

**Friends of Casco Bay**  
**Environmental Justice Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee**  
**Meeting minutes, June 12, 2023**

In attendance: Board: Chair Pat Ianni; Deb Debiegun; Sandy Marsters Staff: Will Everitt, Ivy Frignoca, Robby Lewis-Nash

**1. Updates from staff**

Will Everitt had an initial get-to-know-you meeting with Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition. Staff and Sandy connected with Regina Philips/Cross Cultural Community Services via Waterfront Alliance. We are considering them as a consultant on our DEI work. Ivy gave an update on EJ legislature bill. There were two separate EJ bills that were Environmental Priorities Coalition priorities: the first was environmental justice definitions that would apply to all of DEP process and permitting and the second regarding Tribal Sovereignty bill (LD 2007). EJ definitions bill (LD 1621) working its way through. The Tribal Sovereignty Bill will be carried over next session.

**2. Revised EJDEI statement and process**

Will, Robby, and Pat revised statement (version 5) based on last month's meeting comments. Its purpose is to be transparent with ourselves and our public about our stance on environmental justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion relative to our mission and organization. The audience includes ourselves and the public (will be posted on our website and shared). The Committee recommended sending the draft to all board and staff for comments in the hopes that we will accept it at the September board meeting.

**3. Prioritizing our work ahead?**

Goal: Discuss and prioritize the work ahead. The committee prioritized the list from the six actions in the draft statement and put them in the following priority order:

1. Reviewing our governance structure and diversifying our board
2. Building relationships with new partners/new communities
3. Continuing training and learning
4. Recommendations/oversite to staff on operational elements of the statement:
  - a. Advocacy
  - b. Diversifying staff, vendors, members, volunteers
  - c. Assessing our membership and outreach activities

We will share these priorities with the board for input and to stimulate thought at the September meeting, at which the statement that has these actions will (hopefully!) be accepted!

The meeting ended at 4:15.