Diversity Equity Inclusion Justice and Belonging (DEIJB) Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2026
City Council Chambers
37 Green Street
5:30 PM

Attendees:

Noemi Wierwille
Zoey Murphy
Sheila O'Leary Zaire
Alison Murphy
Mayor Champlin
Karen Juall
Amy Girouard-Crush
Ali Sekou, Council Representative
Clement Kigugu

Absent:

Jennifer Kretovic, Council Representative
Ex-Officio Member: Cara Meeker, Representing Concord School District
Fr. Jean C. Beniste
Vijay Bhujel
Ghana Sharma
Ex-Officio Member: Merrimack Valley School District, Vacant

Call to Order at 5:39.
Motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Karen

Discussion of Minutes:

Noted typo. Cities should be City's.
Update Minutes to reflect a discussion of the terms equally vs. equity. Will read "Discussion of the City's resources are distributed equally vs. equitable across parks."

Request from the Chair for committee members to RSVP to confirm their attendance with the Chair and City Clerk in advance of the meeting.

Chair invites Charm to share her perspective.
Charm provided rational for her referral(addition of trash cans at Keach Park) to the committee.
Charm shared that trash and level of sanitation was poor for the summer children programming she runs at Keach Park.
Question raised why there are 4 trash cans at White Park and none at Keach Park.
Mayor shared information shared from David Gill's presentation, 3 parks have trash cans, partly due to their size and usability.
However there has been an increase in usage of Keach Park since lights have been installed.
Students/Camp interns made recommendations to increase the number of trash cans at the park
Charm's program brought their own trash bag, they filled one trash bag per day.
Mayor provided overview of David Gill's presentation.
Mayor provided projection of expenses in upcoming budget.
Karen shared her observations from walking through the park.
Discussion of the sign installation recently placed at Keach park regarding the use of "carry in carry out policy" in multiple languages.
Charm voiced the lack of visibility of the sign that has been posted
Clement proposed a community meeting to clarify policies and engage the community.
Discussion of additional interventions that may be required to ensure the park is clean and accessible.
Recommendation to institute a concrete process when there is an issue that is brought to the committee, multiple perspectives related to that matter were shared.
Discussion of the feasibility of carry in and carry out policy, especially for citizens who do not have access to a car or for any person who uses a wheelchair, cane, stroller etc.
Charm's final request is for one trash can to be placed at Keach Park
Extensive discussion on the role of the committee, and whether a recommendation should be made to City Council.
Request to hear from David again at the next meeting to understand the implementation of carry in carry out, timeline, roll out and education.
Request for us to clarify the process by which referrals are made

Motion to adjourn: Clement seconded the motion to adjourn. 7:18