mailto:ptg3va@gmail.com)

Bruce Glassco, 350Charlemarle, [bruceglassco@comcast.net](mailto:bruceglassco@comcast.net)

Lisa Glassco, CVILLE100 Board Member, [lisaglassco@comcast.net](mailto:lisaglassco@comcast.net)

Annette Osso, Resilient Virginia, [osso@resilientvirginia.org](mailto:osso@resilientvirginia.org)

Madison Cummings [madcummings@gmail.com](mailto:madcummings@gmail.com)

Christine Hirsh-Putnam, CVILLE100 Board Member, [chirshputnam@gmail.com](mailto:chirshputnam@gmail.com)

Wren Olivier, CVILLE100 Board Member/Piedmont Sierra Club, [wren.olivier@gmail.com](mailto:wren.olivier@gmail.com)

#### **Member Update and Announcements**

Include your name and your organization's name.

#### **Bob McAdams, Charlottesville center for Peace and Justice**

In collaboration with several other organizations we are organizing a celebration of the **Day of Democracy to take place on September 14th, from 12:00 noon to 3:00 PM at Market Street Park**. Please, join us there and even consider tabling at the event.

**Lisa Maruca & Nan Halperin, Citizens' Climate Lobby**

After the success after our last Environmental Voter Project (EVP) postcard event, CCL-Charlottesville is back at it, this time with postcards to **Virginia voters for the General Election!**

Please drop in to the **Madison Room of the [Central Library](#) on September 14, any time between 1-4 pm** to hang with climate allies and write postcards. *If 25 people come and write 20 postcards each, we will have reached our goal of sending 500 postcards this time!*

The Environmental Voter Project motivates under-voting climate supporters to come out to the polls. [According to CCL](#), EVP selected its key states based on the number of non-voting environmentalists who could be reached and the percentage of the vote they might represent. This is where they believe we can have the greatest impact. To learn more, watch a [Ted Talk](#) by the EVP's director or check out their [website](#).

We will send out a reminder and more details as we get closer to the event, but if you could make some space for writing on your calendar now, we'd really appreciate it!

**Wren Olivier, Piedmont Group of the Sierra Club**

The Piedmont Group continues to follow the controversy over bicycling at the Ragged Mountain Natural Area ([Peter remarked that at last night's City Council Meeting, it appeared that Council was ready to concede to the County all new regulation over mountain biking at Ragged Mountain](#)). The group has opposed a previously proposed data center in Louisa County. Building of the center now appears certain. The Piedmont Group has been asked by the Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club to become involved with a proposed solar project in Orange County. We also are involved in promoting **Democracy Day on Sept. 14**. There will be a discussion of "Guardians of the Valley: John Muir and the Friendship that Saved Yosemite" by **Dean King at 2 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Downtown Library**.

**Other Updates****Albemarle County Comprehensive Plan Update by Tom Olivier**

Albemarle County planning staff recently proposed changes to a previously proposed structure to the new county comprehensive plan. The update is now scheduled to be completed in the middle of 2025. The new plan is projected to be much shorter than the current. Work sessions on texts for the new plan with the Planning Commission and Board of

Supervisors are set to begin this fall. So far in the update, little attention has been given to environmental issues. Economic growth which conflicts with becoming carbon neutral and other needed climate actions, has received strong support. Environmentalists should have opportunities to influence elected officials and plan content during text development.

### **New Initiative of CVILLE100 Climate Alliance: Op-ed program (Peter Gates)**

The guidelines for this new initiative were drawn up by Tom Olivier. The goal of the CVILLE100 op-ed program is to seed climate discussions with analyses of and proposals for needed actions; hopefully, the program would spur collaborations between environmental organizations in the region. Op-eds will deal with general or more specific topics of importance. Notably, evaluations of the states of local climate action programs will be welcome.

Op-eds will be solicited from knowledgeable members of our community, with unsolicited submissions also considered. Published pieces would represent views of the authors or organizations they officially represent; they would explicitly not represent the views of CVILLE100, as would be stated at the beginning of each op-ed. Conflicts between views expressed in different op-eds are expected and acceptable. Accepted articles would range from 700-900 words. Op-eds must avoid obscenities, personal attacks, and factual inaccuracies. One or more CVILLE100-appointed editors will review submissions to evaluate their content and may propose edits to enhance the clarity of the texts.

Accepted op-eds will be posted to the CVILLE 100 website, with a notice of their publication in the CVILLE100 list-serve. We will aim to publish one or two op-eds/month, with an initial round of 8-12 publications. If the op-ed exercise is successful, CVILLE100 might call for another round of op-ed submissions at a later date.

We will encourage redistribution of CVILLE100 op-eds by other organizations and explore the re-publication of our op-eds in newspapers.

In the discussion following Peter's presentation, Frances noted that high school and college students largely get their news from social media, so publishing these articles in those venues makes sense if we wish to increase youth engagement with local environmental action. Frances also pointed out the attractiveness of offering internships to students to increase engagement. Nan reminded meeting attendees of CCL's very active program of letter-writing campaigns on environmental issues and promised to share resources for article production with CVILLE100 member organizations.)

## General Notes from the Meeting:

Tom emphasized that more engagement by the environmental community, specifically more attendance at Albemarle County planning sessions and BOS meetings, is essential to counteract the growing tendency of the County government to promote economic growth and downplay environmental/climate considerations.

Bruce indicated that he would “twist arms” to get PVCC sustainability team members to participate in CVILLE100 general meetings. He also remarked that he didn’t know whether the City had scheduled a demo for New Frontier BEBs as they had for Gillig’s BEBs. Bruce said that he wasn’t aware of any further action by City Staff on hydrogen fuel cell bus procurement after the Staff’s visit to the green hydrogen transit facility in Champaign-Urbana; subsequently, Marcia Geyer forwarded an email from Kristel Rittervold stating that a follow-up trip to Champaign-Urbana is in the offing (scheduled for October), and environmental advocates are invited to participate. James noted that the City has received grant funding to purchase a couple of BEB school buses for deployment next Fall.

Annette invited people to attend the Resilient Virginia Collaborative Alliance meeting in Christiansburg on September 25th. She also noted that the County had recently received an EPA Grant and expressed the desire for more frequent in-person reports to CVILLE100 attendees from County and City Staff to find out the specifics of how Climate Staff in the County and City are actually employing the funds they have received. **Diane emphasized that the City Staff in particular seems to be making concrete progress on their climate goals, and their efforts should be recognized and applauded.**

## Additional Resources:

Bill submitted the following file to supplement his presentation on legal developments impacting work on climate change mitigation and adaptation: [NOTES FOR AUGUST 20 PRESENTATION.docx](#)

## **Environmental Justice Values Statement as Set Forth in the current Bylaws of CVILLE100, Inc**

### **MISSION: PURPOSES AND ACTIVITIES**

“ Cville100 is organized as a coalition of nonprofit organizations and associations in the Charlottesville/Albemarle County region. The goal of the Cville100 coalition is to educate and mobilize all sectors of the Charlottesville and Albemarle County community to work for the mitigation and - if possible - for the reversal of the climate crisis. This goal shall be enabled in large part by providing facilities for communication about members’ climate-related programs and encouraging support for them between members of the coalition.”

### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE VALUES STATEMENT**

“ Cville100 and its member organizations are working to support a safe, healthy and clean environment for all people, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin or ancestry, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or income, in any of its activities or operations. *For too long, economically disadvantaged communities, tribal communities, and communities of color have been exposed to a disproportionate amount of toxic pollution and the impacts of climate change such as deadlier storms, intense heatwaves, and devastating droughts. We strive to meaningfully involve and value the voices and views of environmental justice communities to ensure that solutions to environmental challenges leave no communities or regions behind.* Our work is to support an end to pollution, and to minimize the risks and the impact of damage caused by climate change.”

### **Our bylaws have been updated to change membership criteria (10/2022):**

1. There are no dues at this time. Voluntary contributions are encouraged.
2. Membership is broadened to include organizations that are actively committed and engaged in climate-change- affecting activities including mitigation, adaptation, resilience and education even if they have no formal “climate mission”.
3. Voting members are any members that attend five or more events in the preceding 12 months.
4. As before, affiliate membership is open to any group eligible for regular membership as well as screened for-profit entities.

[cville100-climate.org](http://cville100-climate.org)

[cville100.climate@gmail.com](mailto:cville100.climate@gmail.com)

[YouTube Channel](#)

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